

City Council

6:00 p.m., Tuesday, April 22, 2025 City Hall Council Chambers 1207 Palm Boulevard, Isle of Palms, SC

MINUTES

1. Call to Order

Present: Council members Bogosian, Streetman, Anderson, Ward, Hahn, Miars,

Pierce, and Carroll, Mayor Pounds

Staff Present: Administrator Kerr, City Attorney McQuillin, various department heads

2. Citizens' Comments

Sondra Hines addressed comments made by some of the Council members at the previous Council meeting regarding the City Administrator hiring process. She also said that she likes the update to the City's website.

Christi Kunkle said that she felt like City Administrator Kerr "took a beating" from some on City Council and some residents at the last meeting. She would like to see more positivity around the island.

Patsy Hindman thanked the Council members who supported City Administrator Kerr's hiring. She spoke highly of City Administrator Kerr's experience and said he has played a significant role in making the Isle of Palms a nice place to live. She thanked Mayor Pounds for his leadership during the process.

3. Approval of previous meetings' minutes

- A. City Council Meeting March 25, 2025
- B. Special City Council Meeting March 26, 2025
- C. Special City Council Meeting Workshop April 8, 2025

MOTION: Council Member Ward made a motion to approve, and Council Member Streetman seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

- 4. Old Business none
- 5. New Business

Reappointment of Bob Miller to the Board of Zoning Appeals

MOTION: Council Member Streetman made a motion to approve, and Council Member Hahn seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

6. Boards and Commissions Report

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

7. Procurement

A. Consideration of pickleball court lights, \$60,650, Musco Sports Lighting [FY25 Budget, Hospitality Fund, \$25,000; Recreation Building Fund, \$35,650]

MOTION: Council Member Ward made a motion to approve, and Council Member Miars seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

- B. Report of budgeted expenditures from \$10,000 to \$25,000
 - i. Miller Signs \$11,766; Fire Station 1 and 2 signs [FY25 Budget; Capital Projects Fund]
 - ii. Nafeco, Inc- fire training mannequins \$10,842.77 [FY25 budget; State ATAX Fund]
 - iii. Reimbursement to Charleston County Sheriff's office for Police Academy Expense to hire officer \$18,439.49 [FY25 budget- General Fund; PD salaries]

C. Emergency and other purchases

- i. Replacement of main cylinder of PW 24 truck \$12,045 [FY25 Budget- PW vehicle maintenance]
- ii. Emergency repair of PW truck- \$13,281.94 [FY25 Budget- PW vehicle maintenance]
- iii. Precision Consulting Solutions- moving approximately 300 sandbags from Breach Inlet to Beachwood East area \$24,000 [FY25 Budget- Beach Preservation Fee Fund]

Director Kerr said the final invoice for the movement of the sandbags will come before Council for approval since 400 bags have been moved from Breach Inlet to Beachwood East and the cost will exceed the \$25,000 threshold.

- 8. Ordinances, Resolutions, Proclamations, and Petitions
- A. Second Reading none
- B. First Reading
 - i. **Ordinance 2025-03** an ordinance to adopt a budget for Fiscal Year beginning July 1, 2025 and ending June 30, 2026

MOTION: Council Member Ward made a motion to approve, and Council Member Streetman seconded the motion. A vote was taken as follows:

Ayes: Carroll, Ward, Bogosian, Streetman, Hahn, Anderson, Pounds

Nays: Miars, Pierce

The motion passed 7-2.

ii. **Ordinance 2025-04** – an ordinance to adopt business license fees

MOTION: Council Member Bogosian made a motion to approve, and Council Member Anderson second the motion. A vote was taken as follows:

Ayes: Carroll, Miars, Pierce, Ward, Bogosian, Streetman, Hahn, Anderson, Pounds Nays: Ward

The motion passed 8-1.

C. Resolution 2025-06 – supporting the City's safety and loss control program

MOTION: Council Member Streetman made a motion to approve and waive the reading, and Council Member Anderson seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

D. **Proclamation 2025-01** – a proclamation supporting boating safety and proclaiming May 17-23, 2025, as National Safe Boating Week

MOTION: Council Member Ward made a motion to approve and waive the reading, and Council Member Hahn seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

9. Executive Session – none

10. Miscellaneous

City Administrator Kerr reported that the proposal for the second opinion on beach management came in at \$38,000, higher than the \$30,000 allotted by City Council. Due to the urgency of the work, he asked City Council to consider reducing the scope of work to match the allotted amount.

He said, "What we would do is reduce an item in the scope to bring it down to the amount allocated by Council with the understanding that this would come back before you at next month's meeting to consider that \$8,000 overage to get the cumulative cost to \$38,000."

City Attorney McQuillin said, "The idea is to pick something further down in their scope sequentially that's going to be later in the process anyway. So that ultimately when this comes back before Council, if you approve it, they can finish or if you don't want to spend more than 30, they can stop once they've completed the other task that they would need to complete prior to that."

When asked why it could not be voted on this evening due to its urgency, City Attorney McQuillin responded, "That is the real question. Is it exigent circumstances or a real emergency? Typically, when we've done emergency ordinances it's been when property has been threatened by erosion and sort of imminent peril with people's houses and sandbags and those sort of things. This is a close call. The risk, I think, of a challenge is very small. It's \$8,000 that we are talking about. But my advice to Douglas was the most conservative thing to do would be the approach he just laid out. Certainly if Council feels that it's an emergency circumstance, you would need to specify that and you could put it on and vote on it tonight as emergency situation, but ultimately that is up to you all."

Council Member Pierce said, "My only concern is we kind of pared the scope back to begin with to kind of get it to the numbers that we were thinking about. I do believe that it is urgent and I think we've got a lot of dependencies on our other projects kind of resting on this to get a confirmation are we on the right path. I just would not want to see the scope diminished any further."

MOTION: Council Member Pierce made a motion to suspend the rules of order to add this item to the agenda in light of the fact that "we've got multiple beach projects going on right now. We've had multiple properties that have been threatened, real time threatened, including some high rises. We are relocating 400 bags from one end of the island to the other. We need some assurances that we are on the right path going forward, and I think that with not only the dollars, the efforts, the property, the public beach accesses and everything at stake here, that it warrants action tonight." Council Member Bogosian seconded the motion.

Council Member Bogosian added, "We want to get a lot of this behind us prior to the storm season. The further we delay, the further we are going to encroach upon that storm season.

Mayor Pounds said, "I think the only thing that I would add to that is given the length of time for permitting and changes and what lies before us in the next 12-18 months, we've just got a lot of balls in the air that we need the second set of eyes on. And again, if we are going to change our path potentially looking at groins or whatever other alternatives we're looking at, that's just such a lead time on permitting and such that I think we need to."

VOTE: A vote was taken with all in favor.

MOTION: Council Member Pierce made a motion to approve an additional \$8,500 for the second opinion on beach management. Mayor Pounds seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

11. Adjournment

Council Member Ward made a motion to adjourn, and Council Member Streetman seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned at 6:20pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Nicole DeNeane City Clerk