

**Accomplishments**  
**January 1, 2005 through December 31, 2005**

**Fire Stations:** Through early months of the year, worked with Charleston County's Capital Projects staff to develop a space needs program and evaluate possible sites for both Fire Station 1 and 2. Due to the fact that the stations became uninhabitable, relocated weight room from Fire Station 2 to the Rec Center. Procured appraisals and/or surveys of four different parcels of property and evaluated potential parking lot revenues if Fire Station 1 were not located on the City's parking lot.

**Comprehensive Analysis:** Developed Request for Proposals, interviewed and negotiated contract with Cole+Russell to complete a comprehensive analysis of City facilities to assist in determining a location for Fire Station 1.

**Temporary Location for Fire Station 2:** Secured a lease with The Citadel for use of the Citadel Beach Club property as a temporary site and procured a tent for the fire apparatus. Prepared site in anticipation of the relocation.

**Demolition of Fire Station 2:** Developed a bid package, advertised and opened bids and awarded a contract to initiate demolition of Fire Station 2 in 2006.

**Erosion:** In response to concerns related to mitigating the effects of erosion, commissioned the services of a Coastal Engineer to assist the City in developing ordinances for the City's future consideration.

**Vested Rights related to property development:** In compliance with new state law, passed an ordinance and successfully defended the City's position regarding interpretation of these rights.

**Undeveloped property in the City:** Made a formal request to the new Greenbelt Committee asking for funding to purchase two (2) parcels of undeveloped property on the island to preserve the property as undeveloped open space and/or passive parks.

**Rental Properties in SR 1 and SR 2:** Requested the Planning Commission embark on an analysis of the rental properties in these two districts. Authorized the development of a data base to monitor the properties and the associated revenues for a cross check. Conducted a Public Workshop to receive input on the Planning Commission's work to date.

**City's Commercial District:** Procured the services of a consultant to study the economic viability of the City's Commercial District and make recommendations to the City about how to preserve and increase the economic viability of the City's Commercial area. Eliminated "residential" as a use from the commercial zoning districts to halt the trend towards residential only in the commercial district.

**Accomplishments**  
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continued

**Conservation District and Marsh Setbacks:** Expanded the boundaries of the City's Conservation District to prevent development in environmentally sensitive areas as well as changed the marsh setback requirements.

**Storm Water Management Plan (SWMP):** City Council tasked the Planning Commission with creating the first SWMP for the City in order to comply with the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES). In 2005, the Commission forwarded a draft of the Plan to City Council for action in 2006.

**Awards Given:** The City bestowed three (3) **Signal 30** awards. One to Jack Tracey for his many years of coaching on the island and one each to two (2) individuals, Eric Stinnett, an Isle of Palms fire fighter, and Matthew Smith for their life saving good Samaritan act. **Mayor Burgis:** The City commissioned and unveiled a portrait of former Mayor Malcolm Burgis honoring Mayor Burgis for his service to the City.

**Awards Received:** The City received recognition at the South Carolina Association of Hazard Mitigation Conference for improvement in the City's flood insurance rating from a Class 8 to a Class 7 saving \$160,000 in insurance premiums for policyholders. The City received an honorable mention for the City's Front Beach Enhancement Project for Municipal Achievement at MASC's Annual meeting. The Front Beach Enhancement Project was also nominated for a PACE award. The Isle of Palms Recreation Department won Recreation Agency of the Year for 2005!

**Ways and Means Committee**

**Dee Taylor, Chair  
All members of City Council**

**Budget:** Developed a no tax increase budget rolling back the millage to compensate for the increase in property values as a result of reassessment. Budgeted additional reserves to the bulkhead, fire stations, drainage and the marina.

**Front Beach Enhancement:** Conducted final walk through on the project to correct items under warranty.

**Flood Insurance:** Added front beach restrooms to the City's flood insurance.

**Surplus property:** Prepared bid package, advertised and sold surplus parking meters, police and public works vehicles and tractor.

**Audit Engagement:** Worked through first year of a four-year engagement utilizing new accounting firm of Greene, Finney and Horton.

**Hospitality Tax:** Successfully collected the first year of the City's Hospitality Tax.

**Purchasing Procedures:** Modified Ordinance to allow for Design Build as a method of procurement. Appropriately advertised the City's intent to use this method for the design and construction of Fire Station 2.

**Radio Conversion:** Initiated a schedule to make future budgetary plans for conversion to a new County Radio system.

**FEMA:** Submitted paperwork for reimbursement of expenses related to Hurricane Gaston.

**Audits:** Entered into an agreement with Charleston County for their Business License Department to conduct audits on behalf of the City.

**Drainage:** Created a Reservation of Fund Balance for Drainage projects, composed of both County Transportation Committee allocation as well as City resources, to attempt to accumulate adequate funding to mobilize on the 54<sup>th</sup> to 57<sup>th</sup> Avenue Drainage in the future.

**Clarkin Ball field:** As a result of the family's donation, established fund to benefit the Rec Center ball fields in memory of Helen and Dennis Clarkin.

## **Public Safety**

**Dee Taylor, Chair**  
**Bob Miller**  
**Mike Sottile**

**Realtor Flyer:** Distributed the Realtor Information flyer for property managers to place in vacation rentals to assist in getting information to visitors regarding island ordinances.

**Katrina Relief:** Made arrangements for and successfully deployed two relief teams into the hurricane ravaged areas of the Gulf Coast of Mississippi.

**Design Build for Fire Station 2:** Initiated research regarding implementing this method of procurement to be used to replace Fire Station 2 and developed design build package and advertised for respondents in 2006.

**Fire reporting:** Expanded the software used to track fire reporting and emergency response in the fire department.

**Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies (CALEA):** City representatives attended the National Conference in Alabama to receive this national accreditation for a second three (3) years.

**Front Beach Surveillance:** Installed and placed into service a surveillance system of cameras at the front beach that is monitored in the City's Telecommunications Center.

**Safety Improvements:** *At* the City's request, the South Carolina Department of Transportation (SCDOT) installed safety reflectors on the Connector to discourage vehicular migration out of the lanes of traffic. Requested painted stop bars on side streets near the playground to draw motorist's attention to the stop signs

**Parking Stops in City parking lots:** Approved the expenditure for funding "concrete parking stops" to protect the new white fencing in the front beach area and secured an easement for installation of the stops from the private property owner adjacent to the fence.

**Beach Access Safety:** Replaced beach signs identifying beach accesses and repaired boardwalks to prevent slip and falls.

**Bicycle Path:** Submitted funding request to the County Transportation Committee as well as the Half Cent Sales Tax Committee to improve/replace the bicycle path on Waterway Boulevard.

**Rabies Clinic and Raccoon Seminar:** Continued the service of holding a Rabies Clinic. Sponsored an informational seminar on the subject of co-existing with wildlife such as raccoons.

## **Public Safety Continued**

**Dee Taylor, Chair  
Bob Miller  
Mike Sottile**

**Equipment improvements:** Replaced the Boston Whaler boat motor, two jet skies, the ATV and completed paint and bodywork on Fire Engine 2.

**DNA Lab:** Agreed to participate in funding to allow for Isle of Palms law enforcement use of this resource in investigations of crimes.

**Police Activities/Investigations:** Investigators of the Criminal Investigations Division were assigned 229 cases. There were 18 burglaries, 5 sexual assaults, 1 aggravated assault, 2 kidnappings, 55 narcotic cases, 5 suicides actual or attempted, 120 larcenies, of which 29 were grand larceny. All sexual assaults, aggravated assaults, kidnappings and drug cases resulted in arrests or clearance. Of the \$248,173 in property stolen, over \$151,000 in property was recovered. A total of 145 Arrest Warrants were served and 4 Search Warrants executed. A total of 25 persons were arrested for outstanding arrest warrants from other law enforcement agencies. For the year 2005, 621 arrests were made. The Isle of Palms Police Department continued their zero tolerance for underage possession of alcohol, by charging 87 persons.

With 55 drug arrests made, there were 3 Search Warrants executed resulting in seizures of drugs, money and or property. An increase in more potent drugs such as cocaine and methamphetamine have been identified and seized. One Search Warrant for methamphetamine identified a female resident facilitating a pornography website, based in New York City.

A noted increase in credit card and identity theft investigations coincides with the national trend. Investigators worked 16 fraud cases that involved many other state jurisdictions.

In the first full year with a Victim Advocate assigned to Investigations, 377 victims were identified and contacted by letter or in person and offered any assistance needed as the victim of a crime.

A joint investigation with Sullivan's Island Police resulted in the arrests of persons responsible for more than 24 vehicle break-ins on the Isle of Palms, dating back to the late summer of 2004. One victim identified was the Chief Justice of South Carolina.

Investigators also investigated and arrested a male subject responsible for an Aggravated Assault and Vehicle Theft of a Waterway Boulevard resident. After contacting Crime stoppers and placing his photo in the newspaper and on the local news, he was arrested in Summerville.

## **Public Works**

**John Marino, Chair**  
**Marty Bettelli**  
**Leola Hanbury**

**Waterway Boulevard Drainage:** Proposed and compiled a procurement package and contract documents and opened bids on March 23rd for repair of the drainage line in the vicinity of 22<sup>nd</sup> Avenue and Waterway Boulevard.

**Drainage Problem at 3<sup>rd</sup> and Charleston:** Corresponded with the SC Department of Transportation and Charleston County, visited the site and attended meetings in an attempt to get assistance with drainage problem at 3<sup>rd</sup> and Charleston Boulevard.

**Drainage 54<sup>th</sup> through 57<sup>th</sup> Avenue:** Requested additional funding allocations for this project from the CTC. Had meeting with representatives of Wild Dunes Community Association and the designer and construction foreman for the Destination Wild Dunes convention center regarding coordination of the project.

**Rights-of-way:** Worked to resolve the issue of obstructions on some of the rights-of-way. Discouraged new obstructions being placed on the right-of-way and worked to resolve one.

**Water and Sewer:** Had joint meeting with the Isle of Palms Water and Sewer department regarding sewer service as it relates to the installation of individual grinder pumps.

**Blue Wave:** Applied for and received Blue Wave Designation for 2005.

**Street Signs:** To improve visibility, particularly at night, initiated a plan to systematically replace street signs with the nine-inch (9") letters as opposed to the six-inch (6") letters.

**Fleet:** Replaced a garbage packer in the fleet utilizing municipal lease financing.

**Front Beach Public Restrooms:** Completed plumbing maintenance and the required Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) improvements.

**Drainage Maintenance:** Approved and initiated the first phase of a comprehensive program to maintain the existing ditch system throughout the island. Awarded contract to Eadies Construction to accomplish this goal.

**Beach Access:** Initiated design of an improved handicapped access for the 21<sup>st</sup> Avenue Beach Access with hopes of initiating construction in 2006.

**Street Sweeping:** Developed request for bids, opened bids and awarded contract to Shurburt for street sweeping services.

**Public verses Private Streets:** Continued to work to resolve determination regarding the ownership of some roads in the area of 41<sup>st</sup> through 57<sup>th</sup> Avenues.

## **Recreation Committee**

**Ryan Buckhannon, Chair**  
**Leola Hanbury**  
**Carol Rice**

**New Rec Center:** Occupied new building and moved programs into new facilities. Held workshops and initiated discussions regarding new program offerings. Expanded hours for “open gym.” Commissioned and installed permanent marker commemorating the construction.

**Rec Bond Proceeds:** Continued to make internal furnishings and site improvements with the remainder of the bond proceeds.

**Existing portion of the gym:** Modified original section of the building to accommodate the Fire Department’s fitness equipment and to establish a fitness room for islanders use with all new cardio fitness equipment.

**Bark Park:** Developed and put into service, the City’s first Bark Park utilizing recycled surplus items from the expansion of the City’s Rec Center project.

**Security of the Rec Facility:** Continued to explore options for security at the Rec Center site.

**Events:** Held successful Easter Egg Hunt, Piccolo Spoleto, Sand Sculpting, Crafts Fair, Community Yard Sale, Beach Run, Lowcountry Blues Bash, Middle School Dances, Halloween Carnival, Holiday season activities to include a performance by PURE Theater. Continued participation in the Connector Run, participated in the inaugural year of the East Cooper Community Triathlon and the inaugural year of a kite-flying event on the beach.

**Athletics:** The Department’s Half Rubber Tournament participation increased from nineteen (19) teams to twenty-four (24) teams in 2005 and over half of the teams traveled from out of state to participate. A second season of three on three basketball was added due to the demand for participation. Fast Start Soccer was so popular in 2005 that the City had to “cap” the numbers of participants. For the first time in 2005, the City had a tennis workshop throughout the summer months and continuing into the fall. Further, the continued successful programs in baseball, football, soccer, basketball, softball, and volleyball.

**East Cooper Senior Center:** Participated in meetings and discussions regarding the possibility of a senior center located in Mount Pleasant to serve East Cooper Senior Citizens

**Bicycle Safety Rodeo:** The Police Department, the Rec Department and the Fire Department coordinated a successful Bicycle Safety Rodeo at the Rec Center.

**Picnic Shelter:** Completed re-construction of the picnic shelter that had to be demolished in order to make room for the construction of the Rec Center Expansion.

**Gym:** Initiated repairs to the gym portion of the Rec Center.

## **Personnel**

**Marty Bettelli, Chair  
Ryan Buckhannon  
Jane McMackin**

**Workforce:** Revised job description, recruited and filled position vacancy for City Clerk. Converted part-time position to full-time position in the Building Department. Converted temporary laborer to regular employee in the Public Works Department.

**Wellness:** Invited MASC Wellness coordinator to give a presentation regarding the possibility of the City's launching a wellness program in the future.

**Employee Manual:** Modified policies on job abandonment, mandatory automatic bank deposits for payroll and prohibition of the use of tobacco in City facilities. Required five year legal review of the City's Employee Manual was completed in November of 2005.

**Website Re-design:** Developed request for bids and opened bids for a re-design of the City's website. Elected to reject all bids and obtain quotes from several of the vendors for those elements of the website re-design that the City desires to implement. Work will progress into the 2006 calendar year.

**Personnel Wage Review:** At the request of City Council, conducted a thorough review of the City's practices with regard to merit increases, evaluations and cost of living increases.

**Employee Suggestions:** Developed new forms for use in making Employee Suggestions and a method for review and follow-up with the employees.

**MASC:** The Mayor was appointed to serve on the Municipal Associations Board of Directors and the City Administrator was appointed to serve on a new Municipal Insurance Services Board to provide cost effective supplemental products insurance to local governments as well as to the Legislative Committee of the Municipal Association.

**Honors:** The Knights of Columbus acknowledged Roger Eagle in the Fire Department and Dawn Caldwell in the Police Department for their Public Safety Service. The Isle of Palms Exchange Club named Eric Stinnett as Fire Fighter of the Year and Rick Gebhardt as Police Officer of the Year.

**Environmental:** Councilwoman Hanbury was nominated for the South Carolina Environmental Awareness Award for her environmental work

**Court:** Isle of Palms Municipal Judge Jeanette Harper was honored in 2005 by the National Judges Association as the recipient of the Kenneth L. MacEachern Memorial Award.

**Bob Miller Walk:** Honored Retiring Councilman Bob Miller by having the center aisle of the Front Beach Enhancement project on Ocean Boulevard between Pavilion and J.C. Long Boulevard named "Bob Miller Walk."



**Real Property Committee**

**Marty Bettelli, Chair**

**Bob Abele** (resigned effective  
April 30, 2005)

**Jim Raih** (appointed May 1, 2005)

**Bob Miller**

**New dockage:** Completed the expansion of the new dockage at the marina adding fourteen (14) additional slips and placing them in service on Good Friday. Requested a modification to the dock permit to allow for a cover over the observation platform should the City decide to construct one in the future.

**Marine Response:** Moved the City's marina emergency response vessel to the new docks and added a jet dock to improve response time by keeping the boat in the water. Added a fire pump to the marine response vessel to improve the City's ability to extinguish a vessel or marina fire.

**Marina Maintenance:** Removed and replaced seven of the old, damaged pilings as well as some of the floats on the older docks at the Marina.

**Marina Tenant:** Re-negotiated Tidal Wave Watersports contract.

**Handicap Parking:** Better delineated the parking for the physically challenged at the marina site.

**Bulkhead:** Developed Request for Proposals, advertised and opened bids on February 23<sup>rd</sup> then awarded a contract to Zande-Jon Guerry Taylor for design and permitting for replacement of the bulkhead at the City marina.

**Infrastructure Survey:** Completed infrastructure survey of the Marina site to assist with future site improvements.