



**TOWN OF SULLIVAN'S ISLAND, SOUTH CAROLINA
PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE**

Friday, July 31, 2026

Committee met at 9:00 a.m. on Friday, July 31, 2026 at Town Hall (2056 Middle St.), all requirements of the Freedom of Information Act having been met.

Present were: Chairman Pat O'Neil, Carl Hubbard, and Laura Schroeder
Staff: Rebecca Fanning, Assistant Fire Chief Amanda Hawver, Town Administrator Joe Henderson, Fire Captain Drew Levay, Police Chief Glenn Meadows, Pam Otto, and Fire Chief Anthony Stith.

A. Call to Order

B. Confirmation of FOIA Notice

Chair O'Neil called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m., stating the press and public were duly notified pursuant to state law, and all Committee members were present.

Media: None (0)

Public: Three (3)

C. New Business (Discussion and action items; public comment after each item, limited to that item; usual public comment rules)

1. Chief's reports if needed
2. Consideration of regulations of shark-fishing from the beach

Director of Resilience and Natural Resource Management Rebecca Fanning reviewed the issue, stating a resident letter had pointed out that Sullivan's Island has recently become a destination for people shark fishing. Using drones, chumming, and other means, people are finding ways to draw sharks closer to the shore. Other coastal municipalities have started looking at adding regulations to protect public safety. She presented some ordinances that places have enacted regarding drone-based chumming and took questions from the Committee. Town Administrator Joe Henderson stated there has been an uptick in interest lately and suggested immediate action from Council.

Motion was made by Carl Hubbard, seconded by Laura Schroeder, to proceed with the shark fishing ordinance to be presented to Council at the next meeting based on the ordinances that have been reviewed thus far;

Motion was made by Laura Schroeder, to amend the previous motion to not just include sharks, but the practice of chumming, artificially putting bait out to sea using kayaks, kites, drones, etc, passed unanimously.

3. Discussion of rideshare designated drop-off and pick-up locations

Police Chief Glenn Meadows presented the department's evaluation of designated rideshare pick-up and drop-off zones. He stated residents were complaining about vehicles often stopping at the corner of Pettigrew and Station 22, on the roadway and the emergency access path. This path is especially popular with visitors and there do not seem to be complaints about other areas at this time. He and the Town Attorney reviewed other areas with designated rideshare lanes and presented how such programs would impact Sullivan's Island specifically. They concluded the Town is not large enough nor does it have the necessary infrastructure to create an exclusive rideshare zone, but will instead focus on stricter enforcement at the Station 22 path. The Municipal Association of South Carolina agrees a rideshare zone would present multiple challenges if created. Chief Meadows then took questions from the Committee as well as discussed other possible solutions.

Public Comment:

- Cheryl Clark, resident – stated it is a serious concern having the access path blocked and would like to see a more permanent solution. She thanked Chief Stith for moving the 'No Parking' sign, but she lives on the corner and has seen people moving or removing it. She also suggested giving BSOs the authority to call tow trucks.
- Melanie Burkhold, resident – suggested geofencing or more signs on the emergency access paths to drop-offs more prohibitive.

Mr. Henderson stated staff will continue to look into solutions and will see what improvements can be made to signage and markings as soon as possible.

D. Executive Session: Contractual matters regarding selection of consultants for outside review of Fire Department procedures

1. Executive Session – Contractual matters regarding selection of consultants for outside review of Fire Department procedures

Motion was made by Laura Schroeder, seconded by Carl Hubbard, to go into Executive Session at 9:40 a.m., passed unanimously.

Motion was made by Carl Hubbard, seconded by Laura Schroeder, to come out of Executive Session at 11:30 a.m., passed unanimously.

There were no votes taken or motions made during Executive Session.

They narrowed down the list for the review of the Fire Department and will follow up with them with questions and reference checks. It will be discussed again at the Monday, August 17, 2026 Public Safety meeting.

E. Adjourn. There being no further public discussion or new business, the meeting adjourned at approximately 11:30 a.m.

Motion was made by Laura Schroeder, seconded by Carl Hubbard to adjourn the meeting at 11:30 a.m., passed unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Pamela A. Otto". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Pamela Otto

Approved at the August 17, 2026 Public Safety Committee meeting.