



Town of Sullivan's Island, South Carolina
Town Council Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, October 18, 2022

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

Present were: Patrick M. O'Neil, Mayor
Bachman Smith, Mayor Pro-Tem
Justin Novak, Councilmember
Scott Millimet, Councilmember
Kaye Smith, Councilmember
Gary Visser, Councilmember

Staff members present were Fire Chief Anthony Stith, Town Administrator Andy Benke, Larry Dodds, Amanda Hawver, Greg Gress, Bridget Welch, Jason Blanton, Max Wurthmann, Joe Henderson, Christopher Wallace, and Charles Drayton.

Mayor Patrick O'Neil called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. and stated the press and public had been notified in accordance with State Law. There were approximately seven (7) members of the public present and no members of the media present. Mayor O'Neil led the Pledge of Allegiance, followed by a moment of silence for prayer or reflection.

I. Format: Public Comments

- Ralph Byers, 3025 Middle Street, stated his opposition to Pacaso

II. Correspondence:

1. Cindy Garland, 2 Citadel Street – Opposed fractional ownership 9-20-22
2. Cindy Garland, 2 Citadel Street – Pickleball court concerns 9-20-22
3. Mike Walks – Battery Gadsden Cultural Center lease 9-20-22
4. Norman & Julia Khoury, 1728 I'On Avenue – Opposed fractional ownership 9-20-22
5. Carl Smith, former mayor of SI, 3115 I'On Avenue – Owner's intent of property 9-20-22
6. Sue & Robert Prenner, 2068 Pettigrew Street – Opposed fractional ownership 9-21-22
7. FWC Wildlife Lighting Certification 9-21-22
8. Elizabeth Anderegg, 3 Florence Street – Pickleball court concerns 9-22-22
9. Thomas Nakios, 1730 Middle Street – In favor of pickleball court 9-22-22

10. Chris & Elizabeth MacNaughton, 2662 Goldbug Avenue - In favor of pickleball court 9-22-22
11. Ross & Grace Cowan, 923 Osceola Avenue – In favor of pickleball court 9-22-22
12. David Sarratt, 1321 Middle Street – In favor of pickleball court 9-22-22

New Correspondence Since Workshop – October 3, 2022

1. Dan Legare, 3104 Marshall Boulevard – Opposed fractional ownership 9-23-22
2. Scott Stevens, 1850 Central Avenue – Appreciation to Town Staff during Ian 9-30-22
3. Cheryl & Chauncey Clark, 2119 Pettigrew Street – Appreciation to Town Hall Staff during Hurricane Ian 10-01-22
4. Catherine Carter, 3001 Marshall Boulevard – Appreciation to Town Staff for preparation and communication during storm 10-3-22
5. Cammie & Billy Camp, 2672 Middle Street – Opposed fractional ownership 10-8-22
6. Andrew Speaker, 2302 Atlantic Avenue – Opposed factional ownership 10-8-22
7. Douglas Bostick, Executive Director of S.C. Battleground Preservation Trust – Add Thomson Park to S.C. Liberty Trail 10-13-22

III. Presentation: Elko Coastal Consulting, Inc: Nicole Elko, PhD.; 2022 Beach Monitoring Survey

Dr. Nicole Elko presented the 2022 Sullivan’s Island Beach Condition Report which outlines the conditions and changes of and on the beach in the past year. Overall, the shoreline and volume change has mostly been stable over the past several years. She stated Hurricane Ian did not do significant damage to the beach but there was significant dune retreat, particularly at Stations 31 and 32.

IV. Presentation: Douglas W. Bostick, Executive Director of the South Carolina Battleground Preservation Trust as a presenter for adding Thomson Park to the South Carolina Liberty Trails

Mr. Bostick distributed a map to Council showing the Liberty Trail, a connected network of Revolutionary War sites across South Carolina. Sullivan’s Island is home to the first significant battle won in the War and the Trust would like to add Battery Thomson to the Liberty Trail. In exchange, the Trust would maintain and redo signage, replace palmettos, etc. They would also like to install one sign designating it as a stop on the Trail.

V. Council Action Items

A. Approval of Minutes

- September 20, 2022 Regular Council Meeting Minutes

Motion was made by Councilmember Kaye Smith, seconded by Councilmember Visser to approve all September 20, 2022 Regular Council Meeting Minutes, passed unanimously, with one correction and Mayor Pro-Tem Bachman Smith abstaining.

Mayor O'Neil stated on page three, item D, the wording that the motion was *passed unanimously* was omitted. Attorney Dodds stated it could be added without a motion to amend.

- B. Proclamation – A Proclamation Recognizing the Valuable Contributions of Reverend Dr. Vance Polley and Sunrise Presbyterian Church to the Town of Sullivan's Island, it's Residents, and Community Efforts.

Dr. Polley was not in attendance and the proclamation will be presented at the November meeting.

Motion was made by Councilmember Novak, seconded by Councilmember Kaye Smith, to approve the Proclamation recognizing the valuable contributions of Reverend Dr. Vance Polley and Sunrise Presbyterian Church to the Town of Sullivan's Island, its residents, and community efforts, passed unanimously.

- C. Approval of the June 2, 2022 Administration Committee Minutes (Committee Members only)

Motion was made by Councilmember Kaye Smith, seconded by Councilmember Novak to approve the June 2, 2022 Administration Committee Minutes, passed unanimously, with one spelling correction.

VI. Reports and Communication

- A. Mayor's Report – Mayor O'Neil stated a Proclamation was made to set up a State of Emergency regarding Hurricane Ian.
 - 2. Mayor O'Neil commented further on the report by the SC Beach Advocates Board, stating everyone was pleased with the response from SC DOT.
 - 3. Mayor O'Neil stated a meeting was called that morning by the Charleston County Election Board for mayors and public safety leaders to discuss managing the impending election. A second meeting will be held Thursday, October 20.
- B. Administrator's Report – Mr. Benke reported the Fire Station is nearing completion and he provided pay application 14 for review.
 - 2. A contractual matter concerning the generator and the fuel tank will be discussed during Executive Session.
 - 3. Mr. Benke stated he is still working on the contract for the Old Bridge Rehabilitation project with Kimley Horne and is hoping to present a report at November's Workshop.
 - 4. Boardwalk restoration projects are slightly ahead of schedule, with Station 27 being completed and having started on Station 19. Pay application one is included for review.
 - 5. Lights and poles have been installed for the Stith Park basketball and tennis courts and the repainting will be completed soon. The project will hopefully be completed by the end of the month. Pay application two is included for review.

6. Mr. Benke reported on the status of the Hurricane Ian debris cleanup. He stated the collection can start at sunrise and the truck must leave before the landfill closes at 4:00. He reminded residents there is an 8-foot length and 8-inch diameter size restriction on limbs going to the Bees Ferry landfill. He also stated the County waived the tipping fee for the landfill.
 7. The Vehicle Identification system will be purchased soon, and residents will be able to apply for one starting next year. Mayor O'Neil commented these will only be used for emergency restrictions and do not grant any parking privileges. Mr. Benke stated the new tags will not be a sticker, but a decal to hang on the review mirror. There will be one issued per driver in a household and is not designated per car. Residency and/or property ownership verification will be required to obtain one. There is no charge.
 8. The new historical markers will be installed next week, near the Park Bandstand, on a cannon at Station 18, and in the center of the old parade ground at Station 17.
 9. The police will again collect bicycles for Toys for Tots this year, with a goal of 300 bikes.
 10. The LOWVELO Bike Ride for Cancer is happening on November 5th and bikes will be passing through Sullivan's Island to benefit MUSC.
- C. Attorney's Report – Nothing to Report
- D. Boards and Commission's Reports
- a. Planning Commission – Nothing to Report
 - b. Board of Zoning Appeals– Nothing to Report
 - c. Design Review Board– Nothing to Report
 - d. Tree Commission– Nothing to Report
 - e. Municipal Elections Commission– Nothing to Report

VII. Committee Reports – Discussion Items:

- E. Finance Committee – Mr. Blanton gave a financial summary regarding revenue and payments and stated expenses are normal for this time of year. He also provided a breakdown of expenses, available in the packet. Chair Millimet stated the Committee will be talking to the attorney about investing cash into T-bills.
- F. Public Facilities Committee – Mr. Novak stated the historic signs will be installed soon and will consider more locations for more signs.
- G. Land Use & Natural Resources Committee – Chair Visser stated the next meeting will be Thursday, November 3 at 8:45 a.m.
- H. Administration Committee – Chair Novak reported Council will review the final copy of the Personnel Handbook and will be accepting written feedback. The Youth Council is planning their first meeting. He also stated Citibot is ready to deploy and recommends it's launch. It will be advertised for residents to sign up for text notifications from the Town, as well as the implementation of the chat bot on the Town's website. Feedback from the launch will be compiled and assessed for a month after launch by Town Staff Jacky Gypin.
- I. Water & Sewer Committee – Chair Bachman Smith reported the last two Water & Sewer projects are finishing up. The next meeting will be Thursday, October 27 at 8:45 a.m.
- J. Public Safety Committee – The next meeting date will be decided soon.

- K. Recreation Committee – Chair Kaye Smith reported the park bids have been narrowed down to five (5) firms and will be interviewed in November. Mr. Benke confirmed that fireworks are scheduled for the first Friday in December.

VIII. Executive Session:

Motion was made by Mayor Pro-Tem Bachman Smith, seconded by Councilmember Millimet to go into Executive Session at 6:49 p.m. to discuss the following items, passed unanimously.

- L. Legal Advice – Attorney Linton to review settlement in the matter of D. Harris et al. vs. Town of Sullivan’s Island 2022-CP-10-0950.

- M. Contractual – Discussion of change order matter with Trident Construction regarding the building generator

Motion was made by Mayor Pro-Tem Bachman Smith, seconded by Councilmember Novak, to come out of Executive Session at 7:01 p.m. to discuss the following items, passed unanimously.

IX. Upon Returning to Open Session, Council may take action on items discussed during Executive Session.

Mayor O’Neil stated that no votes or actions were taken while in Executive Session.

Motion was made by Mayor Pro-Tem Bachman Smith, seconded by Councilmember Millimet, to approve the negotiated settlement in the matter of D. Harris et al. vs. Town of Sullivan’s Island 2022-CP-10-0950, passed unanimously.

Motion was made by Mayor Pro-Tem Bachman Smith, seconded by Councilmember Novak to approve the change order with Trident Construction regarding the building generator and the increasing capacity of the fuel tanks, passed unanimously.

X. Adjournment

Motion was made by Mayor Pro-Tem Bachman Smith, seconded by Councilmember Novak to adjourn the meeting at 7:02 p.m., passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,



Bridget Welch