

June 19, 2012

The regular meeting of Town Council was held on the above date at 6:00 p.m. at Town Hall, all requirements of the Freedom of Information Act having been satisfied:

Present were: Hartley Cooper, Councilwoman
Jerry Kaynard, Councilman
Madeleine McGee, Councilwoman
Patrick O'Neil, Councilman
Mary Jane Watson, Councilwoman

Administrator Benke stated that Mayor Smith and Mayor Pro Tem Perkis were not able to attend the meeting, but a quorum of Council was assembled; therefore, State Code allows the Council to appoint a presiding officer of the meeting. **Motion was made by Councilwoman Watson, seconded by Councilwoman Cooper, to appoint Councilman O'Neil to preside over the meeting. Motion was amended by Councilman Kaynard, seconded by Councilwoman Watson, that the meeting time deadline this evening was 7:15, carried unanimously.**

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Councilman O'Neil, followed by the invocation by Councilwoman Watson. There were several people in the audience, and one member of the media.

The floor was opened for comments from the citizens.

Karen Coste, 322 Station 19 St., questioned the status of the results of the Freedom of Information Act request from Vince Graham; and if any further legal action by an individual (such as faulty process claim) had been presented to Council or Attorney Dodds. Administrator Benke stated Mr. Graham had been given 2,500 pages of information, and the Town is waiting on payment from him before more information is given to him. Mr. Benke also stated that he was not aware of any further legal action being presented to Council or Attorney Dodds.

Barbara Spell, 1702 Atlantic Ave., shared the Office of School Facilities Guidelines 115.2 and State Code Section 59-23-230 regarding the State Superintendent of Education has the ability to waive regulations relating to building square footage requirement for construction of a new public school. Her presentation is on file at the office.

Wayne Stelljes, 3104 I'on Avenue, stated for clarification that he attended a recent Charleston County School District meeting when Larry Kobrosky asked the Board if they had been told the school had to be a certain size and that it could not be overridden. At least two of the Board members were very clear that they were not told that, and believed that the school should be built the size as it was planned.

Motion was made by Councilman Kaynard, seconded by Councilwoman McGee, to approve the minutes of the May 15, 2012 meeting, carried unanimously.

Councilman O'Neil stated the June meeting is the Annual meeting of Council, when the Committees and the Mayor Pro Tempore are appointed for the next year. Because the Ad Hoc Committee to restructure the Standing Committees of Council is still in the process of restructuring, **a motion was made by Councilwoman McGee, seconded by Councilwoman Watson, to continue the current structure and composition through December 2012, carried unanimously.**

Motion was made by Councilman Kaynard, seconded by Councilwoman Watson, to appoint Councilman Perkis to continue as Mayor Pro Tempore for the coming year, carried unanimously.

Motion was made by Councilman Kaynard, seconded by Councilwoman Cooper, to approve a Resolution for Adjustment of Water and Sewer Rates and Fees, carried unanimously.

Motion was by Councilwoman Watson, seconded by Councilman Kaynard, to approve a Resolution for the Town to commit additional funds of \$35,629.35 for the replacement of tennis courts and the basketball court located in the J. Marshall Stith Park, carried unanimously. Other support will be received from the Park Foundation and the Baker Bishop Foundation.

Councilman O'Neil proclaimed June 28, 2012 as Carolina Day in the Town of Sullivan's Island.

General and New Correspondence – Nothing to report.

Boards and Commissions – Hal Currey of the Planning Commission reported they discussed the Cultural Resources and Land Use portions of the Comprehensive Plan at their June meeting. Councilwoman McGee inquired if the current plan includes parking and Town Hall. Councilman Kaynard clarified that it puts the Planning Commission in a difficult situation because those are two topics Council is studying and there is not yet a clear direction of guidance for these subjects. Mr. Currey did mention a very general goal and action line could be placed in the Comprehensive Plan.

Attorney Report – Nothing to report.

Administrator's Report – Administrator Andy Benke.

Sullivan's Island Elementary School – The demolition continues and the contractor expects to be off site by the end of July 2012.

Ad Hoc Committee for Committee Review – The Ad Hoc Committee continues to meet to streamline the Standing Committees of Council.

Charleston County Accommodations Tax Allocation – Charleston County Council Finance Committee approved a request by the Town to allocate \$40,000 from County Accommodations Tax to fund additional officers during the busy beach season.

Charleston County Transportation Sales Tax Projects – Charleston County Council recently approved two Town projects submitted to improve drainage and road surfaces. Osceola Avenue will be milled and re-surfaced in the coming months. Additionally, drainage issues on Osceola and Thompson will be identified and resolved.

Councilman O'Neil stated he meant to mention earlier, as proposed by Councilman Kaynard, that Council is dressed casually (no coat and tie) during the summer months to be environmentally aware of conserving energy from increased air conditioning.

Ways and Means Committee, Councilman Kaynard for Councilman Perkis. Monthly report rendered. Councilman Kaynard stated that the business license revenue is \$100,000 more than in May 2011. The dog license revenue is \$72,000; about \$4,000 more than May 2011. The Town has not yet received approximately \$445,000 of the \$1,570,000 ad valorem tax from Charleston County. All other income accounts are as expected.

Personnel Committee, Councilman Kaynard. Monthly report rendered. Five employees have been added to the staff since the last report: Doug Archer was re-hired in the Police Department; James Moore, Jr. and Scott Sanders, II were hired as temporary workers in the Maintenance Department; Samantha Watson was hired as a summer temporary receptionist in the Administration Department; and Malcolm Glenn was hired as a summer temporary operator in the Water & Sewer Department. There are currently two vacancies: one full-time operator in the Water and Sewer Department, and one full-time Maintenance employee. The Zoning Administrator position will come back to Council as a Committee Report with the Committee recommendation and job description. Mayor Smith and Administrator Benke will attend the MASC Annual Conference on Hilton Head Island June 28-July 1.

Boards and Commissions – The following seats on the Boards/Commissions are expiring in September. Planning Commission – 2 vacancies; Board of Zoning Appeals – 5 vacancies; Design Review Board – 2 vacancies; Tree Commission – 2 vacancies; Election Commission – 1 vacancy. A recruitment timeline has been developed so appointees can begin serving at their respective September meeting. The Personnel Committee will meet to give suggestions regarding the questions by June 26th. It is asked that all applicants include the question before their answers on the questionnaire.

Water and Sewer Committee, Councilwoman McGee for Councilman Perkis. Monthly reports rendered. Water and Sewer Manager Greg Gress reported the FlexNet project has been postponed until next year. The young bald eagle that was in the drying bed was rescued and is doing well. To prevent that from occurring, a net is not practical, but a roof cover has been discussed.

Building and Construction Committee, Councilwoman Cooper. Monthly report rendered. The Island Club construction plans, including the handicap access in the bathroom will be complete by July 4th.

Fire Committee, Councilwoman Watson for Mayor Smith. Monthly report rendered. The Fish Fry will be held on June 30, 2012. The beach access boardwalks have been completed at Stations 18, 19, and 24. Work begins on Station 28 beach access path tomorrow.

Recreation Committee, Councilwoman Watson. The June Fest will not take place this year. The community garden is growing and is being maintained by about a dozen people.

Fourth of July - The Fourth of July flyer will go out with the next water bill. This year instead of going to the Island Club, the parade will end at the Fish Fry Shack, and there will be an inflatable water slide for

the children. The bike and golf cart parade will begin at the Firestation after a brief flag ceremony and comments from Mayor Smith at 8:30a.m. There will be judging for best golf cart and best bike. There will not be a parade if it is raining; however, a rain date for the fireworks is Friday, July 7th.

Real Estate Committee, Councilman O'Neil.

Town Hall – Mr. Creech and engineers will look at 1714 Middle Street on June 21, 2012, and make a presentation at the July 17, 2012 Council meeting. A public presentation will be scheduled shortly thereafter.

Greenbelt project – The environmental statement has been completed and given to Charleston County. The contract will be ready for signature at the July 17th Council meeting; or might be ready as early as July 2 if Council wanted a Special Meeting before the Committee Workshop. Also, Jeff Jackson should submit the written scope very soon.

ALMP – The changes made by Council at the May 25th meeting are being incorporated into the document.

Police Committee, Councilman O'Neil for Mayor Smith. Chief Howard stated the department is gearing up for the Fourth of July, and are waiting to hear from the County if additional deputies will be available.

Streets and Maintenance Committee, Councilwoman McGee.

Tindale-Oliver – Administrator Benke stated he is still working with them and following Council's instructions.

SC Department of Transportation – All Way Stop – Administrator Benke stated SCDOT has a strict protocol to follow to install or remove a sign, and he does not know the timeline of its removal.

Ordinances

Councilman O'Neil, as presiding officer, duly ratified Ordinance No. 2012-04, An Ordinance to Adopt Budget for July 1, 2012 through June 30, 2013.

Motion was made by Councilman Kaynard, seconded by Councilwoman Watson to adjourn at 7:05 pm, carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Ellen Miller