



Ways & Means Committee Meeting
6:00pm, Tuesday, June 15, 2021
1207 Palm Boulevard, Isle of Palms, SC 29451
and broadcasted live on YouTube: <https://www.youtube.com/user/cityofisleofpalms>

MINUTES

1. Call to Order

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

Staff Present: Administrator Fragoso, Treasurer Suggs, various City Department heads

2. Approval of previous meeting's minutes

Council Member Buckhannon made a motion to approve the minutes of the May 18, 2021 meeting, and Council Member Popson seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

3. Citizen's Comments

Mr. George Page came before the Ways & Means Committee on behalf of VFW Post 3137 asking for their approval of a request for funding through the ATAX Committee. The \$12,000 requested will be used to support the maintenance needs of their facility. Mr. Page also detailed the many ways in which the VFW supports veterans, their families, and the Isle of Palms.

Ms. Stephane Gabosh came before the Ways & Means Committee on behalf of the South Carolina Aquarium asking for their approval of a request for funding through the ATAX Committee. The \$10,000 requested will be used to support the Turtle Trek 5K to be held on the Isle of Palms on October 9, 2021. This event, made up of a 5K run, a children's Fun Run, awards ceremony, and beach sweep, is expected to bring approximately over 1,000 runners and attendants to the island. This will be the 6th year the event has been held on the Isle of Palms.

4. Financial Statements – Treasurer Suggs

Treasurer Suggs reviewed the financial reports with Committee members. As previously reported, the forecast for FY21 is better than expected. Forecasts predict the General Fund will end the year \$1.6M over budget. Business licenses, rental license, and building permits are all ahead of budget. She also now anticipates parking incomes to meet the budget. She expects some larger payments for FY21, such as Dominion Energy franchise fees, to come in at fiscal year's end. Expenditures are also "looking better" for May. She noted that no tourism funds have been transferred into the General Fund as of yet.

All tourism-related revenues except Hospitality Tax remain ahead of budget and ahead of FY20 and FY19. May is the first month that the Hospitality Tax revenue has returned to "normal." She

pointed out that the Beach Preservation Fee fund has \$4M in it for future preservation efforts. No further word has been received from Charleston County regarding the distribution of the County ATAX pass through.

Treasurer Suggs presented a detailed listing of legal expenses. This will be a monthly report moving forward.

She then reviewed the project worksheets. Payments were made out to Salmon's Dredging in May for the Marina Dock Rehabilitation project. Payments were made out to Gulfstream for work on the Phase III Drainage project. There has been no change to the Public Safety Building Rehabilitation worksheet since April's report. She noted the recapturing of the contingency funds from a materials savings of over \$881,000. This will be the last month for this worksheet.

Council Member Pounds noted the General Fund overage does not include any monies anticipated from the American Rescue Plan.

5. Capital Projects Report

A. Marina Restaurant Renovation

Administrator Fragoso gave an overview of the work that has been completed at the Marina restaurant. A slide detailing all of the work done there can be seen in the YouTube recording of this meeting linked on the City's website. Some of the renovation activities mentioned include the relocation of the transformer box, the completion of demolition on the Intracoastal Waterway side and outside bar area, completion of footers and steel columns at the New Boat Ramp Bar, and meetings with the restaurant owners and the Owner's Representative from Insight. The City is in receipt of a proposal from Salmon's Dredging for the work the City is contractually obligated to perform at the Marina. Staff is in the process of securing additional proposals. The work on the parking lot improvements is expected to begin July 12.

MOTION: Council Member Ward made a motion to suspend the rules of order and move Item E under New Business to this point in the agenda. Council Member Bell seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

7. New Business

E. Consideration of recommendation from the ATAX Committee for funding in the amount of \$10,000 for the Turtle Trek 5K project.

MOTION: Council Member Buckhannon made a motion to approve the recommendation from the ATAX Committee to fund the South Carolina Aquarium's Turtle Trek 5K project in the amount of \$10,000.

Council members Smith and Moye spoke in favor of the event and its funding. Council Member Moye said he would like for events such as these to lead people to the lodging section of the City's website to make it easier for the visitors to find appropriate rentals on the island.

VOTE: The motion passed unanimously.

5. Capital Projects Report

B. Marina Docks Rehabilitation

Administrator Fragoso gave an overview of the work being done on the Marina Docks Rehabilitation Project. A slide detailing all of the work done there can be seen in the YouTube recording of this meeting linked on the City's website. The docks and pilings have been installed in Dock Area C. Power pedestals and fire suppression cabinets are expected to be installed shortly. Materials shortages have caused delays in the delivery of the gangways. ATM, Salmon's Dredging, Evans & Schmidt, and EPIC continue to work on the finalization of the fuel hut design for submitting for building permits.

She added that next week's City Council agenda will include consideration of the extension of the Builder's Risk insurance coverage through December 1, 2021. She also shared that she is anticipating change orders from the contractors regarding increased materials costs.

C. Phase III Drainage

Administrator Fragoso gave an overview of the work being done on the Phase III Drainage Project. A slide detailing all of the work done on this project can be seen in the YouTube recording of this meeting linked on the City's website. The permitting for this project is vast and in various stages of completion. The goal remains to begin work on the 30th and 36th avenues outfalls in the Fall of 2021 and at the 41st Avenue outfall in the Fall of 2022. City Council will be considering an amendment to the contract with Thomas & Hutton to include bidding and construction oversight for these projects as well as approval of an easement agreement with Wild Dunes.

D. Phase III Drainage Small Internal Projects

Administrator Fragoso gave an overview of the work being done on the Phase III Drainage Small Internal Projects. A slide detailing all of the work done on this project can be seen in the YouTube recording of this meeting linked on the City's website. She said that all projects are expected to be complete by July 2 except for the one at 41st Avenue. This work requires extensive road closures and will be completed after Labor Day.

6. Old Business

Update on the American Rescue Plan and the City's funding allocation

Council Member Pounds reported that the State has not yet received its share of the American Rescue Plan. Once the State is in receipt of the funds, they will disperse it according to the law. The City anticipates two payments totaling approximately \$2.2M. This money must be used on certain types of projects within two years of receipt.

7. **New Business**

A. **Report of purchase of John Deere Gator UTV for Fire Department in an amount not to exceed \$20,000 [State contract purchase, FY21 Budget, State ATAX]**

B. **Report of approval of purchase of jet ski for Fire Department in an amount not to exceed \$14,000 [FY21 Budget, State ATAX]**

C. **Report of repairs to the Public Safety Building gate in the amount of \$12,167 [FY21 Budget, Capital Projects]**

Council Member Pounds reported that all three of the above items have been purchased as stated within the FY21 Budget.

D. **Consideration of approval of the Axon body camera, in-car camera video software and data storage [State contract purchase, FY22 budget]**

MOTION: Council Member Bell made a motion to approve, and Council Member Streetman seconded the motion.

Chief Cornett said this new system completely replaces the current system. It will help the department stay in compliance better with FOIA requests and Brady rulings. He said the contract includes replacement of in-car cameras every five years and body cameras every three years with the newest technology.

VOTE: The motion passed unanimously.

F. **Consideration of recommendation from the ATAX Committee of an application by Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 3137 for funding in the amount of \$12,000 for facilities maintenance**

MOTION: Council Member Ward made a motion to approve, and Council Member Buckhannon seconded the motion.

MOTION: Council Member Ward made a motion to amend the amount to be awarded from \$12,000 to \$15,000. Council Member Moye seconded the motion. The motion to amend passed unanimously.

VOTE: The vote on the motion as amended passed unanimously.

G. **Consideration of approval of an amount not to exceed \$65,000 for audio/visual improvements for Council Chambers [FY22 Budget, Capital Projects Fund]**

H. **Consideration of approval of an amount not to exceed \$34,000 for new agenda and video software [FY22 Budget, General Fund]**

Council Member Pounds said further discussion and consideration of the above two items will appear on a future agenda. Staff is vetting vendors and securing bids. He said these upgrades are in the budget and will increase efficiency in meetings and agenda preparation. Council Member

Bell expressed the need to be clear about what is a capital expense and what is an operating expense.

I. Consideration of providing free parking in the Municipal Parking Lots from 5:00-8:00pm to members of the IOP Cleanup Crew who participate in the beach sweeps on Monday afternoons

MOTION: Council Member Moye made a motion to approve, and Council Member Streetman seconded the motion.

Council Member Smith said this is a good way to thank the people who volunteer their time to clean up the beach. Participants will be provided a magnet to affix to their car so they are not ticketed during this time period only. She said 30-50 people regularly participate in these efforts during the summer.

VOTE: The motion passed unanimously.

J. Discussion related to the 42nd Avenue ADA boardwalk

Administrator Fragoso reviewed the timeline of events regarding this proposed project. She is looking to the Committee for guidance on moving forward with the project. Committee members discussed pros and cons of beach walkovers and or boardwalks at 42nd Avenue and the 34A Beach Access. The issue has been remanded back to the Real Property Committee for further exploration and consideration.

8. Miscellaneous Business

The next meeting of the Ways & Means Committee will be Tuesday, July 20, 2021 at 6pm.

Administrator Fragoso said the first Farmer's Market of the summer will be held on Thursday, June 17, 2021 at the Recreation Center from 4-7pm.

9. Adjournment

Council Member Buckhannon made a motion to adjourn and Council Member Pounds seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned at 7:20pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Nicole DeNeane
City Clerk