



CITY COUNCIL MEETING
6:00pm, Tuesday, January 24, 2023
1207 Palm Boulevard, Isle of Palms, SC and
broadcasted live on YouTube: <https://www.youtube.com/user/cityofisleofpalms>

MINUTES

1. Call to order

Present: Council members Hahn, Bogosian, Anderson, Ward, Streetman, Popson, Miars, Pierce, and Mayor Pounds

Staff Present: Administrator Fragoso, Director Kerr various department heads

2. Election of Mayor Pro Tem

Council Member Popson nominated Council Member Ward for Mayor Pro Tem. Council Member Hahn seconded the motion.

Council Member Pierce nominated Council Member Streetman for Mayor Pro Tem. Council Member Anderson seconded the motion.

A vote was taken for Council Member Ward as Mayor Pro Tem with Council members Hahn, Miars, Ward, Popson and Mayor Pounds voting in the affirmative. Council Member Ward will serve as Mayor Pro Tem.

3. Citizens' Comments

Ted McKnight said that people are allowed to vote multiple times on the alternatives to the IOP Connector presented by SCDOT. He believes there needs to be a sixth option – no change – added since none of the options offers a safety barrier protecting pedestrians and bicyclists. He mentioned safety barrier options used in Georgia and North Carolina. He asked Council to put the safety of the citizens first. He asked how many deaths are acceptable.

Kathy Campbell said that City Council should make better use of the ATAX money. She said there is no transparency from the Charleston Visitors' Bureau. She cited findings from the ATAX Committee. She said the advertising monies for IOP is spent promoting the Sweetgrass Inn.

Mike Campbell said the City may give the CVB \$1.5 million this year in ATAX funds without a contract or metrics. He said the City has an option to set up a 501(c)(3) like the City of Folly Beach and have its own DMO. He shared some of the projects Folly Beach has spent ATAX dollars on. He asked City Council to move forward with a new path before giving more money to the CVB.

4. Special Presentations

A. Retirement recognition of Joe Washington who served a 42-year career in the Public Works Department

Mayor Pounds recognized Joe Washington's 42-year career with the City of Isle of Palms by reading a resolution that was read on the floor of the State House by Senator Chip Campsen.

B. Presentation of request from Charleston County Recycling to change recycling collection date from Wednesday to Thursday starting April 1, 2023 – Randall Rudd, Director of Charleston County Environmental Management Department

Mr. Randall Rudd asked for City Council's consideration to change the recycling pick up day from Wednesday to Thursday beginning April 1. He believes this change will help with the spotty pickup service that has been experienced since Republic has been involved in collection services. Monday holidays will not affect pickup on Thursdays. Weekly pickup will occur between Memorial Day and Labor Day.

5. Approval of previous meetings' minutes

- A. Special Real Property Meeting – November 10, 2022**
- B. Special City Council Meeting – November 15, 2022**
- C. City Council Regular Meeting – November 15, 2022**
- D. Special Public Safety Meeting – November 29, 2022**
- E. Special City Council Meeting – December 6, 2022**
- F. Special City Council Meeting – December 7, 2022**
- G. Special City Council Meeting – December 13, 2022**
- H. Special City Council Meeting – January 3, 2023**
- I. Special City Council Meeting STR Workshop – January 9, 2023**
- J. Special City Council Meeting Workshop – January 10, 2023**

MOTION: Council Member Anderson made a motion to approve the minutes and Citizens Comments, and Council Member Pierce seconded the motion.

Council members Bogosian and Streetman noted changes they would like made to their comments in the January 9 Special Meeting. They will email those changes to City Clerk DeNeane.

VOTE: A vote on the minutes as amended was taken with all in favor.

6. Old Business

7. New Business

- A. Consideration of recommendation from the Accommodations Tax Advisory Committee to grant \$30,000 to the Exchange Club for the construction of a seawall and walkway**

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

Mayor Pounds stated that the ATAX Committee has already awarded \$41,000 out of the \$50,000 allotted in ATAX grants this year. Council can approve the amount requested, split it between fiscal years, or vote against it.

Administrator Fragoso further clarified, “The State Accommodations Tax fund balance has an excess from what was budgeted, so you all could approve an unbudgeted or above budget expenditure above and beyond the \$50,000 that are included. That line item is a placeholder. We have kind of used that same amount year over year, but you all could certainly approve an over budget expenditure.”

Ms. Robbie Berg of the Exchange Club reported that the seawall construction is completed, and the price of the walkway increased from \$228,000 to \$261,000 because of the wider sidewalk. The entire project is ADA-compliant and accessible. She said the public has easy access to the area and they encourage the public to visit the area.

Administrator Fragoso explained how ATAX requests and grants will now be made: “Historically, the process is throughout the year any applications that are received for a piece of the \$50,000 that are budgeted would happen as they come and as they were received, they were presented to the ATAX Committee, and then a recommendation would come. We have since changed that process to do it once a year. The deadline for applications for FY24 is January 31. So the ATAX Committee is going to be reviewing all applications at the same time and making a recommendation to you all to then incorporate those that are recommended that you want to fund in the FY24 budget.”

VOTE: A vote was taken with all in favor.

B. Consideration of recommendation from the Environmental Advisory Committee to change policy regarding student committee members

Council Member Bogosian stated that it was difficult for the student members to attend meetings regularly. The Committee welcomes the student participation but would like them to be ex officio members. Director Kerr said that Jordan Burrell will be the next student member of the Environmental Advisory Committee and will make a good addition.

MOTION: Council Member Bogosian made a motion that the student positions on the Environmental Advisory Committee be one-year appointments and non-voting members. Council Member Streetman seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

C. Consideration of recommendation from the Environmental Advisory Committee to engage with Smart Recycling to begin a food composting program

Director Kerr explained this would be a pilot program that is run by Smart Recycling and the City of Charleston. The Environmental Advisory Committee proposes the City contract with Smart Recycling for two bins on the island for twice weekly pickup at the cost of \$240/month.

The program typically has two bins per pickup location, but the Committee would like to see how popular the program is before committing to four bins.

Director Kerr said that people interested in participating in the program must complete training in order to receive a code to unlock the bins. The Committee proposes that one bin be at the marina with the glass recycling container and that the other bin and glass recycling container both be placed at the Carmen R. Bunch Park. He said the twice weekly pickup includes washing each bin to prevent smells and attracting rodents.

Administrator Fragoso said she would have the City Attorney review the contract. She explained that \$15,000 was set aside in the FY23 budget for initiatives from the Environmental Advisory Committee. \$9600 of that was allocated to the glass recycling program. There is enough remaining money in that line item to support this program.

MOTION: Council Member Miars made a motion to approve the expenditure of \$480/month but start at \$240/month until such time the program requires more bins and that the contract with Smart Recycling include an opt-out clause. Council Member Streetman seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

D. Discussion of FY24 Budget Calendar

Mayor Pounds reviewed the FY24 budget calendar in the meeting packet. He asked Council members for any projects or initiatives they are considering for FY24.

E. Consideration of proposed project requests for the Transportation Sales Tax (TST) FY24 Allocation Program

Mayor Pounds said the deadline for the TST application is February 15.

MOTION: Council Member Bogosian made a motion to approve the application for extending the existing sidewalk from Breach Inlet to 2nd Avenue and install a crosswalk on Palm Boulevard at 2nd Avenue, the repair and widening of the existing concrete sidewalk at 21st Avenue, and aligning the existing crosswalks between 46th and 57th avenues with the beach access paths located on the landside of Palm Boulevard to the TST FY24 Allocation Program. Council Member Anderson seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

8. Boards and Commissions Report

- A. **Board of Zoning Appeals** – minutes attached
- B. **Planning Commission** – minutes attached
- C. **Accommodations Tax Advisory Board** – minutes attached
- D. **Environmental Advisory Committee** – minutes attached

11. Ordinances, Resolutions, and Petitions

- A. **Second Reading** – none
- B. **First Reading** – none
- C. **Resolutions and Petitions** - none

12. Adjournment

Council Member Popson made a motion to adjourn, and Council Member Hahn seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned at 6:46pm

Respectfully submitted,

Nicole DeNeane
City Clerk