



Town of Sullivan's Island, South Carolina
Public Facilities Committee
Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, May 13, 2025

- A. Call to Order & Freedom of Information Act Requirements:** The Public Facilities Committee of Council met at 9:00 a.m. on Tuesday, May 13, 2025, at Town Hall, all requirements of the Freedom of Information Act having been satisfied. Present were Council Committee members Carl Hubbard (Chair) and Gary Visser. Staff members present were Jason Blanton, Charles Drayton, Rebecca Fanning, Assistant Fire Chief Amanda Hawver, Town Administrator Joe Henderson, Fire Chief Anthony Stith, Bridget Welch, and Max Wurthmann. There were five (5) members of the public present and no (0) members of the media.

Chair Hubbard called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m., and stated the press and public were duly notified pursuant to State Law.

B. Approval of Minutes

1. Approval of the January 30, 2025 Public Facilities meeting minutes

Motion was made by Mr. Visser, seconded by Chair Hubbard, to approve the Public Facilities meeting minutes from January 30, 2025, passed unanimously.

C. New Business (Possible Action Item)

- 1. Discussion of application for Charleston County Transportation Sales Tax funds to pave Back Street (J. Henderson)**

Town Administrator Joe Henderson is requesting approval from Council to submit a letter of request to Charleston County to pave Back Street, one of the few unpaved roads the Town owns. The request would be to the Transportation Committee for C-funds, which would mean no cost to the Town for this project. Back Street would be 270 linear feet of paved road. To comply with Charleston County specifications, it would likely need to be realigned and incorporate a stormwater drainage plan. It would also likely wrap around Station 19 to connect with the paved section. The projected cost would be \$150,000 and it would be up to the Transportation

Committee to approval some, all, or none of the proposal. There were three pieces of correspondence regarding this project, all in support of the realignment, with one not in support of paving the road. Maureen McInerny Palmgren of 1850 Back Street commented she is indifferent about paving as long as paving the road does not increase flooding onto the property. Mr. Henderson stated paving the road would likely improve the flooding situation. He also stated Water & Sewer Manager Greg Gress does not have any issues with paving in regards to the current water and sewer infrastructure. Fire Chief Anthony Stith confirmed there would be enough space for the fire truck to move through.

Motion was made by Mr. Visser, seconded by Chair Hubbard, to recommend this for approval by the full Council, passed unanimously.

2. FEMA HMGP FY 2024 Grant Application for stormwater improvements at Bayonne and Station 26.5 to Station 27. (J. Henderson)

This project is part of federal funding made available after Hurricane Helene. Mr. Henderson stated a letter of intent has been sent for this 8.4M FEMA project and is requesting Council approve proceeding with the application. The Town would be responsible for 2.1M. It would be part of the new Stormwater Improvement plan and would be from Bayonne down to Station 26 ½. Funding and construction would likely begin in late 2026 or into 2027.

Motion was made by Mr. Visser, seconded by Chair Hubbard, to recommend this project for pursuit of the grants and to bring it to full Council, passed unanimously.

3. Discussion of the bid proposals for Town Hall porch replacement (J. Henderson)

Improvements for the Town Hall porch is budgeted in the FY2026 Capital Plan and is approved for the upcoming year. Staff recommends moving forward with IPW Construction Group, who scored the highest out of seven bids. Improvements will include replacing rotting porch boards and adding gutters to the front and side porches and adding gutters, lighting, and handrails to the porch on the Stith Park side. The smaller additions would be put to bid as separate projects at a later time. The public will be notified of these projects, and one porch will be done at a time.

Motion was made by Mr. Visser, seconded by Chair Hubbard, to recommend to Council to approve the redecking for their consideration in May, passed unanimously.

4. Discussion of the bid proposals for SCIIP Grant contractors (J. Henderson)

This project would include improvements to Stations 16, 25, 28 ½, and 31 drainage basins with funding for \$10M. There was one bid received for this project on May 2, 2025, from Gulf Stream Construction and it will be presented to full Council once it has been fully vetted by staff.

Motion was made by Mr. Visser, seconded by Chair Hubbard, to recommend moving this to full Council for discussion in Executive Session regarding the proposal that has been submitted at the May 20, 2025 Council meeting, passed unanimously.

D. Old Business (Staff update available)

5. Discussion of update and Station 24 Greenbelt Application (R. Fanning)

The Town has been awarded \$30,000 from the County Transportation sales tax and it will be used for replacing the boardwalk and extending the path at Station 24, which was the highest prioritized boardwalk improvement project. The next step would be to put the project to bid.

6. Discussion and update of Historical signs (A. Stith)

The sign at the restored Cove Inlet Bridge will be installed this week or next week. Fire Chief Anthony Stith also reported the sign for the Historic Bandstand is ready to be replaced and the sign at Station 17 needs replacing. We have permission to install a sign at the Old Theater but the property is getting ready to undergo a two-year construction project.

7. Update of Old Town Hall building and sub-committee (M. Wurthmann & C. Drayton)

Max Wurthmann reported since getting the survey back, they have been in touch with DOT to resolve the issue with right-of-way encroachment. The plan has been approved locally and is now waiting for state approval.

8. SC250 discussion for Palmetto Log Fort and Welcome signs onto the Island (J. Henderson & C. Drayton)

There were discussions about where to place a sign commemorating SC250 and if it will be attached to the existing welcome sign. Depending on the size and scale of the sign, the Committee would like the sign to be closer to the street. Renderings will be shown to Council before installation. A vote will be taken as to whether or not the sign will be permanent once options are presented.

Chief Stith stated the signs at Breach Inlet that have been up say “no swimming or wading” and have the international symbol for no swimming. New signs with English and Spanish are being installed today in various locations.

9. Discussion of Island Club renovations (M. Wurthmann)

Mr. Wurthmann reported that current renovation plans for the Island Club include the bathroom and side porch. Bids are out and are waiting on review.

10. Discussion of Pocket Parks (C. Drayton)

E. Pending Items (Discussion/Action not required)

1. Dominion Engineering developing a Request for Proposals (RFP) to engineer undergrounding of power lines throughout Sullivan’s Island (Council awaiting draft RFP)

We are still waiting to hear from Dominion Energy with the first draft of the RFP.

2. Battery Logan vegetation removal (approved-work underway)

A landscaping plan has been approved, and work is underway.

3. Thomson Park Maintenance (Town has assumed maintenance)

Small maintenance has been completed, including weed-eating.

4. Nature Trail Phase 2 (Grant closed out and open to the public)

The ribbon cutting has been completed and is now open to the public. The old trail was dedicated to the Middaugh’s and the official signs for that will be installed in the next few weeks.

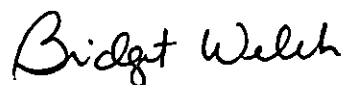
F. Public Comment

- Patrick Marr, 3010 Marshall Blvd – has concerns about stormwater flooding at Stations 30 and 31, and would like to know how the area can be included in future plans.
- Bob Merchant, 3014 Marshall – requested help cleaning up the deteriorating road in front of his property and also has concerns about flooding in the area.
- Barbara Spell, 1702 Atlantic – has questions about how the budget approval works and the maintenance area improvement project funds.

G. Adjourn

Motion was made by Mr. Visser, seconded by Mr. Higgins, to adjourn the meeting at 9:54 a.m., passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Bridget Welch".

Bridget Welch