



Accommodations Tax Advisory Committee

11:00 a.m., Wednesday, August 11, 2021

Council Chambers

1207 Palm Boulevard

Isle of Palms, South Carolina

Public Comment:

Citizens may provide public comment here:

<https://www.iop.net/public-comment-form>

Agenda

1. **Call to Order** and acknowledgment that the press and the public had been duly notified of the meeting in accordance with the Freedom of Information Act.
2. **Approval of Previous Meeting's Minutes** - July 14, 2021
3. **Financial Statements** – Debbie Suggs, City Treasurer
4. **Old Business**
 - a. Presentation from Helen Hill, Charleston Visitors Bureau
 - b. Discussion of alternatives for the allocation of 30% of the ATAX funds collected that must be used for advertisement and promotion of tourism currently managed by the Charleston Visitors Bureau
5. **New Business**

Consideration of approval of overages for FY21: beach trash pick-up in the amount of \$5,326, marina dock bond debt service in the amount of \$33,000, the Music in the Park event in the amount of \$1,300 and debt service on the 75' Ladder Truck for the Fire Department in the amount of \$1.
6. **Miscellaneous**

Date of next meeting: 11:00 a.m., September 8, 2021
7. **Adjournment**



ACCOMMODATIONS TAX ADVISORY COMMITTEE
11:00am, Wednesday, July 14, 2021
1207 Palm Boulevard, Isle of Palms, SC and
broadcasted live on YouTube: <https://www.youtube.com/user/cityofisleofpalms>

MINUTES

1. Call to order

Present: Rusty Williamson, David Nelson, Sally Muhlig, Doug Truslow, Ray Burns, Glenda Nemes

Absent: Malcolm Burgiss

Staff Present: Administrator Fragoso, Treasurer Suggs

2. Approval of the previous meetings' minutes – May 28, 2021

MOTION: Mr. Williamson made a motion to approve the minutes of the May 28, 2021 meeting. Ms. Muhlig seconded the motion. The minutes passed unanimously.

3. Financial Statements – Treasurer Suggs

Treasurer Suggs reviewed a preliminary statement dated 6/30/2021, noting that additional payments and revenues will be accrued later. The 4th quarter payment of \$7-800,000 is still anticipated. The cash balance of ATAX funds is currently \$1.2M.

Revenues for FY21 are running significantly above budget and above 2019. She also anticipates receiving the County ATAX pass through at some point. She reviewed the expenditures to date, noting the 4th quarter payment due to the CVB will likely \$2-300,000.

She indicated the overage for the payment due to the Marina Bond Debt Service will need to be approved by the committee. That item will be on the August meeting agenda.

4. Old Business

Approval of FY22 Budget

MOTION: Mr. Nelson made a motion to approve, and Ms. Muhlig seconded the motion.

Mr. Truslow and Ms. Nemes indicated their discomfort in voting on something the Committee had no part in preparing and has already been approved by City Council.

Treasurer Suggs reviewed the FY22 budget with Committee members.

Mr. Truslow would like clarification on how the City selected the CVB as its designated DMO. Administrator Fragoso said she would need to review minutes to provide that answer. Mr. Truslow also said he would like to know if the City followed the proper procurement procedure in that selection process. Mr. Burns noted that the line item for the payments to the CVB is a placeholder and City Council could determine that money should be paid elsewhere. He said there is no other option at this time for DMO until or if City Council makes a change.

VOTE: The vote on the FY22 budget was as follows:

Ayes:	Nelson, Williamson, Mulig, Burns
Nays:	Truslow
Abstain:	Nemes

The motion passed.

5. New Business

A. Consideration of an application from Carolina Coast Surf Club, Inc. for funding in the amount of \$1,000 to sponsor real-time camera image of IOP beach and surf conditions

Mr. Jim Radley of the Carolina Coast Surf Club, Inc. came before the Committee requesting \$1000 to sponsor the real-time camera for IOP beach and surf conditions. He gave a lengthy explanation as to the services provided to the community by the Carolina Coast Surf Club and how this money will be used to support the webcam and website maintenance expenses.

MOTION: Ms. Muhlig made a motion to approve, and Mr. Truslow seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

B. Discussion of administrative alternatives for the allocation of the 30% of the ATAX funds collected that must be used for advertisement and promotion of tourism currently managed by the Charleston Visitors Bureau

Mr. Burns shared details of the history, makeup, and functions of the Tourism Visitor & Promotions Committee which acts as Folly Beach's DMO. He will be meeting with the City Administrator and CFO of Folly Beach later this week to gain more information about how the TVPC performs its state-mandated duties as the City's DMO. He will also be meeting with a representative from TERK to discuss the process of forming such a committee on the Isle of Palms should City Council deem that a necessity. Mr. Nelson and Ms. Nemes volunteered their time to help with this research.

Administrator Fragoso noted the goal of this research is to potentially make a recommendation to City Council about alternatives for a DMO and "to understand what alternatives there are, how that would work, and whether or not it would be beneficial for the City to change course."

6. Miscellaneous Business

The next meeting of the ATAX Committee will be Wednesday, August 11, 2021 at 11am.

7. **Adjournment**

Mr. Truslow made a motion to adjourn, and Mr. Nelson seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned at 12:38pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Nicole DeNeane
City Clerk