

**ISLE OF PALMS  
REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING  
May 22, 2007**

The regular meeting of the Isle of Palms City Council was held at 7:00 p.m. on Tuesday, May 22, 2007 in Council Chambers, 1207 Palm Boulevard, Isle of Palms, South Carolina. Present were Mayor Sottile, Council Members Bettelli, Buckhannon, Cronin, Hanbury, Marino, McMackin, and Taylor; City Administrator Tucker, City Attorney Sottile, Building and Planning Director Kerr and Public Works Director Pitts. Council Member Rice was excused for the meeting.

**A. INTRODUCTION OF MEETING**

Mayor Sottile called the meeting to order and stated that members of the press and public were duly notified of the meeting in accordance with State and Federal Law. He asked everyone to stand for the invocation and to remain standing for the Pledge of Allegiance.

**B. APPOINTMENT AND ADMINISTRATION OF OATH TO NEW EMPLOYEES.**

**MOTION: Councilman Buckhannon made a motion to appoint Marie Copeland to the General Government Department, April Hancock to the Police Department, and Dianne Tarr to the Police Department; seconded by Councilman Marino; MOTION UNANIMOUSLY PASSED.**

Mayor Sottile administered the Oath of Office to Ms. Copeland; Ms. Hancock and Ms. Tarr were not available for the meeting.

**C. READING OF THE JOURNAL OF PREVIOUS MINUTES.**

**MOTION: Councilman Taylor made a motion to approve the minutes of the Council meeting and Public Hearing on March 27, 2007 and the Council meeting on April 24, 2007; seconded by Councilman Marino; MOTION UNANIMOUSLY PASSED.**

**D. CITIZENS' COMMENTS**

**Rosemarie Dreier, 3 Intracoastal Court**

Ms. Dreier spoke as a resident and as a member of the Beach Advisory Committee. She expressed concern about possible beach erosion at 42<sup>nd</sup> Avenue beach path due to recent work done to improve emergency access. She submitted to Council pictures and information, asked Council to put a hold on any additional beach access work and to let the Beach Advisory Committee research this issue further.

**Sandy Stone, address not given.**

Mr. Stone stated there is a perception of “us versus them” in the community, especially inside Wild Dunes and outside Wild Dunes, regarding the erosion issues. He asked Council to mend this perception at every opportunity possible.

Mayor Sottile responded that, to alleviate this concern, a Committee has been appointed with members from all sectors – the Wild Dunes Community Association, the property owners, the City, local legislators, DNR and OCRM – chaired by the Coastal Engineer. The purpose of the Committee is to get everyone working together to develop a longrange renourishment plan for the entire Isle of Palms beach. As for the empty sand bags that are washing up, Mayor Sottile noted that it is ultimately the contractor’s responsibility to pick them up, but he is grateful for the assistance that the citizens are giving in that effort.

**Dan Harvey, 104 Grand Pavilion**

Mr. Harvey spoke on behalf of the Isle of Palms Business Council. The Business Council is having a meeting on June 6<sup>th</sup> at 8:30 a.m. where the topic will be beach management and beach erosion; Mr. Bill Eiser with OCRM will be one of the speakers. Mr. Harvey extended an invitation to Council members to attend. He stated that the Business Council supports the Beach Management Plan and offered its support to push the plan through.

**E. REPORTS FROM STANDING COMMITTEES**

**1. Ways and Means Committee.** Committee Chairman Taylor reported on the May regular meeting. He stated the Committee had met twice in May, including a budget work session. On June 19, the Ways and Means Committee will hold its meeting at 5:00 p.m. to be followed at 6:00 p.m. by the Public Hearing for the 2007-2008 Budget. At 6:30 p.m. there will be a Special Meeting of Town Council for the second reading and ratification of the budget. He commented that the key points of the new fiscal budget are the construction a public safety building to house the Police and Fire departments on the current site of Fire Station #1 and the replacement of the bulkhead at the City Marina. Councilman Taylor thanked the administration, staff, and Council for their hard work on the budget preparation. He stated a motion would be made tonight during the Public Safety Committee report concerning the Public Safety Building. Another motion to come out of Committee is as follows:

**MOTION: Councilman Taylor made a motion to approve an extra \$2,000 from the Municipal Accommodations Fund for an additional temp trail for the emergency access paths; seconded by Councilman Bettelli; MOTION UNANIMOUSLY PASSED.**

**2. Public Safety Committee.** Committee Chairman Marino reported on the May 9, 2007 regular meeting. The Committee approved the Barrier Island Ecothon to be held on October 28, 2007. Citizens’ comments included concerns that kite boarders and surfers are not aware of City rules and the residential area of Twenty-fifth Avenue is being used for parking, as well as the issue of boat loading/unloading for Goat Island.

Since there was no response to the island-wide parking study RFP, Chief Buckhannon will attempt to negotiate directly with a couple of vendors. The Livability Officer position has been re-advertised and approximately ten (10) applications have been received. Work continues on the emergency access to the beach paths. The concerns that arose from the recently held Triathlon will be shared at a meeting to be scheduled with the participating communities. There was discussion of commercial vehicles in the residential area and a need to amend the current ordinance. The Mayor received a letter commending the Fire Department for their emergency help that resulted in saving a life. The Committee approved the donation of a used fire hose to the Town of Sullivan's Island training facility.

Councilman Marino reported that a special meeting of the Public Safety Committee was held on May 11, 2007 to discuss the Public Safety facility. Decisions from the meeting were to shelve the Public Safety Outpost idea and to construct the Public Safety Building at the current location of Fire Station #1 at a cost of approximately \$7.8 million. He stated that design/re-design work of the site plan needs to be started.

**MOTION: Councilman Marino made a motion to approve \$18,000 to Cole + Russell Architects for redesign of conceptual site work at the Fire Station #1 site to come out of the Fire Fund; seconded by Councilman Bettelli.**

**Discussion:**

Councilwoman McMackin inquired if the two bid methods previously discussed were in line with the approval of this work. Councilman Marino stated that the bid method has not yet been determined; however, this work has to be done regardless of the method. Councilwoman McMackin noted that all Council should be a part of the design changes. Administrator Tucker stated direction has been given to Cole + Russell Architects to take the Public Safety Building as originally contemplated by them and to provide another conceptual design eliminating as little public parking as possible. Whether Council chooses on the design/build or the design/bid/build process, this work has to be done. If Council decides to use the design/bid/build method and Cole + Russell Architects, the work that is being done with this \$18,000 would be included as part of the design.

**Call for the question: MOTION UNANIMOUSLY PASSED.**

The June meeting for the Public Safety meeting has been moved from June 11, 2007 to Thursday, June 14, 2007 at 5:30 p.m.

**3. Public Works Committee.** Committee Chairman Bettelli reported on the May 2, 2007 regular meeting. During citizens' comments, a request by an owner and her builder was made to move an 18-inch concrete drainage line; the Committee has requested additional information in order to evaluate the request. Public Works Director Pitts reported that debris collection for the month of April 2007 was up 21% over the same month last year. On another subject, a letter was received from Charleston County Public Works stating that they agreed to serve as the lead agent for meeting the City's new NPDES Stormwater requirements.

Other issues discussed were drainage, the roll-out cart ordinance, and budget items. Budget items included a new unfunded underground fuel licensing system mandate, underground wiring, radios, CTC projects, and repainting the crosswalks.

4. **Recreation Committee.** In the absence of Committee Chairwoman Rice, Councilwoman Hanbury reported on the May 8, 2007 regular meeting. Councilwoman Hanbury reported on the summer camps, fall schedule, and various activities, including the upcoming Piccolo Spoleto sandsculpting contest, which has at least 60 teams entered with 32 sponsors, and the Lewis Grizzard program on Saturday, June 2.

5. **Personnel Committee.** Committee Chairwoman McMackin reported there was no regular meeting in May; however, the Committee did have a Special Meeting this afternoon. She reported that John Allenback has resigned from the Board of Zoning Appeals effective immediately; he is moving out-of-state. An ad will be placed for potential candidates who will be discussed at the next Committee meeting on June 7<sup>th</sup>. It is a six-month appointment since Mr. Allenback's term expires in December 2007.

#### **Safety Sweepstakes Winners for May 2007**

Fire Department - Engineer Bacon

Police Department – Robert Jiminez

Public Works Department – Joseph Washington

Recreation, Building and General Government Departments – Sheila Redmon

#### **F. REPORTS FROM CITY OFFICERS, BOARD AND COMMISSIONS**

1. **Board of Zoning Appeals** – There was no April meeting.

2. **Planning Commission** – Minutes of the meeting attached. Administrator Tucker noted that the plat for Sundial Circle was approved in the Planning Commission meeting.

3. **Real Property Advisory Committee** – Committee Chairman Bettelli reported on its May 3, 2007 meeting. The Committee approved the replacement of the bulkhead in the fall of 2007 and for the Marina Manager to replace the gate on the new dock at his expense. The Committee considered authorizing the use of a land planner for a parking configuration, but will not proceed with it at this time due to the bulkhead replacement. Director Pitts reported that only one well point was needed for the shallow well irrigation at front beach parking lots. It will be monitored to determine if wells will be used in other areas. Chairman Bettelli reported on commercial use of the boat ramp and stated that this discussion will continue at the next meeting.

#### **G. REPORTS FROM SPECIAL OR JOINT COMMITTEES**

1. **Accommodations Tax Committee** – No meeting was held in May.

2. **Beach Advisory Committee** – No meeting was held in May.

**H. PETITIONS RECEIVED, REFERRED OR DISPOSED OF**

Mayor Sottile noted there were no petitions to report.

**I. BILLS ALREADY IN THE POSSESSION OF COUNCIL**

Mayor Sottile noted there were no bills already in the possession of Council.

**J. INTRODUCTION OF NEW BILLS, RESOLUTIONS AND PROCLAMATIONS**

**MOTION: Councilman Bettelli made a motion to approve First Reading, by Title Only, Ordinance 2007-11, an Ordinance Amending Title 5, Chapter 4, Article 1, Zoning, Section 5-4-14(A)(1)f, of the City of Isle of Palms Code of Ordinances, Regarding Parking as a Residential Accessory Use; seconded by Councilman Cronin.**

**Discussion:**

Councilman Cronin inquired if buses parking at The Citadel Beach house and the Lutheran Retreat will be affected, as these locations are in either the R1 or R2 zoning district, but are not residential homes. The City Attorney will do additional research.

**Call for the question: MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

**K. MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS**

Mayor Sottile and Administrator Tucker thanked Ellen McQueeney from the Town of Sullivan's Island for taking minutes of the meetings while the City searched for a new City Clerk.

**M. CONCLUSION/ADJOURN:**

**MOTION: Councilman Bettelli made a motion to adjourn; seconded by Councilman Marino; MOTION UNANIMOUSLY PASSED.**

The meeting was adjourned at 7:55 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Ellen McQueeney, Acting City Clerk

To be approved at the June 26, 2007 Regular Council meeting.