

CITY COUNCIL

6:00 p.m., Tuesday, November 27, 2018

The regular meeting of City Council was called to order at 6:15 p.m., Tuesday, November 27, 2018 in Council Chambers of City Hall located at 1207 Palm Boulevard, Isle of Palms, South Carolina. Attending the meeting were Councilmembers Bell, Buckhannon, Ferencz, Kinghorn, Moye, Rice Smith and Ward, Mayor Carroll, Interim City Administrator Fragoso, Attorney Copeland, and Clerk Copeland; a quorum was present to conduct business.

1. Mayor Carroll called the meeting to order and acknowledged that the press and public were duly notified of the meeting in accordance with the Freedom of Information Act. The Mayor delivered a brief invocation which was followed by the Pledge of Allegiance and roll call.

2. Reading of the Journal of Previous Meeting

MOTION: Councilmember Rice moved to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of October 22, 2018 as submitted; Councilmember Moye seconded and the motion PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

3. Citizens' Comments

Paul Coleman, 310 Palm Boulevard, introduced himself as the pastor of a new church on the island that started nine (9) weeks ago called Deep Water Church; services are held at 5:00 p.m., Sundays at the Lutheran Church. He stated that the Church's tagline was "to love the island and beyond," and he stated that he would look for ways the church could serve the island.

Leah Hamilton, an island resident, asked City Council to support a boys' basketball team from Sullivan's Island Elementary School by allowing them to reserve the inside basketball courts at the Rec Center one (1) afternoon a week. They have been practicing at the Sullivan's Island Baptist Church, but they only have a half court, and the school does not have a gymnasium. One (1) argument against their use of the courts was that they would interfere with Rec Center afternoon activities, but they would use the basketball courts from 2:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. one (1) afternoon a week. Based on her experience, sports practices and games at the Rec Center usually begin at 4:00 p.m. A second argument has been about the Rec Center's liability if one (2) of the boys was injured; the parents and players have all signed a waiver relieving the Rec Center of all liability related to the team. She added that nine (9) of the twelve (12) kids on the team live on the Isle of Palms. Ms. Hamilton repeated a rumor she has heard that a men's basketball team has been allowed to reserve time for full court play; therefore, she did not understand that these boys were being turned away.

Watson Loftis, a member of the team, followed up with a plea on behalf of the team for time at the Rec Center for full court practice one (1) afternoon a week. The full text of his comments is attached to the historical record of the meeting.

Mayor Carroll said that Council has received the emails, and they have been forwarded to the Interim Administrator and to Recreation Director Page to formulate a response.

Ms. Paudey of 5 Lauden Boulevard reported that the floors of the courts at the Sullivan's Island Baptist Church were slippery and she worries that one (1) of the players will fall and be injured.

Sam Williams of 6 42nd Avenue thanked Public Works Director Pitts for doing “such an excellent job in putting in the emergency access at 42nd Avenue. A fantastic job.”

Presentation of FY18 Audit by Chris Kerr and Justin Kiddy of McCay Kiddy LLC

Mr. Kerr told Council that he has summarized the eighty plus (80+) page audit report for the report this evening.

The Table of Contents begins with the financial statements; the Independent Auditor’s Report is the auditor’s opinion of the soundness and material accuracy of the financial statements. Included in the report are government-wide financial statements and fund financial statements, and the report concludes with supplementary information and engine schedules.

Mr. Kerr stated that McCay Kiddy LLC has given the City a clean opinion, which is the highest opinion an auditor can give to a client, meaning that the financial statements were materially accurate. He noted that they had walked through internal controls but not tested them. In the Management Discussion Analysis section are the highlights of the financial statements, for instance, assets exceeded liabilities by twenty-six million dollars (\$26,000,000); total revenues exceeded total expenditures resulting in an increase from the prior fiscal year of one point six million dollars (\$1,600,000); and the City’s combined intergovernmental fund balances were sixteen point seven million dollars (\$16,700,000) for an increase of six hundred ninety thousand dollars (\$690,000) over the prior fiscal year. The City’s bond rating remains high with an AA+ rating with Standard and Poor’s and an Aa2 rating with Moody’s.

Mr. Kerr explained that the difference between government-wide financial statements and fund financial statements are that the government-wide financial statements include property, plant and equipment and these items along with debt do not appear in fund financial statements.

He also pointed out that the City has an unrestricted balance of two point two million dollars (\$2,200,000). In researching what other beach communities were doing related to disaster recovery funds, he learned that Moody’s Investor Services recommends that coastal cities should have ten percent (10%) of their annual operating expenditures in natural disaster reserves. The City of Isle of Palms is operating at nineteen percent (19%).

With expenditures of federal funds in excess of seven hundred fifty thousand dollars (\$750,000), the City was required by federal law to have an audit of those expenditures, and that was a focus of the audit. The City also received a clean opinion in this area

In conclusion, Mr. Kerr stated that the City had no material adjustments to make at year’s end and the audit team complimented the City’s employees who assisted the McCay Kiddy team with the audit.

Mr. Kerr explained that to reach the nineteen percent (19%) of funds available for disaster recovery; he combined the unassigned funds with the funds in the Disaster Recovery Fund.

Councilmember Ward read into the minutes the auditor’s position on litigation as
“The City is periodically the subject of litigation by a variety of plaintiffs. The City management believes that such amounts claimed by these plaintiffs, net of the applicable insurance coverage, are immaterial.”

The Councilmember then asked Mr. Kerr to define what was immaterial to him, and Mr. Kerr stated that it would be dependent on the fund; he said that each fund within the plan group would generate a different materiality level.

Councilmember Kinghorn noted that the City had implemented new financial software approximately a year ago, and he asked the auditor how it had impacted the audit.

Mr. Kerr stated that it had made accessing information quicker, for example, when one (1) of the auditors requested reports or information from the Treasurer, she was able to deliver it the same day.

Councilmember Ward stated that Treasurer Suggs should be congratulated for the relatively smooth BS&A implementation in November of 2017, and she was given a round of applause.

4. Reports from Standing Committees

A. Ways & Means Committee

Councilmember Ward reported on the meeting held immediately prior to the Council meeting; he stated that revenues were at expected levels for the time of year although Local Option Sales Taxes, State ATAX and Aid to Local Subdivisions were a month behind. He reported that Business Licenses and Building Permits were significantly up from FY18, and no construction permits have been issued for the new hotel in Wild Dunes. The City's cash position was four hundred fifty thousand dollars (\$450,000) higher than last month, and appearances at this time are that expense will end the fiscal year within budget. Councilmember Ward was pleased to announce that the City received a check in the amount of five hundred thousand dollars (\$500,000) for the Rural Infrastructure Grant; the money was a one hundred percent (100%) reimbursement for an equal amount of the costs for the Phase II Drainage Project.

1. Consideration of the use of the metal detector with a trained attendant and the presence of an armed police officer for Ways and Means Committee meetings and City Council meetings with an estimated annual cost of \$3,500 (See General Fund, pg. 9, In 55 – General Government, Professional Services and pg. 12, In 70 – Police Department, Overtime Wages)

MOTION: Councilmember Ward moved to use the metal detector with a trained attendant and an armed police officer at Ways and Means and City Council meetings; Councilmember Bell seconded and the motion PASSED on vote of 7 to 2 with Councilmembers Kinghorn and Rice casting the dissenting votes.

2. Consideration of an expenditure in an amount not to exceed \$5,000 for a coyote study/count (See General Fund, pg. 12, In 94 – Police Department, Contracted Services, \$15,000)

This item did not pass at Ways and Means; therefore will not be voted on at this meeting.

3. Consideration of an award of a contract to Thomas & Hutton in the amount of \$100,800 for Phase III Drainage Project (See pg. 23, In 54 – Capital Projects Fund, Public Works Drainage Contingency, Outfall Improvements, \$400,000)

MOTION: Councilmember Rice moved to award a contract to Thomas and Hutton in the amount of \$100,800 for the initial work on the outfalls drainage project; Councilmember Buckhannon seconded and the motion PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

4. Consideration of approving the Engagement Letter from McCay Kiddy LLC in the amount of \$20,000 to perform certain accounting tasks with the marina tenants (See, Marina Fund, pg. 36, In 42 – Professional Services, CPA review of marina tenants financial statements, \$50,000)

Mayor Carroll announced that the amount was increased from ten thousand dollars (\$10,000) to up to twenty thousand (\$20,000) at the Ways and Means Committee meeting because the scope was expanded.

MOTION: Councilmember Ward moved to approve the Engagement Letter from McCay Kiddy LLC in an amount not to exceed \$20,000 to perform certain accounting procedures for the marina tenants; Councilmember Bell seconded and the motion PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

5. Consideration of the approval of a Proposal from Hill Construction in the amount of \$17,000 to perform a detailed assessment of the restaurant building at the marina (See, Marina Fund, pg. 36, In 42 – Professional Services, absorbed in remaining balance of \$51,500)

MOTION: Councilmember Bell moved to approve the proposal from Hill Construction in the amount of \$17,000 to perform a detailed assessment of the restaurant building at the marina; Councilmember Kinghorn seconded and the motion PASSED on a vote of 8 to 1 with Councilmember Moye casting the dissenting vote.

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6. Consideration of an approval for the marina manager to increase the non-resident annual launch passes to an amount not to exceed \$500

MOTION: Councilmember Bell moved to allow the marina manager the option to increase non-resident annual launch passes to a maximum of \$500; Councilmember Moye seconded and the motion PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

7. Recommendations from the ATAX Committee
 - a. \$5,000 sponsorship for 2019 Wine & Food festival failed at the Ways and Means Committee meeting
 - b. Approval for a sponsorship for the 2019 Family Circle Junior Tennis Championship in the amount of \$5,000

MOTION: Councilmember Moye moved to approve the \$5,000 sponsorship of the Family Circle Junior Tennis Championship; Councilmember Rice seconded and the motion PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

8. Consideration of appraisal report for 1100 Palm Boulevard and authorization for staff to finalize the transfer

MOTION: Councilmember Bell moved to authorize staff to proceed with drafting an ordinance to convey 858 square feet of Pavilion Boulevard as shown on the survey done by John Wade dated October 2, 2018 and described and appraised in a report by Mr. Hartnett dated November 20, 2018 for a payment of \$10,725 plus appraisal costs payable to the City of Isle of Palms; Councilmember Buckhannon seconded and the motion PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

B. Public Safety Committee

Reporting on the regular meeting of November 5th, Councilmember Smith stated that the meeting started with a presentation seeking permission to have a proposed cancer benefit bike ride through the City on Saturday, November 2, 2019. Dr. Gustavo Leone and Ms. Janet Bolin were present representing the Hollings Cancer Center and Chris Aronhalt and Jeff Corvett with Medalistsport which will manage the operations surrounding the event. This event will be one (1) of seventy (70) such events sponsored by the National Cancer Institute and will cover the entire weekend with rides of twenty-five (25), fifty (50) and one hundred (100) miles. They believe that the riders will cross the island over the course of one to two (1 – 2) hours, but they would not be closing any streets. The Committee asked that the representatives of the ride confer with both the Fire Chief and Interim Police Chief so the Committee could hear their recommendations related to the fundraiser. Rick Day and Stuart Day of Stantec reviewed their evaluation of the impact on the City's Comprehensive Beach Plan due to the parking changes to parallel parking only on both sides of Palm Boulevard between 20th and 41st Avenues with no double parking. The number of parking spaces between 20th and 41st Avenues would be reduced by seventy-four (74) spaces to three hundred fifty-eight (358). According to the State's Beachfront Management Act, the City must provide a minimum of five hundred thirty-five (535) parking spaces from Breach Inlet to 57th Avenue to qualify for "full and complete public beach access." The City currently offers one thousand five hundred eighty-two (1,582) spaces, or nearly three (3) times the required number of spaces. On the subject of coyotes, Councilmember Smith reported that one (1) Collarum trap and six (6) soft-leg traps were set in the marsh area of the 6th fairway on the Harbor Course; field cameras have been deployed near the 8th tee box, at the rear of 5845 Back Bay Drive and the end of Dune Ridge Lane. Although Wild Dunes is no longer actively trapping coyotes, it was allowing the City to set a few traps inside the gates. Information on transit service from Mount Pleasant to the island continued to look promising with a possibility of having a pilot program for the 2019 season. As discussed earlier in this meeting, the Public Safety Committee discussed Council and public safety at City Council and Ways and Means Committee meetings. In addition, the Committee unanimously agreed to recommend to Council the City's participation in the Statewide Mutual Aid Agreement.

MOTION: Councilmember Smith moved for the City to adopt and participate in the Statewide Mutual Aid Agreement; Councilmember Bell seconded and the motion PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

On the matter of updating the multi-use path on Waterway Boulevard, the Interim Administrator is hoping that Charleston County can do design and engineering work for the City; if they decide they cannot do the work, the Interim Administrator will begin work on an RFP for the project.

Interim Administrator Fragoso reported that members of the engineering team for Charleston County Public Works have visited the site; she is now waiting on the assessment and recommendations about the best way to proceed.

The Committee agreed to hold its 2019 meetings at 10:00 a.m. on the first Monday of each month; the January meeting will be on Monday, January 7th in the Conference Room.

C. Public Works Committee

Councilmember Rice reported on the regular meeting of November 8th, where Rick Karkowski, Mark Yodice and Hillary Aton of Thomas and Hutton presented their understanding about what the City was trying to accomplish with the next phase of drainage projects, improving the outfalls at 30th, 31st and 41st Avenue. They were saying that they had to do some preliminary work to determine what kind of improvements could be made and the best way to accomplish those goals; that work was detailed in the first four (4) tasks of their proposal and was priced at one hundred thousand eight hundred dollars (\$100,800). They further explained that, once the preliminary study work was completed, they would come back to the Committee and City Council to review the options available to the City along with the costs associated with each; they will make a recommendation at that time, but the final decision will be up to City Council. Since Mark Yodice has worked with the IOP Water and Sewer Commission (IOPWSC) to update their master plan for inclusion in the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the Commission and the City, the Committee decided to handle that item of business next; included in the meeting packet was a draft of the agreement. Work on the master plan is expected to be wrapped up in two to three (2 – 3) weeks to enable the MOU to be completed; at that time, City Staff will meet with the IOPWSC to provide the City's input in order to finalize the MOU. Mr. Yodice said that extending sewer to the entire island was presented as a phased project that could be combined with stormwater projects the City was planning to do.

In the Public Works Department's monthly report, Director Pitts reported that garbage collection was down again and debris collections were nearly the same as October of FY18. The highlights for the month were the placement of the matting at the 31A and 42nd Avenue beach accesses, which Mr. Williams was so complimentary of at the beginning of the meeting. All beach accesses were mowed as well as the right-of-way between 21st and 41st Avenues. Eadies has begun the next cycle of open ditch maintenance, and equipment maintenance continues to be well within budget. On the Phase II Drainage Project, work continued down 49th Avenue, and paperwork was submitted to the Rural Infrastructure Grant for reimbursement that the City received today. Completion for this project is expected to be in mid-December. The Councilmember announced that the underground storage tanks at the Public Works site have passed the necessary inspections and are dispensing fuel. Still seeking suitable trashcans for the beach with lids, the Interim Administrator reached out to the manufacturer to ask if he would provide the City with samples to try and he refused; he has now been asked to bring one (1) trashcan to a meeting so the Committee could see it and decide if it would meet the City's needs. These trashcans would represent a substantial investment for the City at a price of three hundred dollars (\$300) each;

the Chair voiced concern that, if the holes on the sides were not large enough, people would just drop their trash on the sand beside the cans, rather than take the time to lift the lid. For the various ditch problems on the island, Councilmember Rice reported the highlight that, after two (2) years, the County will be stabilizing the sides of the ditch and improving it at 32 – 32nd Avenue; the work will likely be done in January. The Committee unanimously agreed to approve the assignment of the City's contracts with Schupp Enterprises to JLG Enterprises, owned and operated by island residents the Garrells, who also operate Chunky's Chairs & Umbrellas.

MOTION: Councilmember Rice moved to approve the Assignment of the Contracts between Schupp Enterprises and JLG Enterprises with a one (1) year probationary period; Councilmember Kinghorn seconded and the motion PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

In an effort to learn what local governments are doing relative to bans of single-use plastic bags, plastic straws, Styrofoam, etc., Councilmember Rice suggested the expansion of the plastics ordinance; she believes that life would be easier for all if the local beach communities had the same ordinances on plastics.

Director Pitts opined that the beach access referred to as 38A could be made handicap accessible since the path is relatively straight and the dune at the end is small; he noted that he has the Mobi-mat in inventory and he would only need sand shell and for Mr. Peterson to level it. He indicated that the cost should not exceed thirty-five hundred dollars (\$3,500), and he was confident that funds could be found in the FY19 budget. The Committee also discussed increasing the landscaping contract to include mowing ten (10) of the most heavily used beach accesses between March 1st and August 31st; The Greenery has quoted the City a price of four hundred fifty dollars (\$450) per month for mowing them two (2) times a month. Eadies cleaned the pipe under Marginal Road at 41st Avenue so it could be photographed; since the asphalt has also begin to crack, the problem might be more complicated and more expensive than a broken pipe with the original gate valve also in disrepair.

The next meeting will be at 9:00 a.m. on Thursday, January 3, 2019 in the Conference Room.

D. Recreation Committee

From the meeting of November 13th, Councilmember Buckhannon reported that adult athletics were in full swing with basketball, soccer, softball and table tennis. The acting performance workshop will have a performance beginning at 5:30 p.m., Thursday, November 29th. A large crowd of children and parents gathered on the beach for Ghostly Tide Tales, and the Halloween Carnival was another great success for the Rec Department. The annual pumpkin-carving contest was won by General Government – again. Upcoming events include the Fourth Annual Holiday Festival to be held from 2:00 p.m. until 7:00 p.m., Saturday, December 1st on Front Beach with vendors, food and entertainment for all ages.

In addition, he reported that the RFP for the repair and resurfacing of the tennis courts was opened on Thursday, November 15th, and the City received four (4) bids; the Director will make her recommendation to the Committee at the January meeting. According to the Director, the cost to

have WiFi available inside and outside the Rec Center will cost more than eight thousand dollars (\$8,000) and will need to be included in the FY20 budget.

Marshall DePass asked about the status of the franchise agreement to allow surfing lessons on the beach, and he was told that the Interim City Administrator was working with the Assistant City Attorney to draft the agreement.

The next meeting of the Recreation Committee will be at 5:00 p.m., Tuesday, January 7, 2019 in the Conference Room.

E. Personnel Committee

Since the Personnel Committee met three (3) times in November 2018, Councilmember Ferencz said that her report might run a little long.

The regular meeting of November 1st, the meeting opened with an after-action discussion on the First Annual Employee Appreciation Day, and the consensus of the Committee was that it was a big success and that employees who did not attend would be sure not to miss it in 2019. After a frustrating start, the brochures for the positions of City Administrator, Police Chief and Assistant Public Works Director are expected to be ready for distribution by the Mercer Group once they get a “thumbs up” from the Committee on Thursday, December 6th. In the light of financial analyses distributed yesterday, the discussion on longevity pay for employees who are at the top of their pay range was delayed until the December meeting and will be a topic for the Budget Workshop. The Committee made its decisions on appointments to boards and commissions for terms beginning January 1, 2019; they will be announced at the Special Council Meeting of December 4th. The Committee also looked at revisions and additions to the duties of the City Administrator and the Chief of Police as defined in the City Code; copies of these changes were included in the meeting packets for Council to review.

MOTION: Councilmember Ferencz moved to approve the proposed language changes to the City Code for the duties of the City Administrator and Chief of Police as presented; Councilmember Rice seconded and the motion PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

Interim Administrator Fragoso added that the Attorney Copeland would draft the ordinances to officially add the language to the City Code.

The RFP for the positions of City Attorney and Assistant City Attorney were opened on October 31st, and the City received one (1) proposal for each position. The Interim Administrator was asked to arrange dates and times for a special meeting when the Committee would interview the candidates. These recommendations will also be made at the Special Council Meeting of December 4th.

The Committee then took up the discussion about employee evaluations for 2018 when Councilmember Moye stated that merit increases should not be tied to an employee’s job performance; the performance evaluations should be tools to help an employee improve and not a job performance evaluation that, by score, determines the employee’s wage increase. A

problem that has existed with employee evaluations is that each Department Manager has a different system for calculating wage increases; therefore, the wage increases can vary widely for employees given the same score. The Committee's goal for next year is to have an improved evaluation tool and possibly to go to multiple evaluations per year.

Councilmember Ferencz stated that the City Administrator's evaluation form would be given to Council members in the coming days; accompanying the form will be the date on which they are to be returned to Councilmember Ferencz for compilation. In completing the Administrator's evaluation, she asked that, if a Councilmember felt that he/she did not have sufficient information on which to evaluate the Interim Administrator on a question, the Councilmember should X-out the question, indicating to the Committee Chair that the person had considered the question. In addition, she requested that every question have comments about the thoughts that went into the grading thereby providing the Interim Administrator with information on what she does very well and on what she could improve.

The Personnel Committee also discussed establishing citizen advisory committees to work with or under the direction of standing committees. Councilmember Moye said that he has been approached by residents on multiple occasions who state that they have made it known that they want to be involved in some way, but nothing has been asked of them to-date. The Committee will work on a process to involve the island's citizens.

On the subject of strategic planning for 2019, the Interim Administrator was asked to contact Rock Hill because they have been doing strategic planning for years.

The next Personnel Committee meeting will be held at 9:00 a.m., Thursday, December 6th in the Conference Room.

Vacancies by department were the Police Chief and two (2) sworn police officers, the Assistant Public Works Director and the City Administrator.

Safety Sweepstakes winners for October 2018 were Weston Smith from the Rec Department, Brandon Crisp from the Fire Department, Robert Forsythe from the Police Department and George Myers from the Public Works Department.

F. Real Property Committee

From the regular meeting of November 7th, Councilmember Bell reported that Tidal Wave Watersports requested that they be given "as built" of their dock in order to be compliant with DHEC's request for an update of their operations manual.

As noted earlier, the Committee discussed the property at 1100 Palm, its survey and appraisal. A carryover from the October meeting was a discussion about alternative uses for the large municipal parking lot; at the October Council meeting, Councilmember Ward had recalled that some type of deed restriction(s) for the property limited its uses. The Committee has forwarded a copy of the deed in order for the City Attorney to tell the Committee exactly how the lot could be used. Another item discussed thoroughly earlier in this meeting was the Engagement Letter from McCay Kiddy LLC about its work with the marina tenants. Councilmember Bell explained that,

when the City discussed the unregulated portion of 41st Avenue outside of the marina property, Council approved "Resident Only Parking" for the entirety of 41st Avenue owned either by the City or by SCDOT. When the sign plan came back to the City before going to SCDOT, it did not match the parking plan exactly. The spaces the City could potentially sign in the unregulated portion of 41st Avenue are being used by the marina manager, primarily for large trailer turn-rounds; to take them away from the marina manager would have public safety implications. In discussing the matter with the Mr. Berrigan, he has offered to provide the City with alternative parking. Kirby Marshall of Applied Technology Management (ATM) brought two (2) concepts for the rehabilitation of the marina docks; in the end, the Committee opted for a concept that was a combination of the two (2) and remained in the existing footprint. In Concept 2, some of the congestion and some of the traffic at the boat ramp was eliminated by blocking off a small entrance on the Intracoastal side of the boat launch that is a dead-end; that feature will be added to Concept 1 to become Concept 3. The new docks will have ADA compliant gangways to allow accessibility by the handicapped to every part of the marina and will have widened finger pier widths on the floating docks behind the marina store to be more stable, sustainable and safer and to meet current industry design standards. The fuel dock and the docks behind the marina store make up Phase I and have been priced as two (2) separate areas that could be constructed separately. The area of the fuel docks was Area A in Phase I and was estimated at seven hundred thirty-five thousand dollars (\$735,000), excluding the design, permitting, etc.; Area B of Phase 1 was made up of the docks behind the marina store and were estimated to cost five hundred thirty thousand dollars (\$530,000) for a total cost of Phase I of one million two hundred sixty-five thousand dollars (\$1,265,000). The cost of Concept 1 with the changes at the boat launch have come in one hundred thousand dollars (\$100,000) lower.

Interim Administrator Fragoso reported that the conceptual drawing that includes the feedback from the Real Property Committee (Concept 3) has been sent to the marina tenants for their feedback.

Councilmember Bell noted that this will be a major point of discussion at the upcoming budget workshop. The finger piers on the Intracoastal Waterway would become one (1) long pier with side dockage and with an ADA compliant gangway; ADA compliance must be addressed at the Tidal Wave Watersports dock.

Since the underground fuel storage tanks at the marina have been scheduled for replacement in FY19, Councilmember Rice commented that she would like to see the work on the fuel dock replacement and the underground storage tanks replacements occur simultaneously to avoid tearing up the parking lot twice.

She also asked about re-locating the fuel dock, a feature included in the marina redevelopment plan; she asked that the Committee find out why the relocation was considered a real improvement to the way the marina functions.

According to the Interim Administrator, the RFP for the remediation of the Public Safety Building has gone out to Hill Construction and Trident Construction; their proposals are due to be opened on Thursday, December 20th. The results of the RFP will be presented to the Committee at their January meeting.

The pre-construction meeting on the replacement of the underground storage tanks at the marina will be held in December.

The proposal for the deep assessment of the restaurant building at the marina was explained and approved earlier in this meeting.

At the Marina Manager's request, Council approved his increasing the non-resident annual launch passes to an amount not to exceed five hundred dollars (\$500).

The next Real Property Committee meeting will be at 9:00 a.m. on Wednesday, January 2nd in the City Hall Conference Room. Councilmember Bell explained that the meeting time for the Real Property Committee was changed from 5:00 pm. to 9:00 a.m. because resident attendance was very limited, and the marina businesses were better served by morning meetings; therefore, the Committee decided to change its meeting time.

Councilmember Kinghorn reiterated his position that the City has four (4) acres of very valuable property at Front Beach that sit empty seven (7) months of the year and is used for parking the other five (5) months. He wanted Council to find a way to use the space that could produce revenue to the City twelve (12) months a year and would meet the terms of the deed restriction.

One (1) of the funding agencies involved in the purchase of the property placed the restriction on the deed that the property could only be used for recreation purposes, and Attorney Copeland is researching exactly what that means.

6. Reports from City Officers, Boards and Commissions

- A. Accommodations Tax Advisory Committee – minutes attached**
- B. Board of Zoning Appeals – no meeting in November**
- C. Planning Commission – minutes attached**

Director Kerr asked to speak to City Council about the most recent Planning Commission meeting. He noted that the vote tonight brought Thomas and Hutton on board to work on a focused project at three (3) outfalls. Once Thomas and Hutton was working on the design, the Planning Commission discussed what the logical next steps would be to put the pieces together to work on the island's drainage system in its entirety. The Commission charged Director Kerr with investigating what would be necessary to hire a consultant to do an island-wide strategic plan for drainage; he noted that many local governments in the area were doing this so he was expecting to obtain a lot of information from them. Once the Planning Commission has an approximation of the cost, they will review the information to decide if it would be an expense the City could afford in this year's budget or if it needed to be addressed in the FY20 budget.

Councilmember Kinghorn asked the Director if he thought the City could approach the island-wide drainage issue without considering island-wide sewer.

The Director said that the two (2) issues were intertwined and would require a combined effort, not just with the water itself, but the construction of the projects. He opined it would be difficult for the two (2) projects to work around each other.

7. **Reports from Special or Joint Committees – None**
8. **Petitions Received, Referred or Disposed of – None**
9. **Bills Already in Possession of Council – None**
10. **Introduction of New Bills, Resolutions and Proclamations**

Authorization of a Claim Deductible with the South Carolina Municipal Insurance and Risk Financing Fund

Treasurer Suggs distributed schedules of the amount of money the City would save if it opted for a five thousand dollar (\$5,000) deductible for property and liability and workers' compensation insurance; the savings projected for 2019 is in excess of seventy two thousand dollars (\$72,000). Based on the City's claim history, the Treasurer computed average savings of thirty-nine thousand dollars (\$39,000), and she has estimated the annual net savings to be approximately thirty-three thousand dollars (\$33,000).

Treasurer Suggs stated that she was confident the City's cash flow was such that, barring a catastrophic loss, it could handle the increased deductible.

MOTION: Councilmember Ward moved to increase the City's deductibles for workers' compensation and property and liability insurance to \$5,000; Councilmember Bell seconded and the motion PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

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11. **Miscellaneous Business – None**

Next Meeting Date: 6:00 p.m., Tuesday, January 22, in Council Chambers

12. **Executive Session** in accordance with S.C. Code Section 31-4-70(a)(2) to receive legal advice concerning violation of tree removal ordinance on property at 408 Carolina Boulevard.

MOTION: Councilmember Bell moved to go into Executive Session at 7:46 p.m. to receive legal advice concerning violation of tree removal ordinance on property at 408 Carolina Boulevard; Councilmember Kinghorn seconded and the motion PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

City Council went into open session at 8:50 p.m., and the Mayor announced that Council had taken neither a vote nor any other action while in Executive Session. The Mayor stated that Council needed to make a decision to either accept or reject the settlement offer.

MOTION: Councilmember Rice moved to vote against the proposed settlement; Councilmember Bell seconded.

Councilmember Bell said that Council was gambling “whether the settlement amount was appropriate or was the message to the community that the whole mess that has been perpetrated to the community and all of us ... during the process with a lot of deception and a lot of behavior that should not be endorsed by Council.”

Councilmember Rice opined that the action should be punished, and the message was that City Council would not tolerate such behavior.

Councilmember Kinghorn stated that he appreciated both statements and the spirit with which the motion was made; he stated that he was concerned about the impact on the property owner “whom we do not find or pre-judge to be involved in this fiasco.”

Councilmember Smith agreed with Councilmember Kinghorn, but was concerned that this person would face no consequences for his actions.

VOTE: The motion to reject the proposed settlement PASSED on a vote of 5 to 4 with Councilmembers Ferencz, Moye, Smith, and Mayor Carroll.

13. Adjournment

MOTION: Councilmember Buckhannon moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:50 p.m.; Councilmember Rice seconded and the motion PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

Respectively submitted:


Marie Copeland
City Clerk

My name is Watson Loftis and I play basketball for the Sullivan's Island School team. I also will play for a 10U Rec team.

I am here tonight because my Sullivan's Island Team would like to practice at the Rec on a FULL court. Right now, we practice on a half court at the Baptist church. I think that the full court gym could make our team better.

We and our parents have all signed these waivers. We will only use the gym right after school when the rec teams are not practicing or playing.

Thank you for considering this for our team.



Last year I played on the SIES Tennis Team, our school doesn't have any tennis courts, but wild dunes lets us play ~~there~~ on their courts. We were asking the same of the rec ~~team~~.