

Public Comment For City Meetings

Name

Mr. Lawrence P Milly

Address

105 Sparrow Drive, Isle of Palms, South Carolina 29451

Comments for Council Meeting

As I watch the IOP council meeting of July 28 I listen to the reading of comments from off Island non residents complain about beach parking. To my shock a comment I wrote about the air and noise pollution from the waste water plant which was to be discussed at that meeting was not read. I recall writing it before the new parking laws took affect and listen to council say they would read in the order they received them. Also I listen to council members explain the need for a new waste water plant because the one in Wild dunes is in disrepair. Also saying they have toured the plant off the Waterway and that it is all wonderful and does not produce noise or smell. That is false. I can produce a half dozen people that will say that comment is false.

I have been awoken in the 5am hour many times from vacuum trucks, garbage trucks alarms going of and diesel generators running. I have a horrible smell coming from the storage tank ten feet from my back yard many times. This year everyday for a month three weeks before July 4 and a week after you could not be outside my house and even smelled a foul odor inside my house. July 16th and 17th they worked on the tank after I brought this up. The smell went away during the next week until the weekend. I texted both Chris from the water company and Jay from the sewer commission to come and smell it themselves seeing how they both called me a liar and says repeatedly that it does not smell and does not make noise at the 5am hour even on Sunday. There should be a police report on file when I called the IOP police on Sunday morning only to have the officer tell me the water company can work anytime they want. That Sunday morning it was a vacuum truck doing maintenance. The truck driver said he wanted to beat the heat and traffic for this I was awoken at 5am.

Yesterday Aug. 1st the smell came back with a vengeance a little before 4pm. Thunder could be heard in the distance and everyone left the beach and went home to take showers would be my guess why the storage tank smelled. It is the time of day that it reeks the most rendering my pool in the back yard unusable along with any other outdoor activity such as reading on the front porch.

It is my understanding that the tank is from the last plant and is a storage tank to hold excess waste til the plant can process it. I texted Chris and Jay to come by and smell it for themselves and was ignored again. At least I was not called a liar again.

I am concerned for my families health and welfare. It is science that waste water carries virus's and a host of other harmful stuff. I have read articles that covid-19 can be detected in waste water. I am concerned that an air born virus such as covid-19 is escaping the storage tank. If I can smell the sewer gas to the point it is giving me headaches I am concerned it can also infect me with covid-19 and other illness's. Something needs done about this I have call DEHEC and have a call into the DEP. I should be able to swim in my backyard or read a book on my front porch or cut my grass without the smelling foul odors. I should not have to worry about catching some virus from the fumes escaping the storage tank. I should not be woken up at 5am on a Sunday. I should not be called a liar when I bring this up to the people in charge. I should not have to hire a lawyer to seek justice. I should have the same quality of life as the rest of the people living on the island.

Again I ask why is another plant being moved from wild dunes where it sit in an open area with no homes or business around to suffer what I am suffering?

The water company has been a very bad neighbor and acts above the law. I would not wish them on no one.

Something needs done about this ,sweeping it under the rug will not work.....

Meeting This Comment is Intended For:
Public Works Committee

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Sally Weisman

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Comments for Council Meeting

1. Are the contents of the blue recycle and yellow garbage cans kept separated when the cans are emptied?
2. Are the trash cans supposed to be emptied at the end of each day or is there another schedule?
3. What is the process (if any) when they are full/overflowing at nightfall?

On 6/20/2020 at 8:15am I photographed 6 yellow cans with trash overflowing onto the beach alongside other trash that visitors laid at the bottom of the cans. BSO's were on the scene for something else but I asked them if they could report. BSO's response was, essentially, yes we saw it and we'll let them know, but it's the Chunky Chairs guy that's supposed to pick it up. The 6 yellow trash cans were in front of the WDR Grand Pavilion. Before asking the BSOs, I asked the WDR staff who were setting out chairs whether they could please report, and they said, and I quote "It's a city issue".

In addition, I saw these posted 7/17/2020 to the Isle Of Palms Locals & Friends Facebook Group, and my questions above are related:

"those large, cylinder containers...trash goes in there. You can even put recyclables in the blue ones."

"now more than ever, no one wants to pick up someone else's trash!!"

"I know. Trash all around the cans"

"Don't even bother sorting recyclables into the blue ones. The truck that comes by dumps all of the barrels into the same dumpster. Which makes it EVEN EASIER for beach visitors to dispose of their garbage!"

"I have seen this too. Susan Hill Smith, why does this happen?"

Thank you for your attention to this matter. I understand it's a challenging and never ending situation, and likely related to overcrowding. Growth in the region is continuing to exacerbate the existing issues and I believe these are canaries in the coal mine.

Thanks for listening and leading!

Meeting This Comment is Intended For:

Public Works Committee

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