

CITY COUNCIL

6:00 p.m., Tuesday, January 26, 2016

The regular meeting of City Council was called to order at 6:00 p.m., Tuesday, January 26, 2016 in Council Chambers of City Hall, 1207 Palm Boulevard, Isle of Palms, South Carolina. Attending the meeting were Councilmembers Bergwerf, Bettelli, Carroll, Ferencz, Harrington, Kinghorn and Rice, Mayor Cronin, Administrator Tucker, Attorney Halversen, Assistant Administrator Fragoso 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.

2. Election of Mayor ProTem

Councilmember Bettelli nominated Councilmember Bergwerf for the position of Mayor ProTem; Councilmember Harrington seconded the nomination. Councilmember Ward nominated Councilmember Carroll for Mayor ProTem, and Councilmember Ferencz seconded. Councilmember Bergwerf was elected Mayor ProTem on a vote of 6 to 3; Councilmembers Carroll, Ferencz and Ward voted for Councilmember Carroll.

3. Reading of the Journals of Previous Meetings

MOTION: Mayor ProTem Bergwerf moved to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of November 17, 2015, the Public Hearing of November 17, 2015, the Special Meetings of December 1, 2015, and the Special Meetings of January 5, 2016 as submitted; Councilmember Bettelli seconded and the motion PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

4. Citizens' Comments

Julia Tucker of 2303 Hartnett stated that she was attending the meeting to voice her opposition to putting four hundred forty-four (444) signs on the island. Since they were DOT approved signs, she assumed that they must be in the air, which meant to her that they will compete with road signs. In her opinion, the new signs along with the existing signs will look "trashy." Ms. Tucker said that she has lived on Hartnett since 1989, and she has never seen a beach-goer parked in her yard or along the street. For her, ordering four hundred forty-four (444) signs in case someone were to park on Hartnett to go to the beach is an expense and a visual nightmare. She indicated that she would have to buy parking passes for her friends and her daughter's friends to visit them; therefore, she saw the Managed Beach Parking plan as causing a problem on her street, not solving one. She recommended that the signs be installed in the areas that have historically had parking problems; if the City insisted on installing the signs, she asked that they be removed at the end of the season.

Ann Maughon, 7 Wills Way, reported that she had attended the January Public Safety Committee meeting to voice her concern over drivers not stopping on Palm Boulevard to let people cross to go to the beach other than in the areas of the brick pavers. She asked that the City paint white lines at every major intersection to indicate that drivers should stop for pedestrians.

Mike Maughon, 7 Wills Way, reported that he also had spoken at the Public Safety about the coyotes on the island. He stated that he thought that the City should have done more to warn the

residents of the problem. At the meeting, he learned that the City had developed a brochure to mail to residents about coyotes, but had decided to delay mailing it until the managed parking plan was completed; he wondered how many cats or dogs would go missing before the information was sent out. He opined that many residents of the island have no idea about the magnitude of the problem. The information on the City's website from the Humane Society relative to living with coyotes was based on a premise that all animals should be protected; in his opinion, coyotes "are not animals but vermin like rats with no redeeming qualities other than being natural born killers." He also thought that the City should do more to control the coyote population on the island and begin trapping them like Sullivan's Island. He indicated that the habitat for the coyotes was the golf course and marshy areas into the neighborhoods.

Mayor Cronin stated that he had asked the Administrator to put together a public forum with public safety personnel and representatives from DNR at the Recreation Center to discuss coyotes.

Jeff Evans, 3301 Hartnett, said that he wished the City did not have to have so many signs and he was concerned about the signs going into his neighborhood; in the twenty plus (20+) years that he has lived in his home, he has never had beach-goers park in his yard. He acknowledged that other areas of the island have serious problems, and he was pleased to see them addressed. The thought of someone writing tickets for visitors to his home because they forgot to get a sticker was one he did not like; in his opinion, the managed parking plan was punishing the residents rather than controlling the beach parking.

Guy Mead, 3005 Hartnett, stated that he has never seen a traffic problem in his neighborhood, even on July 4th, and he has lived on the island since the 1970s. He expressed the feeling that the island has too many signs already.

5. Reports from Standing Committees

A. Ways and Means Committee

At the regular meeting of January 19th, Mayor Cronin was re-elected Chair and Councilmember Kinghorn was elected Vice Chair. The financial statements were for fifty percent (50%) of the year, and revenues in the General Fund were running fourteen percent (14%) ahead of the same period in FY15 due primarily to the advance payments of Property Taxes from Charleston County. General Fund expenditures averaged for all departments were at forty-four percent (44%) of the General Fund annual budget. The City's cash position was one point nine million dollars (\$1,900,000) ahead of the same period last year; the increase was attributed to the new Beach Preservation Fee. In the tourism funds, Municipal Accommodations Taxes were four percent (4%) ahead of FY15 year-to-date, and the Hospitality Taxes were running ten percent (10%) ahead of the same period in FY15. Mayor Cronin noted that fifty thousand dollars (\$50,000) of State Accommodations Taxes in the annual budget is earmarked for the City to sponsor activities/events that will bring people to the island; he is proposing a meeting between himself, property management companies and members of the food and beverage industries on the island to make them aware of this pool of money to learn whether they have any ideas to promote the island in the off-season. In addition, the Mayor suggested the City making a five-minute (5 min.) video about life on the island and to give a copy to businesses on the island for them to use for their advertising – on their websites, pull pictures from it in their brochures/pamphlets, etc. The

report from the internal controls audit will be given at the February meeting. The City's commitment with Greene Finney and Horton for the annual financial audit has expired; staff was looking for input from Council on whether they wanted to renew with Greene Finney and Horton or go out for bid. Mayor Cronin stated that he thought it might be useful to look around at other qualified firms; Administrator Tucker suggested writing into the request for proposal an alternate for the firms who respond to include an internal controls audit for one (1) department selected at random each year. The Committee also voted to change a personal day of choice holiday for each employee to a declared holiday beginning in 2016 and continuing into the future; the day selected was Presidents' Day, February 15, 2016.

- 1. Award of a contract to Mobile Communications for 4 portable radios and accessories for the Parking Management Program in the amount of \$19,018.02, state contract pricing.**

MOTION: Mayor Cronin moved to award a contract to Mobile Communications for 4 radios to support the Parking Management Program; Councilmember Bettelli seconded and the motion PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

- 2. Award of a contract to Love Chevrolet for one 2016 Chevrolet Colorado Pickup Truck in the amount of \$27,611, state contract pricing, for the Parking Management Program.**

MOTION: Mayor Cronin moved to award a contract to Love Chevrolet for a small truck to support the Parking Management Program; Councilmember Bettelli seconded and the motion PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

- 3. Award of a Contract to Benson Ford for one 2016 Ford Police Interceptor Sedan (marked) in the amount of \$24,415, state contract pricing**

MOTION: Mayor Cronin moved to award a contract to Benson Ford for one 2016 Ford Interceptor Sedan (marked) as stated above; Councilmember Bergwerf seconded and the motion PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

- 4. Designation of Presidents' Day as a declared holiday in lieu of personal day of choice for 2016 and subsequent years.**

MOTION: Mayor Cronin moved to make Presidents' Day a declared holiday for 2016 and subsequent years; Councilmember Bergwerf seconded.

Councilmember Ward stated that, in earlier discussions of holidays, the personnel costs of a holiday to the City was approximately ten thousand two hundred dollars (\$10,200); he has heard department managers talking about savings and he asked for clarification.

Administrator Tucker acknowledged that there would be offsetting savings because, in the Police and Fire Departments, the savings would be in additional overtime or double time expense to cover for the person on holiday; in addition, personnel in the Police Department are discouraged from taking time off between March and the end of September.

Mayor Cronin added that each department was going to absorb the additional payroll expense.

Another factor to consider was that residents of the island assume the City offices/services are closed whenever the State and/or Charleston County close, which for Public Works would mean that residents would not put their garbage out for pickup, and then call for special pickups on the following day.

VOTE: The motion PASSED on a vote of 6 to 3 with Councilmembers Carroll, Ferencz and Ward cast the dissenting votes.

- 5. Award of a contract to Vic Bailey Ford for one F350 Ford 4x4 truck with a 6-yard garbage hopper in the amount of \$44,26, state contract pricing**

MOTION: Mayor Cronin moved to award a contract to Vic Bailey Ford for a 4x4 truck as detailed above in the amount of \$44,206; Councilmember Ward seconded and the motion PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

- 6. Award of a contract to Motorola for radio/walkie maintenance in the amount of \$12,858, state contract pricing, for the Police Department (\$6,228) and the Fire Department (\$6,630)**

MOTION: Mayor Cronin moved to award the contract for radio/walkie maintenance to Motorola as noted above; Councilmember Bettelli seconded and the motion PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

- 7. Award of a contract to A&H Company, Inc. in the amount of \$58,900 for fabrication and installation of signs for the Managed Beach Access Parking Plan**

MOTION: Mayor Cronin moved to award a contract to A&H Company, Inc. in the amount of \$58,900 for Managed Beach Access Parking signs; Councilmember Bergwerf seconded.

Councilmember Ward reported that the Public Works Committee held a Special Meeting the prior evening, and a motion was made and unanimously approved for the signage for the parking plan to be phased in concentrating south of the Connector, Palm Boulevard and the intersection of side streets on the north end of the island.

The Mayor stated that the City has an ordinance that defines the parking plan in detail, and to implement that, the City must have the signage; Councilmember Ward's suggestion was seeking to modify the plan, i.e. the ordinance.

Councilmember Ward opined that many residents of the island were shocked when they saw the maps with pens indicating new signs and where they would be installed. The Councilmember indicated that he was trying to learn where the number of signs came from, how specific the plan was, was phasing the signs possible, etc. He also questioned the possibility of taking the signs down at the end of the season and storing them until the next spring.

Mayor Cronin responded that these actions could be studied by Council in the future.

Councilmember Ward said that he wanted to know the City's intent before the season starts.

Mayor Cronin commented that the information has been available for months for Council and the plan cannot be enforced without the proper signage.

Councilmember Ferencz quoted from the parking ordinance that the language is "appropriate signage;" it does not specify a sign on every corner. The consensus of people with whom she has spoken has been that, in areas south of the Connector that are known to be problem areas, put signage there, but signage in the middle of the island was unnecessary. She questioned the need for three hundred forty-two (342) signs for "Resident Permit Parking" where there is no beach-goer parking issue.

The Mayor interjected that what she was describing was Concept B which was voted down in favor of Concept C.

Councilmember Ferencz said that, until she saw the street maps with colored pens showing the placement of signs, she had no concept of the number of signs involved; in her opinion, she was never given all of the information on which to make a qualified decision.

Councilmember Bergwerf remarked that Council had "established the ordinance to have an enforceable plan to protect the neighborhoods, the finger streets . . ." Council was not to decide which corners got a sign or what kind of sign; the City hired experts to do that. She stated that "the goal was not to write tickets, but to protect the neighborhoods."

Councilmember Ferencz indicated that she wanted a compromise; she understood that the City was going to roll out a plan and tweak it at the end of the season. She was asking to tweak it before the season started.

Mayor Cronin pointed out that the motion before Council was to award a contract, and Council either would or would not; if the contract was not awarded, the parking plan would not be implemented in 2016.

Councilmember Bergwerf said that she had talked with residents from 57th Avenue to Breach Inlet and they expect a parking plan this season.

A discussion of taking the signs down in the fall would be a discussion for later into or after the season.

Councilmember Rice opined that the number of signs was excessive and that the only way she could support the motion was with the caveat that they come down after the season.

Councilmember Carroll stated that he was in favor of going forward with the acquisition of the signs; however, he agreed that the interior of the island did not need "resident permit parking" signs.

If a decision was made to take the signs down in the fall, the discussion would be appropriate during budget preparation since the City has no place to store them or anyone to take them down in the fall and re-install them in the spring.

VOTE: The motion PASSED on a vote of 6 to 3; Councilmembers Ferencz, Rice and Ward cast dissenting votes.

8. Authorization for utilizing an amount not to exceed \$25,000 from the Beach Preservation Fee for emergency beach work to re-establish dunes

MOTION: Mayor Cronin moved to use no more than \$25,000 from the Beach Preservation Fee fund for emergency beach work to re-establish dunes; Councilmember Bergwerf seconded.

Taking heed of Councilmember Carroll's remarks from the Ways and Means Committee meeting, the Mayor stated that the Beach Preservation Fee monies should be focused on beach accesses; the access at 49th Avenue being a prime example.

VOTE: The motion PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

9. Consideration of increased daily rate of \$8.00 per weekday and \$10.00 for weekends and holidays for parking in the City lots

MOTION: Mayor Cronin moved to increase the daily parking lot rates as stated above; Councilmember Carroll seconded.

At the Ways and Means Committee, the decision was made to put out a request for bid, but, depending on the bids, Council could continue to consider managing the lots itself although personnel must be hired.

Councilmember Harrington recalled that, in the past when the lots were under City management, the lots were staffed by off-duty personnel from the Police and Fire Departments.

Administrator Tucker cautioned that both the Police and Fire Departments have shift personnel; therefore, if they were to also work the parking lots, these personnel would be earning overtime wages, having already completed their normal shifts.

Mayor Cronin added that, if the City were to hire an independent contractor, staffing would be his responsibility.

Councilmember Kinghorn suggested that the RFB include that the contractor use an automated system, as well as consider options for raising revenue in the off-season.

VOTE: The motion PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

The next Ways and Means meeting will be at 5:45 p.m., Tuesday, February 16, 2016.

B. Public Safety Committee

From the meeting of January 6th, Councilmember Bettelli reported that he had been elected Chair and Councilmember Bergwerf had been elected Vice Chair. Christine Durant, Deputy County Administrator, and Chief Medical Operations Officer Todd McGeorge attended the meeting to inform the City of the expansion of the Charleston County EMS; implementation of Phase One will take place in February 2016 by locating a QRV on the island during peak hours of 10:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m. seven (7) days a week staffed by a paramedic capable of full response and intervention. The implementation of Phase Two will be in July or early August with a QRV located on the island twenty-four (24) hours a day, seven (7) days week and fifty-two (52) weeks a year. Also in July, the County plans to add more transport/ambulances to their fleet. These actions mean that the County will be adding fifty-one (51) employees. As noted earlier, Mr. and Mrs. Maughon attended the meeting voicing their concerns over the coyote population on the island and asking that white lines be painted on Palm Boulevard to assist pedestrians to cross safely. Also speaking to the Committee was Allen Bowen on the subject of the new placards required for rental properties that state the need for "absolute silence." In a discussion of the amendments to the noise ordinance, the Committee made some suggestions that have been incorporated into the version before Council at this meeting. The Committee also discussed the new placard but took no action. The single response to the request for bid for the manufacture and installation of signs for the managed beach access parking was also reviewed; the Committee was told that the bid had been rejected and that a new bid had been advertised with an opening scheduled for January 12th. The Committee unanimously approved the purchases for radios and a small pickup truck for the managed beach access parking program as well as a replacement police sedan.

In the combined November and December 2015 Fire Department report, Councilmember Bettelli reported that the trucks had required a lot of maintenance following the October storm; some of the damage was covered by insurance, but FEMA has indicated that they might not reimburse for some of the damages because they considered the Department's response to a fire call during the storm as normal wear and tear to the vehicles. In December, personnel responded to fifty-two (52) calls, of which twenty-four (24) were EMS calls. For the year 2015, the Department wrote one seventy-eight (178) incident reports and attended to four hundred ninety-eight (498) patients. Twenty-one (21) fire inspections were performed in December where thirteen (13) violations were found. Members of the Fire Department were involved in the typical public relations activities ranging from assisting residents to rescuing a cat from a tree.

Captain Usry reported that, on December 3rd, officers responded to a call at construction site where an unknown female had gotten into a worker's truck and gone to sleep; investigation revealed that she had outstanding warrants with the state Department of Probation, Parole and Pardon so she was lodged in the Charleston County Detention Center. Having received information about a possible underage drinking party in the 900 block of Carolina, officers arrived and made contact with several underage subjects consuming beer; twenty (20) youth were arrested and released to their parents. Telecommunication Specialists answered forty-three hundred seventy-eight (4,378) calls in December of which thirty-seven hundred thirty-one (3,731) were for the Police Department; they answered a total of sixty thousand forty-six (66,046) calls for the year. Three hundred eight (308) traffic stops were made in the month with one hundred four (104) tickets

issued; the island experienced one hundred eleven (111) traffic collisions in 2015. One hundred six (106) reports were written in December and forty-four (44) arrests were made. In 2015, officers received two thousand nine hours (2,009 hrs.) of training. Four (4) noise complaints were made in the month, and three (3) of them received warnings. Captain Usry announced that Detective Sergeant Swain has been promoted to Captain of Support Services.

Only three (3) coyote sightings were reported to the Police Department in December.

The Administrator also announced that the City's new website would be launched on Monday, January 18th; it will have a new look and be more user-friendly.

The next meeting of the Public Safety Committee will be at 9:30 a.m., Monday, February 8, 2016 in the Conference Room.

Councilmember Ward noted that residents of the island are losing their pets at an alarming rate, and the growing coyote population is blamed. From a proactive standpoint, he asked what the City could do about the coyote issue.

Mayor Cronin reiterated that he has asked Administrator Tucker to put together a forum to bring some technical expertise to talk about the options available to the City. Councilmember Bettelli urged residents to report their sightings of coyotes; he added that Sullivan's Island has resorted to leg traps in an effort to reduce the coyote population.

In addition, Councilmember Ward asked for the status of the rental placard stating "absolute silence;" Councilmember Bettelli indicated that the language on the signs has not been changed.

Administrator Tucker noted that one (1) suggestion had been made that the placards should be required in rental properties of a certain size, not small spaces like condominiums or small houses. According to the Administrator, the goal of the noise placards was to remind people who are using large outdoor spaces, large decks/porches or pools that the City has a noise ordinance and, if they are making noise that is disturbing people in the quiet repose of their homes, they were violating the ordinance.

C. Public Works Committee

At the meeting of January 7th, Councilmember Ward was elected Chair and Councilmember Kinghorn was elected Vice Chair.

Annual yard debris was up about forty tons (40 T) in 2015 over 2014; garbage collection for 2015 was up only seventeen tons (17 T) over 2014; the reduction in tonnage shows the amount of recycling the County removes from the island. The Committee again discussed extending sewer service on the island to replace septic systems; the Administrator's understanding is that the Water and Sewer Commission has indicated that they do not have a mechanism to extend service to be available without some sort of financial commitment from an entire street; therefore, if it was not mandatory to tie-in for everyone, they do not have the ability to fund the extension of service. The Committee will continue discussions with the Water and Sewer Commission on this important issue. The Administrator reported that staff has ordered the survey and the design for the

proposed golf cart path between 20th Avenue and the Island Center; as soon as the City receives the completed design, staff will submit it to SCDOT for approval. Administrator Tucker stated that the off-season maintenance on the public restrooms has been scheduled and that she and the Mayor have had their second meeting with Charleston County to request funding be included in their FY17 budget for the construction. Director Pitts reported that the Thomas and Hutton engineer has been volleying emails back and forth with him and Director Kerr relative to the NPDES improvements to the Public Works site; he is into the details of the “white” goods storage. The Director anticipates having the design ready to go to bid very soon. The Administrator reported that the City is in the process of getting pricing for the sign for the Mayor Carmen R. Bunch Park; currently Assistant Fragoso is working with two (2) vendors. Responding to Councilmember Ward’s request for an update, Administrator Tucker stated that the sign has been ordered, and the fabrication of the sign will take twenty to twenty-five (20-25) days. As approved earlier, the Committee recommended the contract award for the F350 truck.

On the subject of people who work in the Public Works Department but are employed by Staff Zone, the discussion involved the fact that they did not qualify for the employee bonus given in 2015 based on the parameters set by Council despite having worked on the island for several years. Although the City pays the Recreation Department instructors as employees, they are considered part-time and also did not meet the bonus qualifications.

Councilmember Ward recalled a meeting he and the City Administrator had with a concerned citizen about the City’s continued association with Coastal Science and Engineering as a sole source provider for consulting and engineering services relative to the beach. The Administrator said that the City currently has two (2) contracts with CSE; one is to monitor the beach for the next three (3) years and a second to pursue a permit for the next off-shore dredging project.

The next meeting of the Public Works Committee will be at 5:30 p.m., Monday, February 1st in the City Hall Conference Room.

Mayor Cronin reported meeting with the Director of the State’s Department of Parks and Recreation and that he asked for money toward the public restrooms – much more than they contributed twenty-five (25) years ago. The Director appeared shocked that they would have participated; the City Administrator thinks that the City has some records that clearly indicate that they did. The Mayor plans to get a copy to remind him that the City expects between one hundred fifty and one hundred eighty thousand dollars (\$150,000 - \$180,000) from the State.

D. Recreation Committee

At the meeting of January 11th, Councilmember Carroll was elected Chair and Councilmember Rice was elected Vice Chair.

Director Page commented that both Andy Sinwald and Aaron Sweet, who were employed in August 2014, are handling their roles as a supervisor of athletics and supervisor of special events, respectively and are doing a very good job for the Recreation Department. Adult basketball and co-ed volleyball started in January, and the youth basketball competition is in progress. The Director noted that IOP and Sullivan’s Island youth are allowed to register a week before

registration is opened for non-residents; in addition, island youth are given priority for placement on a team while non-residents might be put on a waiting list. The Director said that the Department currently does not have the capability for participants to register on-line or to pay fees on-line and can no longer take credit card payments over the phone; staff will complete the application with the caller and he/she can come in at a later time to pay with their credit card. Director Page mentioned that participation in basketball is down because a local resident has started a team for eleven and twelve (11- 12) year olds from Sullivan's Island Elementary School. City Administrator Tucker commented that the City's use of Twitter is a helpful and expedient way to disseminate information; she added that she would like to see all committee members on Twitter, as it would provide information to the members to promote news and events. Director Page mentioned that a photography class will be starting in February, and tennis and Tae kwon do continue to go well. Director Page noted that, during the month of January, the Recreation Department will host fifty-five (55) classes per week, and the building will be open about seventy-seven (77) hours per week. Forty-four (44) Keenagers attended the November potluck lunch and learned about preserving documents and photographs; in December, forty-nine (49) seniors enjoyed the potluck lunch and joined in a medley of Christmas songs led by the 1st Baptist Church Senior Choir. Director Page stated that attendance for personal training at Fire Station 1 averaged twenty-two (22) members of the Fire and Police Departments in November and December. She said that the Holiday Street Festival was another big success and had been well-attended. Upcoming events include "Doggie Day at the Rec" is coming up on Saturday, February 6th, and "Front Beach Fest" (formerly known as "Island Gras") is scheduled for Saturday, March 5th and will feature beach music. Vice Chair Rice mentioned that the Front Beach events have seemed very spread out in the past and wondered if there was a way to consolidate. Director Page responded that to rein in the event would leave out certain Front Beach businesses, but she suggested the possibility of getting other vendors or organizations to participate to fill in the space. Director Page also remarked that Ricky Daugherty joined the Recreation Department staff on November 30th as the Parks & Facilities Specialist; she stated that he is doing a great job and making repairs that have been needed for some time. Director Page stated that Robert Asero who began his duties as Parks & Grounds Maintenance in April of 2015 is also doing a great job.

Councilmember Kinghorn commented that he thought Director Page's report was very good and very thorough, but it was lengthy. He indicated that he preferred to see the statistical data with past and current comparisons and to see future events shown on a calendar.

Councilmember Kinghorn mentioned that there were three (3) issues he would like to have on next month's agenda: they are as follows:

- 1) The staff's pursuit of non-traditional funding;
- 2) Strategic partnering possibilities with other entities; and
- 3) Facility utilization/accessing future needs

Discussion ensued about opportunities for partnering with other groups, such as Wild Dunes, and increasing registration fees. City Administrator Tucker commented that the City needs to research the raising of registration fees, particularly for those families who have multiple children.

The next Recreation Committee meeting will be at 9:00 a.m., Monday, February 1, 2016.

Councilmember Carroll reminded everyone that the second event for history month at the Recreation Department will be held on Wednesday, January 27th beginning at 5:30 p.m.

E. Personnel Committee

At the first meeting of the year on January 7th, Councilmember Harrington was elected Chair and Councilmember Bettelli was elected Vice Chair. Like the Public Works Committee, the contract employees from Staff Zone who work at the Public Works Department and their relationship with the City were discussed. After considerable discussion, the suggestion was made that possibly the long-time part-time City employees could be included in the grocery gift card program for employees each year; recipients of the cards would be decided by each department manager. Department Managers all contributed to the discussion of changing the personal-day-of-choice holiday to a designated day each year; the suggested day was Presidents' Day. The Department managers supported the change and stated that the members of their departments did as well; the motion unanimously passed. The City Administrator's 2015 performance evaluation was also discussed; the approved evaluation form will be forwarded to councilmembers. Administrator Tucker also asked for the Committee to establish a list of suggested goals upon which the balance of Council would make the final decision; the topic will be on the February agenda.

The Personnel Committee will hold its next meeting at 4 p.m., Thursday, February 4th in the City Hall Conference Room.

Safety Sweepstakes Winners were announced as follows:

November 2015

Recreation Department: Holly Norton

Police Department: Diane Tarr

Fire Department: Lynn Golden

Public Works: Charles Williams

December 2015

Building Department: William Seabrook

Police Department: James Taylor

Fire Department: Jeff Stickney

Public Works: John Graham

Councilmember Carroll asked whether the City would find it less expensive to hire the five (5) Staff Zone personnel who work forty (40) hours a week.

Councilmember Harrington stated that Director Pitts has more flexibility with his staff with the contract employees; if one (1) of the regulars has something that keeps him from work one (1) day, the Director may elect not to fill the slot and accumulate enough such days that he can hire eight or ten (8-10) people during the summer season when he is busiest. He added that one (1) of the contract employees who has been on the island the longest has been offered a fulltime position on at least two (2) occasions, and twice he has declined the offer.

F. Real Property Committee

At the meeting of January 6th, the Committee elected Councilmember Bergwerf as Chair and Councilmember Rice as Vice Chair.

The Committee continued its negotiations with Morgan Creek Grill over a lease amendment they are seeking. The current lease has four (4) years remaining; the tenant's amendment would have six (6) renewals of five (5) years, or thirty (30) years. With two (2) new members of the Committee, on-site visits were suggested and have taken place. The Committee asked for a priority list of improvements, above regular and routine maintenance, the tenant plans to make to the property if the lease were extended; the list would serve as justification for approving the long-term lease. Mr. Clarke agreed to provide such a list at the February meeting. The Committee discussed the possibility of the City managing the municipal parking lots for the coming beach season and of garnering additional revenue in the off-season. The Committee was given update on the golf cart path near the Island Center and beach preservation; Councilmember Bergwerf recommended that Councilmembers refer to the minutes for the details. Acknowledging that the beach had been damaged both by Joaquin and the extreme high tides that immediately followed, the City Administrator indicated that the best scenario would be for federal participation in mobilization, demobilization and the restoration of sand and motivation on the part of other funding entities to participate, and get the permit to do another off-shore dredging project; this would be best for the City and the stakeholders.

The Real Property Committee will meet at 3:00 p.m., Monday, February 8th in the City Hall Conference Room.

Mayor Cronin announced that the governor's FY17 budget contains forty million dollars (\$40,000,000) for statewide beach renourishment, and the Isle of Palms is mentioned. The money would be administered under Parks, Recreation and Tourism.

Administrator Tucker noted that Senator Campsen has an initiative related to beach restoration funding and has written a communication to Hugh Leatherman trying to augment that effort. She opined that the City has good representation in Columbia trying to get better funding for beach restoration, and the City must continue to supply them with the data to do the advocacy.

6. Reports from City Officers, Boards and Commissions

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

7. Reports from Special or Joint Committees – None

8. Petitions Received, Referred or Disposed of – None

9. Bills Already in Possession of Council

Second Reading of Ordinance 2015-14 – An Ordinance Amending the Official Zoning map of the City of Isle of Palms to Rezone Certain Properties from the PDD Planned Development Zoning District to a New SR3 Residential Zoning District and a New P-3 Preservation Overlay Zone.

Second Reading of Ordinance 2015-15 – An Ordinance Amending Title 5, Planning and Development, Chapter 4, Zoning, of the City of Isle of Palms Code of Ordinances to Provide for a New SR-3 Residential Zoning District and a New P-3 Preservation Overlay Zone, to Add “Beach Renourishment” as a permitted Use to the P-1 and P-2 Preservation Overlay Zones, and to Amend Certain Regulations to Include Reference to the New P-3 Residential Zoning District.

MOTION: Mayor Cronin moved to suspend the reading and to approve for Second Reading Ordinances 2015-14 and 2015-15; Councilmember Bergwerf seconded.

Mayor Cronin stated that he wanted to have all actions dealing with the rezoning of those properties done at the same time; Ordinance 2016-01 is a companion ordinance that is up for First Reading later in the meeting.

AMENDMENT: Mayor Cronin moved withdraw the original motion for Second Reading in order to defer action on Ordinance 2015-14 and Ordinance 2015-15 until the February meeting; Councilmember Bettelli seconded

VOTE on the AMENDMENT: The motion PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

Mayor Cronin withdrew his original motion, and Councilmember Bettelli withdrew the second for the approval of Second Reading for Ordinances 2015-14 and 2015-15.

VOTE on the Amended Motion to Defer Second Reading of Ordinances 2015-14 and 2015-15 until the February Council meeting: The motion PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

Holding up a large bundle of documents, the Mayor urged every member of Council to read and compare them; they are the work product of the Planning Commission, the City Attorney and the property owners affected by the ordinances.

Second Reading of Ordinance 2015-16 – An Ordinance Amending Title 5, Planning and Development, Chapter 4, Zoning, Article 1, General Provisions, Section 5-4-11, Authority and Procedure for Amending Chapter, of the City of Isle of Palms Code of Ordinances to Delete the Requirement for Public Notice by Display Advertisement in the Moultrie News or Other Community Weekly Newspaper Fifteen Days Prior to Public Hearing. (Second Reading deferred until Public Hearing can be held.)

MOTION: Mayor Cronin moved to defer Second Reading until the February meeting of City Council; Councilmember Harrington seconded and the motion PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

10. Introduction of New Bills, Resolutions and Proclamations

First Reading, by title only, Ordinance 2016-01 - An Ordinance Amending the City of Isle of Palms Zoning Ordinance by Amending Certain Provisions of the Beach and Racquet Club PRD of the Wild Dunes Planned Development Zoning District to Exclude Certain Properties from the PRD District, to Reduce the Maximum Number of Dwelling Units Permitted in the PRD District from 2,500 of 2,449 Units, and to Preserve the Existing Height Limitations in the PRD District.

MOTION: Mayor Cronin moved to approve for First Reading, by title only, of Ordinance 2016-01; Councilmember Bergwerf seconded and the motion PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

First Reading, by title only, Ordinance 2016-02 – An Ordinance Amending Title 9, Offenses, Chapter 2, Offenses Against Public Peace, Section 9.2.5, Noise, of the City of Isle of Palms Code of Ordinances to Exempt City-owned Property Subject to a Commercial Lease from the Prohibition on Amplifiers, to Correct Clerical Errors and Provide Clarifying Language, to Include Motorboats and Personal Watercraft in the Definition of “Vehicle,” to Provide New Regulations for Daytime Play of Amplified Music, to Provide Additional Exceptions, to Provide Enforcement Factors, and to Provide Penalties for Violations Including the Suspension or Revocation of a Business License.

MOTION: Mayor Cronin moved to approve for Second Reading, by title only, of Ordinance 2016-02; Councilmember Carroll seconded and the motion PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

Re-Adoption of City’s Safety Policy

MOTION: Mayor Cronin moved to adopt the City’s Safety Policy and to waive the reading; Councilmember Bettelli seconded and the motion PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

11. Miscellaneous Business

FY17 Budget Calendar

Mayor Cronin stated that, this year, he wants the Committee chairs to present the departmental budgets to the Ways and Means Committee.

Next Meeting Date: 6:00 p.m., Tuesday, February 23, 2016

12. Executive Session – Not needed

13. Conclusion/Adjournment

MOTION: Councilmember Carroll moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:53 p.m.; Councilmember Ward seconded and the motion PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

Respectfully submitted:

Marie Copeland
City Clerk