

## **CITY COUNCIL**

7:00 p.m., Tuesday, August 28, 2012

City Council held its regular meeting at 7:00 p.m., Tuesday, August 28, 2012 in Council Chambers of City Hall, 1207 Palm Boulevard, Isle of Palms, South Carolina. Attending the meeting were Councilmembers Bergwerf, Bettelli Buckhannon, Carroll, Loftus, Stone, Thomas and Ward, Mayor Cronin, City Administrator Tucker, City Attorney Halversen, Assistant to the Administrator Dziuban and City Clerk Copeland. A quorum was present to conduct business.

1. Mayor Cronin called the meeting to order and acknowledged that the press and public had been duly notified of the meeting in accordance with the Freedom of Information Act. A roll call followed the Pledge of Allegiance and a brief invocation.

### **2. Approval of Previous Meetings' Minutes**

**MOTION:** Councilmember Loftus moved to approve the minutes of the Special Meeting of July 24, 2012, the regular meeting of July 24, 2012 and the Special Meeting of August 21, 2012 as submitted; Councilmember Bergwerf seconded and the motion PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

### **3. Citizens' Comments - None**

**MOTION:** Councilmember Bettelli moved to re-order the Agenda to address Items 8, Bills Already in Possession of Council, and Item 10, Proposed Change to the Commercial District Recommended by the Planning Commission, at this juncture in the meeting; Councilmember Loftus seconded and the motion PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

### **8. Bills Already in Possession of Council**

**A. Second Reading of Ordinance 2012-04 – An Ordinance Amending Title 5, Planning and Development, Article 2, District Regulations, Section 5-4-37, Table of Permitted Uses in Commercial Districts, of the City of Isle of Palms Code of Ordinances to Permit Outdoor Sale of Food and Beverage in the GC-3 Zoning District by Special Exception Pursuant to Section 5-4-5.**

**MOTION:** Mayor Cronin moved to suspend the reading and to approve for Second Reading Ordinance 2012-04; Councilmember Loftus seconded and the motion PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

**B. Second Reading Ordinance 2012-05 – An Ordinance Authorizing the Issuance of not Exceeding \$6,500,00 Water and Sewer System Revenue Bonds, Series 2012, of the City of Isle of Palms, South Carolina; to Provide for the Use of the Proceeds; to Provide for the Terms and Conditions Upon Which the Series 2012 Bonds will be Issued; to Provide for the Repayment Thereof and Security Thereof; and to Provide Other Matters in Connection Therewith.**

**MOTION:** Councilmember Ward moved to suspend the rules of order and to vote on Ordinances 2012-05 and 2012-06 together; Councilmember Loftus seconded and the motion Passed UNANIMOUSLY.

**C. Second Reading of Ordinance 2012-06 – An Ordinance Amending and Restating Ordinance 1991-1 Authorizing and Providing for the Issuance of Water and Sewer System revenue Bonds of the City of Isle of Palms, South Carolina; Prescribing the Form of Bonds, Limiting the Payment of the Bonds Solely to the Revenues Derived from the Operation of the System and Pledging the Revenues to Such Payment; Creating Certain Funds and Providing for Payments into Such Funds; and Making Other Covenants and Agreements in Connection with the Foregoing.**

**MOTION: Councilmember Ward moved to suspend the reading and to approve for Second Reading Ordinances 2012-05 and 2012-06; Councilmember Bergwerf seconded and the motion PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

#### **10. Miscellaneous Business**

Proposed Change to the Commercial District Recommend by the Planning Commission

Mayor Cronin explained that the Planning Commission's recommendations include cleaning up language in the existing code, particularly when hotels were eliminated from the commercial zoning district. Changes were not made relative to rooming houses, boarding houses and tourist homes. These changes will come before City Council at the September meeting.

#### **4. Reports from Standing Committees**

##### **A. Ways and Means Committee**

From the meeting of August 21, Mayor Cronin reported that General Fund expenditures for the first month of the fiscal year were two percent (2%) lower than the target of eight percent (8%) while General Fund revenues were at three percent (3%) of budget. General Fund cash on-hand was at thirty-two percent (32%) of annual budgeted General Fund expenditures. All tourism funds ended FY12 with at least an eight percent (8%) increase over FY11. No activity took place on the Beach Restoration Project in July; engineering, surveying and drawings were included in July activity for Phase II Drainage. A meeting is scheduled for Wednesday to review the work product from Civil Site Environmental.

1. Award of a contract to Safe Industries in the amount of \$27,086.31 for self-contained breathing apparatus (SCBAs) (budgeted expenditure; state contract pricing)

**MOTION: Mayor Cronin moved to award the contract to Safe Industries as stated above; Councilmember Bettelli seconded and the motion PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

2. Award of a contract to Love Chevrolet in the amount of \$18,953.00 for one (1) 2012 Chevrolet Colorado regular cab for BSOs (budgeted expenditure; state contract pricing)

**MOTION: Mayor Cronin moved to award the contract to Love Chevrolet as stated; Councilmember Bergwerf seconded and the motion PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

3. Award of a 5-year contract to Docu-graphics in the amount \$35,364.00 for new copiers for General Government, Fire and Police Departments (budgeted expenditure; state contract pricing)

**MOTION: Mayor Cronin moved to award the contract to Docu-graphics as stated; Councilmember Loftus seconded and the motion PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

4. Consideration of Stantec Proposal Combining Wayfinding Signs and Beach Access Parking

Administrator Tucker recounted that the City has embarked on a wayfinding sign initiative concentrated to the core of the island initially in an effort to direct beach visitors to public parking areas and the County Park; to accomplish this goal, the City hired Stantec, a full-service consulting firm that has on its staff traffic engineers. Phase One has been completed and Council has approved the new non-traditional signage. In order to get those signs installed in SCDOT rights-of-way, SCDOT has indicated that it will not issue the encroachment permit until such time as the City commits to a long-term, phased implementation of non-traditional signage island-wide.

In a series of meetings, beach access parking was also discussed, and it was noted that the City has been working on that issue since 2009. Suggestions were made that wayfinding signs and beach access parking were interdependent and should be addressed in tandem; Stantec was, therefore, asked to incorporate beach access parking as it widened the scope of its original contract. The proposal before Council was a menu of services that includes the phased in, island-wide wayfinding sign initiative and beach access parking.

The Administrator noted that Mount Pleasant has approved two (2) new, large subdivisions; one of which will be just across the Connector. Those homeowners will choose Isle of Palms as their beach destination bringing more visitors to the island, thereby exacerbating an already problem parking situation at the Isle of Palms and making parking management more important than ever.

Initially, Stantec will study the volumes of work the Planning Commission and City Council have produced since 2009 in their efforts to manage beach access parking, proceed to meetings with the City staff and meshing with the wayfinding sign program through facilities and sign inventories. This second phase totals eighteen thousand nine hundred thirty dollars (\$18,930.00).

Included in the FY13 budget are the following:

Parking Management Program	\$30,000
Welcome sign at foot of Connector	15,000
Front Beach signs	<u>2,000</u>
	\$47,000

Spent or committed to-date are the following:

Stantec's original contact	\$ 9,500
Non-traditional signage	<u>18,400</u>
	\$27,900
Remaining in FY13 budget	<u>\$19,100</u>

The total combined project costs are forty-nine thousand seven hundred twenty dollars (\$49,720.00).

**MOTION: Councilmember Ward moved to proceed with Phase Two of the amended Stantec contract in the amount of \$18,930.00; Councilmember Carroll seconded.**

Mayor Cronin asked Mr. Regenbogen what kind of timeline Phase Two would follow; Mr. Regenbogen answered that Stantec could complete the work by Christmas 2012. That would include getting the encroachment permit from SCDOT for the approved signs from Phase One and having alternate beach access parking solutions to present to Council.

Councilmember Carroll asked what other projects Stantec has done that are impacted so profoundly by tourism; Mr. Regenbogen referenced the Montague Avenue streetscape in North Charleston and a parking study done at Joint Base Charleston that involved twenty-seven thousand (27,000) acres of military and federal facilities with their related parking issues.

Councilmember Loftus asked for a "ballpark" estimate of reimbursable expenses; Mr. Regenbogen stated that the reimbursables were the display boards that were used in Phase One which run approximately five hundred dollars (\$500).

Councilmember Buckhannon stated that he was concerned about encroachments in the rights-of-way as the City was launching into this program; he asked if Stantec could work with SCDOT on encroachments as they work on the signage and beach access parking. He stated that there was no point in pursuing wayfinding signs in the encroachments into the rights-of-way if the City could not remove the encroachments in the rights-of-way. Mr. Regenbogen assured the Councilmember that these encroachments would be an important consideration, and, based on Stantec's working relationship with SCDOT, he hoped they could use the relationship to leverage such decisions.

**VOTE: The motion PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

Upon returning to the report on the Ways and Means Committee meeting, Mayor Cronin related that the final action of the meeting was the approval of the draft FY13 CARTA budget. As the City's representative on the CARTA board, Councilmember Bettelli announced that CARTA had received a federal grant of several million dollars that allowed CARTA to pay off a line of credit.

The next meeting of Ways and Means will be Tuesday, September 18, 2012.

## **B. Public Safety Committee**

The Public Safety Committee meeting of August 9<sup>th</sup> started with a discussion of wayfinding signs, and the Committee recommended combining the wayfinding sign initiative with beach access parking, asking that Stantec widen the scope of their contract to do so. In addition, Chief Buckhannon provided an update on the requested signs for 42<sup>nd</sup> to 57<sup>th</sup> Avenue; SCDOT has approved the signs, but has not yet installed them. The Committee also moved for the drafting of an amendment to the City Code for "No Parking on Pavement." Administrator Tucker and Chiefs Buckhannon and Graham provided an update on the Charleston County Consolidated Dispatch, explaining that the City will "go live" with the Tri-tech CAD system on September 25<sup>th</sup> – this is the same system that the dispatchers use at the Consolidated Dispatch Center. This discussion prompted more dialogue on the need for all houses on the island to have clearly visible numbers on their homes and a prominent display of the physical address inside short-term rental properties. Other topics of discussion were overflow parking at the marina and a proposal to extend the hours of operation of the parking kiosks to 7 p.m. on Front Beach in an effort to deter large groups from coming late in the day and creating havoc on weekends. In addition to the departmental reports, Chief Buckhannon informed the Committee that, based on comments made at a public meeting in July, officers are now getting out of their vehicles and walking from the Connector, through the wooded area, to the back of Island Center.

The Public Safety Committee will meet again at 5 p.m. on Tuesday, September 11, 2012 in the Conference Room.

Councilmember Bettelli invited the residents on 2<sup>nd</sup> through 5<sup>th</sup> Avenues and the 100-500 blocks of Charleston and Carolina Boulevards to join members of the IOP Police Department for a "Meet and Greet" at St. Mark's Lutheran Church parking lot from 6 p.m. to 7 p.m. on Thursday, August 30, 2012. This will afford residents an opportunity to meet their neighbors and the IOP Police Department, to receive useful information and to discuss neighborhood trends and issues. An advertising flyer is included with the historical record of this meeting.

Councilmember Ward voiced his opposition to extending kiosk hours on Front Beach; he stated that he knows many residents who do not go to Front Beach until the kiosks are not operating. Councilmember Bettelli reiterated that the Committee had a great deal of work to do on this topic before making any recommendations to City Council.

## **C. Public Works Committee**

From the Public Works Committee meeting of August 7<sup>th</sup>, Councilmember Buckhannon related Jim Owens' comments about recycling bins in the right-of-way and Wayne Moseley's requested assistance from the City to fill the pot holes on 18<sup>th</sup> and Cassina Avenues. Director Pitts had reported that, in June and July, Public Works personnel ran many beach sweeps to remove metal from the beach in the form of broken or discarded chairs, tent frames and a few umbrellas. The Public Works Department ended the year approximately twenty thousand dollars (\$20,000) under budget in vehicle maintenance. Single-stream recycling was introduced to half of the island in June; contact has been made with Charleston County to remove bins delivered to some of the rental properties on the island. Once the entire island has the new ninety-five gallon (95 gal.) recycling bins, Director Pitts anticipates a reduction in the garbage

tonnage being taken to the Bees Ferry Landfill. The drainage repairs on Hartnett Boulevard have been completed and for much less than was originally estimated. The Committee agreed to delay action on adding recycling bins to the rollout cart ordinance until the entire island has the new single-stream recycling bins. The Committee received an appeal from a resident related to silting under his dock coming from the 41<sup>st</sup> Avenue ditch; the resident was asking to be reimbursed for the additional dredging that was needed to remove the buildup under and around his dock. The Committee asked for the project manager to attend the next meeting and for a review of the City's decisions relative to the resident's dock. The final topic of discussion was the City's street sweeping contract; since the contract was re-bid and awarded to a new vendor a couple of years ago, the City has been dissatisfied with the work. The vendor has been requested to repeat the sweeps on numerous occasions; it unknown whether the vendor does not have the correct equipment to accomplish the task or whether the vendor's equipment is not functioning properly. The Administrator wanted the Committee to be aware of the problems because the City may need to change vendors before the end of the contract and to change will have a budgetary impact.

The next meeting of the Public Works Committee will be at 5 p.m. on Thursday, September 6, 2012 in the Conference Room.

Mayor Cronin took a moment to inform Council that, while the engineering has been done for the widening of the IOP Connector from the Mount Pleasant side of the Connector through the intersection at Rifle Range Road, less than half a million dollars (\$500,000) has been allocated to the project which is expected to cost more than two million five hundred twenty thousand dollars (\$2,520,500.) to complete. The project is considered "a carryover project" by the Charleston County Transportation Sales Tax Committee.

#### **D. Recreation Committee**

From the meeting of August 9<sup>th</sup>, Councilmember Bergwerf commented that "the Recreation Department is the heart of the community and busy as ever." Gearing up for the fall, registration is occurring for softball, 3-on-3 basketball and soccer; table tennis has become so popular that the Department now has morning and afternoon leagues, as well as a doubles league. The IOP Beach Run was a tremendous success with three hundred ninety-two (392) runners; fourteen (14) teams competed in the 14<sup>th</sup> Annual Half Rubber Tournament. Among the new programs is the "IOP TV Production Crew" being taught by Doug and Garia Wilmer; the participants will learn to be comfortable behind and in front of the camera. The Community Wellness Fair will take place on Thursday, September 13<sup>th</sup> from 7 a.m. to 11 a.m.; island residents are invited to join it and will be able to get a flu shot for a nominal fee. Staff members continue to update the message boards at Breach Inlet and at the foot of the Connector, as well as laying the white line along Palm Boulevard. The new lights are nearing completion and will be put to use for the fall programs. The Recreation Department is holding another photo contest; the deadline for submissions is November 9<sup>th</sup>.

The Recreation Committee will meet next at 4 p.m. on Thursday, October 11<sup>th</sup>.

#### **E. Personnel Committee**

At the meeting of August 7<sup>th</sup>, the Committee was informed that the City has eight (8) persons serving on boards and commissions whose terms will expire on December 31, 2012 and that letters have been mailed to each of these persons asking them if they wish to be considered for reappointment to the same board, if they wish to be considered for a different board or if they prefer not to be considered for an appointment in 2013. In addition, an advertisement has been placed in both *The Island Eye* and *The Moultrie News* notifying residents of the vacancies and soliciting applications. The letters and the advertisement quote a deadline of August 31, 2012. The Committee agreed to hold interviews on Monday, October 1 and Monday, October 8; interviews will be scheduled during the day when possible.

The Personnel Committee will meet next at 9 a.m. on Thursday, September 6, 2012 in the Conference Room.

July Safety Sweepstakes winners were announced as

Recreation – Karrie Ferrell  
Police – Robert Nelson

Public Works – Willie Powell  
Fire – Tywan Heyward

#### **F. Real Property Committee**

From the meeting of August 15<sup>th</sup>, Councilmember Loftus stated that Will Millman, Charlie Jones, Phillip Smith and Ronnie Heron addressed the Committee during *Citizens' Comments* expressing their opposition to opening up Ocean Boulevard to parking for beach visitors. Councilmember Loftus noted that some members of the community have the mistaken idea that Council is seeking to find additional parking on the island for beach visitors when, in reality, Council is trying to find ways to better manage the existing parking to maintain the quality of life for residents. City staff worked diligently researching ways to make the municipal parking lots a revenue source twelve (12) months a year, but the revenue to be generated was not significant enough to proceed. Phillip Smith appealed to the Committee for reimbursement of fees related to the additional dredging at his dock due to the silting from the 41<sup>st</sup> Avenue ditch; members of the Committee asked to have the project manager attend the September meeting and to obtain a timeline beginning with Mr. Smith's initial request for dredging at his dock. The Committee discussed overflow parking at the marina as well as the replacement of the TidalWave dock and the engineering/design for reconfiguring all of the marina docks.

The Real Property meets next at 5 p.m. on Thursday, September 13, 2013 in the Conference Room.

### **5. Reports from City Officers, Board and Commissions**

- A. Accommodations Tax Advisory Committee** – no meeting in August
- B. Board of Zoning Appeals** – minutes attached
- C. Planning Commission** – minutes attached

6. **Reports from Special of Joint Committees – None**
7. **Petitions Received, Referrer or Disposed of – None**
8. **Bills Already in Possession of Council – handled earlier in the meeting**
9. **Introduction of New Bills, Resolutions and Proclamations**

**Resolution for the Adoption of the Revised Charleston Regional Hazard Mitigation Plan**

Mayor Cronin asked Administrator Tucker to read the resolution into the record. A copy is attached to the historical record of the meeting.

Mayor Cronin stated that he was impressed with the City's contributions to the plan; he indicated that the City's plan was much more comprehensive in its work effort and actions that have been taken over the past four or five (4 or 5) years.

**MOTION: Councilmember Bettelli moved to adopt the Revised Charleston Regional Hazard Mitigation Plan; Councilmember Bergwerf seconded and the motion PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

**10. Miscellaneous Business**

Councilmember Buckhannon congratulated Administrator Tucker and the City staff for earning a score of 104-105% on the annual safety audit which will lower the City's premiums on Workers Compensation coverage and ultimately keeps taxes low for the residents.

Councilmember Stone stated that repair work will begin on the water tower in the coming weeks; the initial phase will be the installation of two (2) temporary towers that will house the communications antennae that are currently on the water tower. These temporary towers will be one hundred fifty feet (150 ft.) tall – taller than the water tower, but will be temporarily in place until February or March 2013.

**Next Meeting Date: 7 p.m., Tuesday, September 25, 2012**

11. **Executive Session – not needed**
12. **Adjourn**

**MOTION: Councilmember Loftus moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:58 p.m.; Councilmember Bettelli seconded and the motion PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

Respectfully submitted:

Marie Copeland, City Clerk