

April 20, 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
Madeleine McGee, Councilwoman
Patrick O'Neil, Councilman
Mary Jane Watson, Councilwoman

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Mayor Smith, followed by the invocation by Councilwoman Watson. There were five members in the audience, including two members of the media.

Motion was made by Councilman Kaynard, seconded by Councilwoman Watson, to amend the agenda to move the Oath of Office before the public comments, carried unanimously by a vote of 6-0 (Councilman Howle joined meeting later at approximately 6:15).

Mayor Smith administered the Oath of Office to Warren Blackard of the Fire Department. Chief Stith stated the department was happy to welcome Mr. Blackard, and introduced his family in the audience.

The floor was opened for comments from the citizens. There was no public comment.

Motion was made by Councilman Kaynard, seconded by Councilwoman Watson, to approve minutes from the regular meeting on March 16, 2010 and the special meeting on April 12, 2010, carried unanimously by a vote of 6-0.

Motion was made by Councilwoman Watson, seconded by Councilman Perkis, to amend the agenda to add a contractual matter regarding Battery Gadsden to the Executive Session, carried unanimously by a vote of 6-0.

Reports and Communications

Mayor Smith signed a Proclamation of National Beach Safety Week for the week of May 24-31, 2010.

Mayor Smith signed a Proclamation of April 30, 2010 as Arbor Day.

Mayor Smith signed a Proclamation naming May 2010 as Bike Safety Month.

General and New Correspondence – Correspondence was received from Dicksie Johnson, thanking the Town for support of the first annual Run for Adela Holmes Cook; and from Barbara and Barrett Haight and Jim Ball concerning the renaming of the new Ben Sawyer Bridge. Mayor Smith read a thank you letter received from the family of Johnny Dodds for remembering their father and husband at the time of his death.

Mayor Smith recognized and congratulated resident Leo Fetter, who was recently promoted to Sergeant First Class.

Attorney Report – Attorney Dodds presented two requests for fee simple titles. (Councilman Howle entered the meeting at this time). **Motion was made by Councilman Howle, seconded by Councilman Kaynard, to approve the request of Timothy and Melissa Kelly at TMS 523-07-00-003, carried unanimously.**

Motion was made by Councilman Howle, seconded by Councilman Kaynard, to approve the request of Bradley Newman, Lot 114 Goldbug Avenue, carried unanimously.

At this time, Councilwoman Watson brought in flower baskets to be given to the administrative staff for Administrative Day, as a token of appreciation from Town Council.

Board and Commission Reports – There were no reports.

Administrator's Report, Administrator Benke. The Town recently competed in the Municipal Association of South Carolina achievement award by showcasing the various communication platforms. The Charleston County Park and Recreation Commission has requested the support of the Town in National Beach Safety Week during May 24-31; and a proclamation of the event has been signed this evening. The Tree Commission is planning several events for the State and National Arbor Day Celebration. Town Council proclaimed April 30, 2010 as Arbor Day in the Town of Sullivan's Island. The Month of May 2010 was proclaimed as Bike Safety Month. A special event application has been received for the WEZL Radio-Ride to the River on May 2, 2010. The 2010 East Cooper Coastal Triathlon was held on April 18, 2010 and went very well. Water and Sewer Manager Greg Gress reported that a vendor has been hired to clean up the debris on the old baseball field. Mayor Smith asked Council to consider financially contributing funds from the Confederate Memorial Fund to the Sesquicentennial Commemoration of the War Between the States, to be held next year.

Ways and Means Committee, Councilman Perkis. The March 2010 financial statement was briefly discussed. Staff continues to work on the 2010-2011 Town budget. Councilman Kaynard stated the current health insurance premiums will increase for the next fiscal year; therefore, the Ways and Means Committee will meet with different vendors to determine the best choice for the employees. The generator repairs were discussed at the Committee meeting, and it is being worked on. The restaurants will not support the expense of additional officers in the commercial district during the coming summer months. American Tower Corporation is requesting to add additional equipment to the cell tower ground space for T-Mobile South, LLC, its successors, assigns, parents, affiliates and subsidiaries. **Motion was made by Councilman Perkis, seconded by**

Councilwoman Watson, to amend the agreement to add the equipment locker for T-Mobile on our cell phone tower, carried unanimously. The vacation rental license report shows 15 outstanding or pending licenses.

Personnel Committee, Councilman Kaynard. Monthly report rendered. Firefighter Warren Blackard of the Fire Department was given the oath of office tonight. One position in the Water and Sewer Department has been accepted; the other position remains open. Chief Stith will meet with the Personnel Committee to discuss the maintenance positions.

Water and Sewer Committee, Councilman Perkis. Monthly report rendered. Councilman Perkis distributed the FY11 Water and Sewer budget for discussion at the next Committee meeting. The insurance carrier for Republic Contracting Inc. has offered a 50/50 split on the pipe damage estimated to be \$37,787.63.

Building and Construction Committee, Councilman Howle. Monthly report rendered. The NFIP lapsed on March 28, 2010 because of focused debate on the health care bill. Congress was scheduled to address the matter when re-convening on April 12, 2010, and it is currently included in a Bill before Congress.

Fire Committee, Mayor Smith. Monthly report rendered. The Boardwalk is being fixed at Station 22 Street. On the beachside, two 6x6 poles are being placed on the end of the beach path, and also at Station 22-1/2. Visitors on the beach should be able to more easily tell where the beach paths are at night because the poles have reflectors on them.

Recreation Committee, Councilwoman Watson. Mr. Scarpa of Carolina Sport Surfaces Inc. has provided a quote to re-surface the tennis and basketball courts. The cost is \$3,970 per court, and the resurfacing of two courts is in the budget. Approximately 90 Island residents participated in the Cooper River Bridge Run this year. There was general discussion regarding a dedication ceremony for the completion of the Ben Sawyer Bridge project. It would probably be on a Saturday between 10 am and 2 pm as soon as it is known when the bridge will be complete. Chairman Ward Lasso held the first meeting of the Bike Friendly Community Committee on April 18. General discussion regarding the application process was held, and members were assigned various tasks for the application. Councilwoman Watson attended a meeting with the Battery Gadsden Committee on April 15 to discuss the Mayfest activities tentatively scheduled for May 22, 2010. The National Park Service will hold the fourth annual National Junior Ranger Day on May 8, 2010. There was discussion concerning the lights at the tennis courts. The lights will now turn off at 9:00 p.m.

Real Estate Committee, Councilman O'Neil. Community Commercial District Master Plan - Council previously reviewed the consultant suggestions in their three categories. Council discussed sending items in category "needing more study" to the Planning Commission. **Motion was made by Councilman O'Neil, seconded by Councilman Howle, to send items in category**

“suggestions which may be of interest but require more study at a later time” to the Planning Commission to study, take public comment, and make recommendations to Council; carried by a vote of 6, with Councilman Kaynard abstaining.

Open Space Protection - Survey cost estimates are being obtained for two parcels for consideration in placing with the Mt. Pleasant Land Conservancy.

Certified Local Government Program - Building Official Robinson presented information at the last Committee meeting, and he will be meeting with a representative of the program next week.

Police Committee, Mayor Smith. Monthly report rendered. There was general discussion of policing and other strategies for controlling pedestrian traffic in the commercial district. A letter of appreciation was received commending Officer Botticelli and the department for assistance in locating their lost cat. “Street Talk” will be held Saturday, April 24, 2010 at Atlantic Avenue and Station 17 Street.

Streets and Maintenance Committee, Councilwoman McGee. The beach path sign language was discussed at the last meeting and changes are currently being made. A meeting will be set up with the property owners near the stormwater pump on Station 18 Street regarding drainage solutions.

Motion was made by Councilman Howle, seconded by Councilman O’Neil, to go into Executive Session at 7:45 p.m. for legal advice concerning contractual matters, carried unanimously.

Motion was made by Councilman Howle, seconded by Councilwoman McGee, to come out of executive session at 8:20 p.m., carried unanimously. Mayor Smith stated no action or votes were taken during Executive Session.

Motion was made by Councilman O’Neil, seconded by Councilwoman McGee, to approve the Coastal Science and Engineering contract with modifications, carried unanimously.

Motion was made by Councilman Howle, seconded by Councilman O’Neil, to adjourn at 8:22 p.m., carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Ellen McQueeney