



SPECIAL CITY COUNCIL MEETING
5:00pm, Tuesday, February 2, 2021
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 Buckhannon, Bell, Smith, Popson, Streetman, and Pounds, and Ward, Mayor Carroll

Staff Present: Administrator Fragoso, Asst. Administrator Hanna, City Attorney Hinchey, various department heads

2. Purpose

Mayor Carroll stated the Citizen's Comments for this meeting can be found on the City's website alongside the agenda for this meeting. He said this meeting is due to "exigent circumstances created by the letter from SCDOT the City received yesterday which indicates their intent to revoke the permit previously granted by the department for the managed beach parking plan."

MOTION: Mayor Carroll made a motion to add to the Executive Session agenda to receive legal advice regarding this action. Council Member Bell seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Mayor Carroll said, "The City is in receipt of a letter from SCDOT dated February 1, 2021, in which it states their intention to revoke the full approval of the parking plan implemented by the City in 2016. Secretary Hall indicated that the purpose of the letter was to initiate a dialogue with the City to collaboratively work towards creating more public parking for non-residents.

The development of the City's Managed Beach Parking Plan was a collaborative, extensive effort among City Council, the Isle of Palms community, traffic engineers, City staff, and SCDOT. City Council held public hearings and special meetings to discuss the impacts of beach traffic and develop strategies to reduce hazardous traffic conditions, ensure safe access for police, fire and medical vehicles responding to emergencies and preserve the safety and welfare of pedestrians while protecting and providing parking for beach access.

The City has relied on SCDOT's approval for the implementation of the parking plan since 2016. The development and implementation of this parking plan cost the City approximately \$250,000 of taxpayer dollars. This sum does not include costs associated with the material amount of staff time involved. After the implementation, the City has additionally spent over \$1.6M to manage beach parking in accordance with the plan.

SCDOT's request, as it stated in the letter, includes restoring angled parking along the landside of Palm Boulevard between 22nd and 40th Avenue and restoring public parking along the first block of the avenues that intersect Palm Boulevard.

City Council will receive legal advice about this exigent circumstance, the City's options, and regarding S. BILL 40."

3. Executive Session

MOTION: Council Member Bell made a motion to into Executive Session in accordance with §30-4-70(a)(2) to receive legal advice on State Bill 40 and the letter from SCDOT regarding the parking plan. Council Member Pounds seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

The City Council moved into Executive Session at 5:07pm.

The City Council returned from Executive Session at 6:49pm. Mayor Carroll reported that no decisions were made.

MOTION: Council Member Moye made a motion authorizing the City Administrator and the Mayor to engage with SCDOT as they suggest in their letter to collaboratively develop alternative strategies consistent with recommendations from legal counsel. Council Member Pounds seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

4. Adjournment

Council Member Pounds made a motion to adjourn and Council Member Mye seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned at 6:50pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Nicole DeNeane
City Clerk