

June 18, 2013

The regular meeting of Town Council was held on the above date at 6:05 p.m. 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 / Mayor-Elect  
Hartley Cooper, Councilwoman  
Jerry Kaynard, Councilman  
Madeleine McGee, Councilwoman  
Mary Jane Watson, Councilwoman  
Chauncey Clark, Council-Elect  
Susan Middaugh, Council-Elect

Mayor Smith welcomed the overflowing crowd to the meeting, and led the Pledge of Allegiance; Councilwoman Watson followed with a prayer.

Mayor Smith administered the Mayoral Oath of Office to Councilman Mike Perkis.

Mayor Perkis administered the Council Oath of Office to Chauncey Clark, Susan Middaugh, and Councilman Pat O'Neil.

Mayor Perkis presented former Councilwoman Madeleine McGee with a Resolution honoring her four years of service to the Town.

Mayor Perkis presented former Mayor Carl Smith with an engraved plaque containing the gavel he used for the past eight years as mayor. Mayor Perkis stated it was an honor to present the plaque and thanked him from all the residents of Sullivan's Island, as well as personally thanked him for mentoring him when he first came to Council. Mayor Perkis stated former Mayor Smith served the Town for over 34 years as a member of the Board of Zoning Appeals, Councilman, and Mayor. The audience gave former Mayor Smith a standing ovation after the presentation. Councilman O'Neil added when he first became involved in Town government 20 years ago, Carl Smith was on Council. He thanked the former Mayor for being an outstanding role model, and appreciated his service, his mentorship and his friendship. Councilwoman Watson added she too appreciated his mentoring her and accepting the many daily phone calls she made to him when she started on Council.

Mayor Perkis introduced the new Zoning Administrator, Joe Henderson, to the audience and administered the Employee Oath of Office to him.

**Motion was made by Councilman Clark, seconded by Councilman Kaynard, to move Agenda Action Item one, a Resolution of Appreciation for Jess Patterson, to this time before public comment, carried unanimously.**

Mayor Perkis presented a Resolution of Appreciation to resident Jess Patterson for his aid to a swimmer in distress on May 28, 2013. Fire Chief Stith added his appreciation for Mr. Patterson's help,

and stated the situation would have been even more tragic without his help. The audience gave Mr. Patterson a standing ovation.

Mayor Perkis opened the meeting for public comment.

Norman Khoury, 1728 I'on Avenue, a member for the Sullivan's Island Conservation Group, spoke for the group and its Steering Committee. He stated that the group is opposed to the proposed permitting change in the single family zoning. The Group supports the Sullivan's Island Comprehensive Plan and Town ordinances that support a low-density, single family residential neighborhood.

Sydney Cook, 1614 Thompson Avenue, opposed the Multi-family district overlay and currently has a list of approximately 400 residents who also oppose the proposed district.

Rita Langley, 1618 Middle Street, stated she does not want the multi-family overlay district as it is not a good choice for the Island.

## **I. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**Motion was made by Councilman Kaynard, seconded by Councilman O'Neil, to approve the minutes from the Special Meeting on May 6, 2013; the Special Meeting on May 21, 2013; the Regular Meeting on May 21, 2013 and the Special Meeting on June 3, 2013, carried unanimously.**

## **II. COUNCIL ACTION ITEMS**

1. The Resolution of Appreciation for Jess Patterson was presented earlier in the meeting.
2. Mayor Perkis proclaimed June 28, 2013 as Carolina Day in the Town of Sullivan's Island.
2. **Motion was made by Councilman O'Neil, seconded by Councilman Kaynard, to defer First Reading of Ordinance No. 2013-02, An Ordinance to Amend Section 21-20 of the Zoning Ordinance (Conditional Uses in RS-Districts), which allows attached, deed restricted structures to the parcel's principal dwelling, provided they are reviewed and approved by the Design Review Board, carried unanimously.**
3. **Motion was made by Councilman O'Neil, seconded by Councilman Kaynard, to have Second Reading and Ratification of Ordinance No. 2013-04, An Ordinance to Adopt Town Budget for July 1, 2013 through June 30, 2014, carried unanimously.**
4. **Motion was made by Councilman Kaynard, seconded by Councilwoman Watson, to have Second Reading and Ratification of Ordinance No. 2013-05, An Ordinance to Adopt the Water and Sewer Operating Budget for Fiscal Year 2013-2014, carried unanimously.**
5. **Motion was made by Councilman Kaynard, seconded by Councilman O'Neil, to approve a Resolution for FY2014 Water and Sewer Rate Structure, carried unanimously.**

Mayor Perkis stated there is about a 7-1/2% increase in combination water and sewer rates for the average usage customer; there are no changes to the current fee schedule. The increase is driven by factors such as the water agreement with Charleston Water Systems that requires the Town to pay a

percentage of their capital items such as the Ashley River booster pump. The Town's share of that booster pump is \$285,000. Also, on the sewer side the increase is driven by a very progressive program to reduce inflow and infiltration (I&I). When asked by a resident if the I&I has improved over the last several years, Mayor Perkis responded that from the small scale studies, it has been reduced in areas where new pipe has been installed; however, it is not measurable on an island-wide scale at this time. For instance, while it might be improved in one section, if it is plugged at one place, it could potentially come in at another place. So, the overall number may not show improvement because only a very small portion of the island has been completed.

**6. Motion was made by Councilman O'Neil, seconded by Councilman Kaynard, to approve the Committees of Council as shown on the Agenda Action pages 17 and 18, carried unanimously.**

The Committees are as follows:

Ways & Means Committee – Mike Perkis, Chair; Jerry Kaynard-Co-chair; and all members of Council  
Personnel Committee – Jerry Kaynard, Chair; Susan Middaugh and Mary Jane Watson  
Water & Sewer Committee – Susan Middaugh, Chair; Jerry Kaynard and Mike Perkis  
Building and Construction Committee – Hartley Cooper, Chair; Pat O'Neil and Mike Perkis  
Fire Committee – Chauncey Clark, Chair; Pat O'Neil and Mary Jane Watson  
Recreation Committee – Mary Jane Watson, Chair; Jerry Kaynard and Hartley Cooper  
Real Estate Committee – Pat O'Neil, Chair; Mike Perkis and Jerry Kaynard  
Police Committee – Chauncey Clark, Chair; Pat O'Neil and Susan Middaugh  
Streets & Maintenance Committee – Hartley Cooper, Chair; Susan Middaugh and Mike Perkis

**8. Motion was made by Councilwoman Cooper, seconded by Councilman Clark, to appoint Councilman Kaynard as Mayor Pro Tempore, carried unanimously.**

### **III. REPORTS AND COMMUNICATIONS**

**General and New Correspondence** – Notes of appreciation were received for the Police Department, the Water & Sewer Department, and for Chief Stith and Administrator Benke; correspondence was received from Comcast regarding a rate increase for a service technician; from a resident regarding Battery Logan; from a resident regarding the Station 27 Path; and from eleven residents regarding the proposed multi-family zoning district.

**Attorney Report** - No report.

**Boards and Commissions** – Councilman Clark reported that the Planning Commission did not meet this month.

**Administrator's Report.**

Carolina Day 2013 – The National Park Service will commemorate Carolina Day between 10 AM and 4 PM on Friday, June 28, 2013 with a living history exhibit at Fort Moultrie.

Lowcountry Open Land Trust 2013 Deed Restriction Monitoring Report – Mr. Garrett Budd has presented the 2013 monitoring report for the accreted land, as well as several other matters related to the accreted land.

Municipal Bond Interest – The Municipal Association of South Carolina has a resolution opposing the elimination or reduction of tax exemptions for municipal bonds, as well as other general information regarding municipal bond actions contemplated by Congress and its impact to municipalities.

**Ways and Means Committee, Mayor Perkis.** Mayor Perkis reviewed the points of interest of the May financial statement. The revenue from business licenses and property tax has exceeded the six month projection. The Water & Sewer revenue is lower than expected due to a decrease in usage which appears to be related to the heavy rain events, and the revenue from dog tags is a lower than at this time last year, but should meet the projected budget. On the expenditure side, the Sewer Fund's sludge disposal expense has exceeded the budgeted amount for the year due to the significant amounts of rain the past few months. Other expenses through the month of May were as expected.

**Personnel Committee, Councilman Kaynard.** Monthly report rendered. Councilman Kaynard reported that Firefighter John Weston will retire on July 2, 2013. The new Zoning Administrator, Joe Henderson, started employment on June 3, 2013 and was welcomed this evening; and Michael Reese and McLain Reese were hired as temporary summer help in the Maintenance Department. The Water & Sewer Department has one opening for an Operator. Chief Stith added that the vacancy created by Mr. Weston's retirement has been filled.

Councilman Kaynard stated the Personnel Committee would like to recommend to Town Council to consider July 5<sup>th</sup> as a holiday for Town employees for the fine work they do for the residents and guests of Sullivan's Island. **Motion was made by Councilman Kaynard, seconded by Councilwoman Middaugh, that Town Council designate July 5<sup>th</sup> as a Town holiday for Employee Appreciation Day, carried unanimously.**

**Water and Sewer Committee, Councilwoman Middaugh.** Monthly reports rendered. Former Committee Chair Perkis stated the draft minutes of the Water and Sewer Committee meetings on May 23, 2013 and June 11, 2013 will be available soon. The Committee has been planning, prioritizing the plans, and locating funding sources: Also, the Department of Health and Environmental Control (DHEC) informed the Town in early June that the 16 taps that DHEC had taken away without the Town's knowledge now belong to the Town again. Therefore, the owners of the split-zone lots have been notified that the Town can now provide a sewer connection.

**Building and Construction Committee, Councilwoman Cooper.** Monthly report rendered.

Town Hall - The Town Hall construction project is ongoing.

Sullivan's Island Elementary School - The steel package for the Sullivan's Island Elementary School construction project was awarded at the last Charleston County School District meeting.

Battery Logan Structure and Property - The vegetation growth and maintenance of the structure and property at Battery Logan will be discussed at a later time.

**Fire Committee, Councilman Clark.** Monthly report rendered. Chief Stith stated the Sullivan's Island Fire and Rescue Squad will hold the 66<sup>th</sup> Annual Fish Fry on June 29, 2013 from 5PM to 8PM to raise funds for the purchase and maintenance of rescue equipment. Chief Stith stated he hated to see John

"Skipper" Weston retire, but he will work part-time for some shifts and vacations. He has served the Town for over 20 years. Councilwoman Watson expressed her appreciation for his help with the Recreation Committee activities over the past six years.

**Recreation Committee, Councilwoman Watson.**

Commercial Use of Open Fields – Several entities have requested use of the Town property for sports activities. Agreements have been executed with Lowcountry Lacrosse and Soccer Shorts.

July 4<sup>th</sup> Planning Session – The Recreation Committee will meet on June 24, 2013 at 3:00pm at Town Hall to complete the plans for various events during the July 4<sup>th</sup> weekend. Councilwoman Watson will meet with the Charleston Symphony and resident Dawn Durst to plan an Island event this Fall.

Councilman Kaynard stated he wanted to commend Councilwoman Watson with her efforts and effectiveness in leading the Recreation Committee to develop a budget in order to replace the tennis and basketball courts at Stith Park; to replace the tennis courts at Poe Park, and continue with the conceptual planning for the park.

**Real Estate Committee, Councilman O'Neil.**

Planning Commission Residency – There was a brief discussion concerning residency requirements for Board and Commission members. Attorney Dodds stated a Board/Commission member had to be a registered voter to serve on any Board or Commission. This topic will be discussed at a later date.

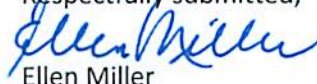
Charleston County Recycling Program – The all-in-one recycling cans are expected to be delivered on the Island this week.

**Police Committee, Councilman Clark.** Monthly report rendered. Police Chief Howard reported on the Island weekend traffic. There was traffic congestion again, particularly due to an accident on the top of the bridge, along with another later accident. Mayor Perkis stated he saw the Memorial Day weekend traffic count on the DOT website was about three times the normal amount of traffic. The Traffic Counter only includes traffic coming from 703 northbound and southbound; it does not include traffic coming from the Isle of Palms. Chief Howard reported that there was a meeting with the Town, the Isle of Palms, Town of Mt. Pleasant, Charleston County and the Highway Patrol regarding traffic over the July 4<sup>th</sup> holiday. Both the Highway Patrol and Charleston County will send additional help over what the Town has already planned. The Town of Mt. Pleasant will monitor the traffic at both ends of Rifle Range Road. Councilwoman Middaugh suggested hiring someone to write parking tickets so the full-time officers will have relief from that duty. This topic will be discussed in later meetings.

**Streets and Maintenance Committee, Councilwoman Cooper.** No new activity to report.

**Motion was made by Councilman O'Neil, seconded by Councilman Clark to adjourn at 7:20 p.m., carried unanimously.**

Respectfully submitted,



Ellen Miller