

February 16, 2010

The regular meeting of Town Council was held on the above date at Town Hall, all requirements of the Freedom of Information Act having been satisfied:

Present were: Carl J. Smith, Mayor  
Mike Perkis, Mayor Pro Tem  
Buddy Howle, Councilman  
Jerry Kaynard, Councilman  
Patrick O'Neil, Councilman  
Mary Jane Watson, Councilwoman

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Mayor Smith, followed by the invocation by Councilman Howle. The Council chamber was filled with residents, including class members of Councilwoman Watson's first grade class, who helped lead in the Pledge of the United States.

The floor was opened for comments from the citizens. Susan King, principal of Sullivan's Island Elementary School, thanked Council for the recent Resolution pledging support and commitment to the Charleston County School District toward operation of an elementary school on Sullivan's Island. Pat Votava, 2214 Jasper, stated she heard the Department of Transportation was considering closing Jasper Blvd by her house; she is in favor of it, but also would like them to consider Myrtle Avenue. Heidi Brown, 405 Station 22 Street, stated she heard DOT was planning to use cones to try closing Jasper Blvd. on a temporary basis. She suggested DOT needed to study also closing Myrtle Avenue, and to study the traffic in the summer months when the traffic count is higher. Administrator Benke stated that DOT was considering closing Jasper on that side of 703 due to the accident count. For safety reasons DOT proposed this as a temporary measure. Administrator Benke presented slides on information provided by SCDOT. He also presented information regarding a change at the intersection of Central Avenue and Middle Street; and also Station 18 and Middle Street. Julian Simmons, 1754 I'on Avenue, stated he would like Council to keep the decision of renaming the Ben Sawyer Bridge for Judge Stith. Leo Fetter, 2668 Myrtle Avenue, also was in favor of naming the bridge after Judge Stith.

**Motion was made by Council Howle, seconded by Councilman O'Neil, to approve minutes from the regular meeting on January 19, 2010 and special meeting on January 25, 2010 carried unanimously.**

### **Reports and Communications**

**General and New Correspondence** – Mayor Smith stated he received a letter from Dr. Peter Devito regarding angled parking in the residential area near the commercial district.

**Attorney Report** – There was no Attorney’s Report

**Board and Commission Reports** – There were no reports.

**Administrator’s Report**, Administrator Benke. PCL Civil Contractors and the SC Department of Transportation expect to reopen SC703 over the Ben Sawyer Bridge on February 17 or 18. Planning Commission Chair Hal Currey attended a meeting on how to achieve designation of a bicycle friendly community. The first step is to complete a community survey. A correspondence reply from Bill Dunleavy of January 26, 2010 to Sharon Kahn of 2050 Iron Avenue was received by Council. Several special event applications have been received. Requests were received from Dunleavy’s Pub, Off the Hook DBA as Seel’s, and Home Team BBQ for street closure and outside sales on Saturday, 3-15-10 and Wednesday, 3-17-10 for St. Patrick’s Day. The street closure and outside activities will begin at 10 a.m. and will continue in the evening at the Police Chief’s discretion. The Confederate Heritage Trust requested to hold a HL Hunley and USS Housatonic parade and memorial service at Breach Inlet on 2-19-10. Dicksie Johnson requested to hold the Adela Cook Memorial 5K run on the beach, and using the field at Station 16 Street for a staging area on April 10, 2010 from 8am to 10 am. The Cystic Fibrosis Foundation would like to hold a fund raising 5K walk and run on Sullivan’s Island on May 15, 2010 between 9-11 am. The event will occur on the beach with pre and post activities at Stella Maris Catholic Church.

**Ways and Means Committee**, Councilman Perkis. The January 2010 financial statement was initially reviewed. The staff has reviewed steps necessary to increase the franchise fee agreements with SCANA and Comcast. First Reading of the SCANA ordinance is tonight; the Comcast contract can only be changed at the most 80 days before the contract ends on September 19, 2010. There will be discussion at the next Committee meeting of changing to the fiscal year to a calendar year.

**Personnel Committee**, Councilman Kaynard. Monthly report rendered. Officer Horne has completed his probation status, and Chief Howard recommended awarding him full time status and the appropriate salary increase. **Motion was made by Councilman Kaynard, seconded by Councilwoman Watson, to approve Officer Horne’s full time status and salary increase, carried unanimously.**

**Water and Sewer Committee**, Councilman Perkis. Monthly reports rendered. The Waterline Replacement Project Year 4 preliminary work has begun at Station 18 Street between Middle Street and Central Avenue. An advertisement for a full-time operator is being prepared due to an employee retirement scheduled for this June.

**Building and Construction Committee**, Councilman Howle. Monthly report rendered.

**Fire Committee**, Mayor Smith. Monthly report rendered. The ladder truck is out of service and in North Carolina for repairs. The Volunteers have postponed the fund raising oyster roast to Saturday, February 27, 2010 due to the poor availability of oysters.

Chief Stith introduced Blake Bunch, who is doing an internship with the Island Eye News.

Administrator Benke introduced Mr. Mark Yodice of Thomas and Hutton at this time. Mr. Yodice presented findings from a preliminary review of the Stormwater Pump at Station 18 Street and surrounding area. Mr. Yodice stated that 10.2 acres drain to the pump, and the pump could not handle big storms. He offered several options including replacing the current pump, getting a new pump that is larger and more structurally sound; building a new station at Coast Guard/Lighthouse area which will serve two basins (his recommendation); and gravity (directional drill to marsh). Councilman Perkis stated the Committee should review the information and make a recommendation to Council. This will be discussed at the next Committee meeting.

**Recreation Committee**, Councilwoman Watson. Councilwoman Watson updated Council on the “Bridging the Island Party” held on February 7<sup>th</sup>. There were approximately 300 people in attendance. She stated that they are continuing to plan for the rededication of the bridge.

**Real Estate Committee**, Councilman O’Neil. Urban Edge Studio presented the final version of the Community Commercial District Master Plan on January 25, 2010 at Holy Cross Church. Council will review the plan at the March Committee meeting.

**Police Committee**, Mayor Smith. Monthly report rendered. The new beach patrol vehicle has been purchased and is in service as of January 29, 2010.

**Streets and Maintenance Committee**, Councilman Howle for Councilwoman McGee. Chief Stith is coordinating the construction and placement of new beach path signs. Mark Yodice from Thomas and Hutton presented information regarding the Stormwater Pump at Station 18 Street earlier tonight. Volunteer beach path maintenance resulted in the removal of vines and debris from the Station 16 Street path on January 23, 2010. A Streets and Maintenance Committee meeting has been advertised for Wednesday, March 10, 2010 for discussion of paid parking on Sullivan’s Island. This is an informational meeting, and is open to the public. The SCDOT has advised its intent to let the contract to pave Middle Street from Station 22-1/2 Street to Station 12 Street in late March 2010. The Town has been asked to comment on the following three sections of the SCDOT project discussed during public comments tonight: (1) Closure of Jasper Boulevard at Station 22-1/2 Street west toward Station 22 Street. Sidewalk cost would be for the account of the Town. (2) Removal of concrete traffic island at Middle/Station 18 Streets – The SCDOT would remove the traffic island and make a right hand turn at Station 18 Street. Any additional enhancements would be for the account of the Town. (3) Central Avenue at Middle Street Yield – the SCDOT would improve ADA sidewalk access and improve traffic merge at this intersection.

**Motion was made by Councilman Perkis, seconded by Councilman Kaynard, to have First Reading, by title only, of Ordinance 2010-01, An Ordinance to Amend Section 14-29 8 (A) of Chapter 14 of the Sullivan’s Island Code of Ordinances, regarding SCANA franchise fee, carried unanimously. A special meeting will be advertised for a public hearing and second reading for the Ordinance.**

**Motion was made by Councilman Kaynard, seconded by Councilman Howle, to go into Executive Session for legal advice regarding a contractual matter – Coastal Science and Engineering; and Section 10-20 Classification Rate Schedule, carried unanimously.**

**Motion was made by Councilman Howle, seconded by Councilwoman Watson, to come out of Executive Session at 8:43 pm, carried unanimously. Mayor Smith stated that no action or votes were taken during Executive Session.**

**Motion was made by Councilman Howle, seconded by Councilman Kaynard, to adjourn, carried unanimously.**

Respectfully submitted,

Ellen McQueeney