



EMERGENCY CITY COUNCIL MEETING

8:00pm, Saturday, May 16, 2020

Virtual Meeting via Zoom call due to COVID-19 Pandemic:

Broadcasted live on YouTube: <https://www.youtube.com/user/cityofisleofpalms>

MINUTES

1. Call to order

Present: Council members Popson, Streetman, Moye, Ward, Buckhannon, Bell, Pounds, and Smith, and Mayor Carroll

Staff Present: Administrator Fragoso, Attorney Copeland, various department heads

Also Present: Chairman Elliott Summey, Sheriff Al Cannon

2. Discussion and consideration of emergency measures proposed for the public health and safety of City of Isle of Palms

Mayor Carroll said this is the busiest day he has seen in 60+ years on the Isle of Palms. Chief Cornett reported that 216 parking tickets were issued today along with several traffic tickets and numerous alcohol-on-the-beach tickets. He said that while traffic remained heavy throughout the day, visitors mostly complied with social distancing requirements. Chief Cornett said the Public Safety department will be utilizing all of their social media outlets to encourage people to not rush to the beach. He will have 11 people on staff Sunday in addition to two sheriff's deputies provided by the County. He will also be participating in media interviews later in the evening. Chairman Summey said that if more sheriff's deputies are needed to please let him know. He also said he will contact Charleston County Rescue Squad about loaning ATVs to the Fire Department as theirs are not in service. Chairman Summey shared that the county is working with local celebrities to create appropriate messaging about people remaining safe as South Carolina reopens.

During a meeting with local and tri-county area mayors on Friday, Chairman Summey said they talked about pushing the message to citizens, "If you abuse it, you will lose it." He reported that Adams Outdoor, who owns most of the billboards in the area, has agreed to post messaging about not "abusing the beach."

Administrator Fragoso said that the parking at the Recreation Center is currently not regulated in the beach parking plan and that people can park there as long as they do so legally.

Council members expressed their thanks and gratitude to the staff, Chairman Summey, and Sheriff Cannon for all they were doing to help keep the island safe. Council Member Smith suggested that messaging remind people they can come to the beach during the weekdays and to come at low tide when there is more room on the beach. Other avenues for reaching more people

regarding the status of the beach included radio PSAs, the SCDOT 511 traffic camera app, the SCDOT digital messaging trailers, and the digital message boards along Highway 17.

Sheriff Cannon said he would send more deputies to help deal with the speeding reported in many neighborhoods on the island.

Council members discussed increasing the parking ticket fines. An ordinance will need to be drafted, and it will need to have two readings and a public hearing before it can be put into effect. The discussion about fine increases will continue at this week's Ways & Means Committee meeting.

Administrator Fragoso said they plan to have parking lot attendants at the City lots next weekend to help ensure the employees of island businesses have places to park. Council Member Bell asked how residents can volunteer their time to help, and Administrator Fragoso said they will talk about that further on the staff level and report back to Council.

3. Adjournment

Council Member Buckhannon made a motion to adjourn, and Council Member Smith seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned at 8:50pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Nicole DeNeane
City Clerk

Public Comment For City Meetings

Name

Al Arrington

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Comments for Council Meeting

Please open the playgrounds. Play at your own risk signs can be displayed if needed.

Meeting This Comment is Intended For:

City Council