



**Ways & Means Committee Meeting  
6:00pm, Tuesday, February 15, 2022  
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 Hahn, Bogosian, Miars, Ward, Streetman, Popson, and Mayor Pounds

Absent: Council Member Anderson

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

**2. Approval of previous meeting's minutes**

Council Member Streetman made a motion to approve the minutes of the January 18, 2022 meeting, and Council Member Popson seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

**4. Citizen's Comments -- none**

**5. Financial Statements – Treasurer Suggs**

Treasurer Suggs reported that \$1.9M in property taxes had been received and she anticipates receiving an additional \$1.5M shortly.

General Fund revenues and expenditures are where they are expected for this time of year. She noted that a forecast column has been added to the budget worksheets. She believes the City will collect more in General Fund revenues than budgeted by about \$1.2M, likely coming from Local Option sales tax, business licenses, and building permits. There is no forecast for General Fund expenditures at this time. While she believes there will be overages on a few line items, none will be significantly so. Current forecasts include the projects begun in FY22 that will cross over into FY23 like Phase 3 drainage and the undergrounding of electrical lines.

The City currently has \$30M in cash, of which \$4.4M is unspent bond proceeds, \$1M from unspent ARP funds, and \$11M in restricted funds.

Treasurer Suggs reviewed the incomes for accommodations taxes, all of which are running far ahead of January 2021. She is unable to say how much of that is due to the new hotel in Wild Dunes.

Two payments were made in January from the Marina Dock fund and some engineering costs were paid out of the Phase 3 drainage funds. The legal expenses worksheet indicates the City has spent \$118,000 year to date.

## **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. Recent work on the restaurant includes: the installation of the kitchen hood, bathroom partitions, countertops, and drywall. Electrical work is nearly complete. The new signage has been added to the building. Some kitchen equipment has been received but they are still waiting on the walk-in cooler. Heating and cooling work is 90% complete. Work in the parking lot and patios, including pavers in the sand pit area, will begin soon. The City continues to work with them and the other tenants on the location of the dumpsters. If every piece of equipment is received by its expected date, they anticipate opening mid-March.

### **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 fuel dock is completely installed. The structure is fully framed and interior utility routing is nearly complete. ATM, Epic, and Petroleum Marine have met to review the installation of the fuel system for the dock. Once the fuel hut is complete, Petroleum Marine will install the routing, all the dispensers, the pump access, the fuel system control wiring, the fuel pump, and the pump out station. The placement of the power for the fire pedestal on the fuel dock.

She reported that the electrical issues on the face and restaurant docks shared last month have been fixed. Monitoring and testing of the electrical panel continue to "to ensure that once the project is completed, we release the contractor, that we are not left with a piece of equipment that is not fully operating." She added that one of the options for the electrical panel is "requiring the manufacturer to extend that warranty in light of the issues that we are having. Another option is whether or not we want it completely replaced."

Grip tape has been installed at the end of the gangways to address some slipping concerns.

### **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. She reported that the contract for the work on the 30<sup>th</sup> and 36<sup>th</sup> avenues outfalls has been executed. Supply chain issues have led to a change in the work schedule. She noted that Wild Dunes has been very flexible with the City in allowing this work to happen in April and be completed in June. There is some roadwork on

Waterway that will be required in the summer months. There will be a detour at that intersection for a few weeks. Delaying the work so that it could have happened in the off season would have delayed the project by another year. The golf course will either have golfers play 17 holes during that time or set up a temporary par 3. Administrator Fragoso noted that if there are delays in the work “we executed a change order for the contractor, so if they don’t deliver based on the revised schedule, there are some liquidated damages that the City could tap into.”

There is no change in the update on the 41<sup>st</sup> Avenue outfall project.

**D. Master Drainage Plan**

Administrator Fragoso gave an overview of the work being done on the Master Drainage Plan. 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. This project is on schedule and expected to be complete at the end of 2022. 625 watersheds have been delineated. They have a complete inventory of the current conditions and the 2-D and 3-D modeling begins this week.

Director Kerr and Asst. Director Asero had an onsite meeting with Davis & Floyd to “visualize some of the high problem areas...They experienced first-hand how some of these ditches are completely silted in and need significant work.”

**E. Overhead to Underground Conversion**

Administrator Fragoso reported that the bore profiles are still not complete, and those required for SCDOT to finalize the design.

6. **Old Business** -- none

7. **New Business**

A. **Discussion and consideration of FY23 10-year Capital Plan [Strategic Plan Priority 3, Goal b]**

**MOTION: Council Member Bogoisian made a motion to approve and Council Member Streetman seconded the motion.**

Administrator Fragoso reviewed the large (>\$50,000) projects slated for FY23 from each department in the 10-year Capital Plan. These items include the replacement of three patrol SUVs, drainage contingency funds, work at the 30<sup>th</sup> and 36<sup>th</sup> avenues outfalls, reconfiguration and resurfacing the basketball courts, renovation of the concrete pad at the Recreation Department to build a pickleball court, replacement of parking meters at Front Beach, repair, replacement and construction of dune walkovers and footbridges, repair of sidewalks between 10<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup> avenues, beach maintenance and monitoring, design and engineering work at the public dock and greenspace, and 1% of the insured value of all City buildings for ongoing maintenance needs.

**VOTE: A vote was taken as follows:**

Ayes: Bogosian, Hahn, Miars, Popson, Streetman, Pounds  
Nays: Ward.

**The motion passed.**

**B. Discussion and consideration of July 4<sup>th</sup> fireworks display [Strategic Plan Priority 3, Goal e; Priority 4, Goal b]**

**MOTION: Council Member Ward made a motion to approve and Council Member Popson seconded the motion.**

Mayor Pounds reported that the RFPs for the expense are out and they hope to have for a final recommendation and vote for next week's City Council meeting. Council Member Ward asked if the overtime for Public Works and Public Safety is included in this expense. Administrator Fragoso said those expenses are realized elsewhere in the budget. However, the \$35,000 does include staff meals and T-shirts. It also does not include cleanup which is often coordinated by volunteers. She did share that she asked for biodegradable fireworks in the RFP. Because there are not a lot of certified fireworks shooters, it is good to approve this early in hopes of avoiding supply chain issues. She will let City Council know what other surrounding communities are holding firework events this summer.

**VOTE: The motion passed unanimously.**

**C. Discussion of evaluating alternatives for redevelopment of Municipal parking lots [Strategic Plan Priority 1, Goal a]**

Mayor Pounds said this lot, originally purchased by the City in 1985, was done so with a grant from SCPRT. He read from the agreement between the City and SCPRT regarding the required use of the lot.

Council Member Streetman said this matter was discussed by the Real Property Committee, who decided to bring it to the Ways & Means Committee to see if there was interest in pursuing the matter further. He assured the Committee that the parking spaces would remain but hopes there is a means by which the property can be beautified.

Council Member Hahn agreed that the property does need work but that the priority should be to deal with Palm Boulevard. He would like to see City Council take a more comprehensive look at dealing with parking and traffic flow across the island. Council Member Bogosian agreed and said that further commercial development in that area will only attract more traffic.

The matter will go back to the Real Property Committee to discuss the parameters of an RFI.

**D. Consideration of FY22 budget of proposed expenditures by the Charleston Visitor's Bureau**

Mayor Pounds said that CVB President Helen Hill will attend next week's City Council meeting to discuss their FY22 budget as well as "new expenses related to IOP website and other programs which was a response to some of the ATAX Committee's requests of the CVB."

Council Member Hahn stated he would not like to promise funding to the CVB for FY23 without further input from the Task Force recently created by the Mayor.

**E. Consideration of approval of an amount not to exceed \$15,000 to hire a expert to develop a report that identifies potential violations and safety issues with the modifications to the IOP Connector [Strategic Plan Priority 1, Goal b]**

**MOTION: Council Member Hahn made a motion to postpone this matter until March's Ways & Means Committee meeting. Council Member Ward seconded the motion.**

Mayor Pounds said, "Just to make sur we are all on the same page about what has been happening with a whole lot of conversations internally as well as externally. You all know that we have, as a City, sent I think three letters to the Department of Transportation voicing our displeasure with what happened on the Connector, how it was done, when it was done, lack of collaboration and cooperation with any city, pick a city, much less IOP. So those letters have happened. We have, Desiree has been working with Secretary Hall. We have got two scopes of work finalized. One is for the connector. One is for the entire corridor from 17 to the County Park on their nickel. So they will pay for those. So that is in progress. We have a kickoff meeting on March 4<sup>th</sup> for the initial Connector study. We are also meeting tomorrow with County Park representatives onsite here to hopefully look at ways to move traffic off of Palm faster and get it into the park quicker, whatever that looks like, paid kiosks. I don't want to presuppose what they may come to us with, but we are having that meeting tomorrow. Desiree and I are also meeting with Mt. Pleasant and Sullivan's Island, Chief Cornett, the mayors and the Public Safety folks on Thursday. Just whatever we can control for this season. I want to get in front of it so if we can have a February conversation with our neighboring communities, whether it's timing of lights or manpower or people power or whatever it is, we could put in our control and make traffic flow better for this season, we want to do that. So we are starting those conversations on Thursday with those folks. We are having multiple conversations with our lobbyists. This is why we hired those folks to help us out in Columbia, to help us get legislators lined up behind our priorities and that has been happening. We had a conversation last week with those folks who continue to push the ball forward. The main thing I learned about our work with our lobbyists is slow would be the word that comes to the top of mind. It is nothing quick. It is like a slow burn to make something go from Point A to Point B."

Administrator Fragoso said that Secretary Hall is willing to expand the scope of the study and they are waiting for feedback from their engineers. She will have more information after the kickoff meeting.

**VOTE: The motion passed unanimously.**

**F. FY23 Budget Workshop**

The FY23 Budget Workshop will be held at 1pm on Wednesday, March 16, 2022 at the Recreation Center.

**8. Miscellaneous Business**

The next meeting of the Ways & Means Committee will be Tuesday, March 15, 2022 at 5pm.

**9. Adjournment**

Council Member Ward made a motion to adjourn and Council Member Streetman seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned at 7:22pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Nicole DeNeane  
City Clerk