

Special Meeting of City Council

5:00 p.m., Tuesday, February 18, 2014
City Hall, 1207 Palm Boulevard, Isle of Palms, South Carolina

A Special Meeting of City Council was held at 5:00 pm. on Tuesday, February 18, 2014 in Council Chambers of City Hall, 1207 Palm Boulevard, Isle of Palms, South Carolina. Attending the meeting were Councilmembers Bettelli, Buckhannon, Carroll, Ferencz, Harrington, Loftus and Ward, Mayor Cronin, Administrator Tucker, Attorney Halversen, Assistant to the Administrator Dziuban and City Clerk Copeland. Councilmember Bergwerf's absence was excused, and a quorum was present to conduct business. Invited guests at this meeting were Bill Taylor of the Municipal Association of South Carolina and Frances Cantwell, well-known Charleston attorney.

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.

2. **Introduction to Services Offered by Municipal Association of South Carolina (MASC) by Bill Taylor**

The Mayor introduced Mr. Taylor and invited him to the podium for his presentation regarding the Municipal Association and the work it does for the state and for local municipalities.

Mr. Taylor related that he is one (1) of two (2) Field Services Managers for MASC; he explained that MASC is a not-for-profit and non-partisan organization that was formed approximately eighty (80) years ago to help the two hundred sixty-nine (269) communities in the state to better their opportunities for managing their local governments. This mission is accomplished through three (3) divisions, i.e. Shared Knowledge, Shared Solutions and Shared Voices. The Shared Knowledge division encompasses nine (9) affiliate organizations that are primarily staff-driven and staff-related, with the exception of the newest organization the Association of South Carolina Mayors. Staff training is provided through these associations which include the Municipal Court Administration, Municipal Human Resources, Municipal Finance Officers, Clerks and Treasurers, Municipal Technology, Municipal Power Systems, Association of Stormwater Managers, Business Licensing Officials, Municipal Attorneys, Community Development and Utility Billing Associations. This division also offers three (3) comprehensive training institutes; they are the Municipal Clerks and Treasurers Institute, the Local Government Information Technology Institute and the Elected Officials Institute of Government. The Shared Solutions division includes the collections programs that include Brokers Tax, Insurance Tax, Off-set Debt and Telecommunications Tax. Self-funded insurance programs also fall under this division; the South Carolina Insurance Risk Financing Fund (SCMIRF) provides property and liability coverage, tort liability and vehicles, and the South Carolina Municipal Insurance Trust (SCMIT) program that provides workers' compensation insurance. The Shared Voices division is the legislative and public relations area. In the "Cities Means

Business” campaign, discussions are held about the benefits of collaborating with business officials and talking about what is important in individual cities. From the regional advocacy meetings held in September, staffers got input from the local municipalities throughout the state about what could occur legislatively that could improve their operations; this information was the basis for building MASC’s agenda for the upcoming legislative year.

Mr. Taylor continued his presentation by briefly reviewing the information included in the hand-out; the handout is attached to the historical record of the meeting.

In conclusion, Mr. Taylor stated that he wanted the IOP Council to view MASC as its “resource on issues relative to local government because (MASC) is working for and with (Council) as elected officials and local staff as well.”

3. Executive Session to receive legal advice regarding potential claims related to the South Carolina Freedom of Information Act and Ethics Laws which pertain to the conduct of Councilmembers, Council and Committee meetings by Frances Cantwell.

MOTION: Councilmember Carroll moved to go into Executive Session at 5:23 p.m.; Councilmember Loftus seconded and the motion PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

Council returned to regular session at 6:05 p.m., and Mayor Cronin announced that no action and no votes had been taken in Executive Session.

4. Adjournment

MOTION: Councilmember Bettelli moved to adjourn the meeting at 6:06 p.m.; Councilmember Buckhannon seconded and the motion PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

Respectfully submitted:

Marie Copeland
City Clerk