

RECREATION COMMITTEE
4:00 p.m., Wednesday, April 11, 2012

The regular meeting of the Recreation Committee was held at 4:00 p.m., Wednesday, April 11, 2012 in the City Hall Conference Room, 1207 Palm Boulevard, Isle of Palms, South Carolina. Attending the meeting were Councilmember Ward, Chair Bergwerf, Administrator Tucker, Director Page, Assistant to the Administrator Dziuban and City Clerk Copeland; a quorum was present to conduct business.

1. Chair Bergwerf 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. **Approval of Previous Meeting's Minutes**

MOTION: Councilmember Ward moved to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of March 14, 2012 as submitted; Chair Bergwerf seconded and the motion PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

3. **Citizens' Comments – None**

4. **Departmental Report for March – Director Page**

Director Page reported that spring softball and 3-on-3 basketball are underway and the adult table tennis group is "awesome." Twelve (12) teams participated in the First Pitch Half Rubber Tournament; the 14th Annual Half Rubber Tournament will be Saturday, August 18th. Baseball is available for all age groups from three (3) years to twelve (12); team members had the opportunity to participate in pitching and hitting clinics. Although attendance drops off this time of year, both Friday Night Hoops and Friday Night Spikes will continue. Expansion of the IOP Beach Run in 2011 to include a 5K run/walk was so well received that the event will expand even more in 2012 to include a 10K run. Boater Education classes are held by DNR at the Recreation Center two to three (2-3) times a year, and the next class will be April 14th. The Keenagers will hold their last meeting before the summer break in May, and the final Middle School Dance for the year will be Friday, May 11th. As a School's Out activity, staff boiled eggs for an Egg-cellent craft where children decorated Easter eggs; this event was a great success and even the staff had a good time. Five (5) people submitted photographs in the Photography Contest; the photos can be seen on the City's website. At the request of a resident, a youth yoga camp will be held in August. BOSU is a new exercise class that reshapes the body and improves balance and core stability. Surely the most excitement on Saturday, April 7 was the Easter egg hunt; over nine hundred (900) children looked for eggs. Director Page said she had received many accolades from people who were visiting the island for the holiday weekend. The annual Yard Sale on Saturday, April 21st will share space at the Recreation Center with the Tae Kwon Do tournament and a blood drive. All weeks and all age groups are full for Camp Summershine. The winner of the Employee Wellness "Biggest Loser" contest for March was Holly Hubbard, and the winners in the wellness tiers for March were Tracey Marks, Robert Russell and Jane Stewart.

5. Old Business
Review of Operating and Capital Budgets for FY 2012-2013

General Fund Expenditures – no changes since last review

Capital Projects Fund Expenditures – no changes since last review

Municipal Accommodations Fee Fund Expenditures – no changes since last review

MOTION: Councilmember Ward moved to remove \$27,000 from this budget for the sand volleyball court; Chair Bergwerf seconded and the motion PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

Hospitality Tax Fund Expenditures – no changes since last review

State Accommodation Tax Fund Expenditures

Special Activities	\$ 47,700
Increased by ATAX Committee by \$15,000 for fireworks show at the annual tree lighting	

Chair Bergwerf questioned how a fireworks show would be logistically possible at the tree lighting; Assistant Dziuban explained that the show would be different from the July 4th fireworks – it would be on a much smaller scale and easily viewed from the street, rather than the beach. Assistant Dziuban noted that the intent of the ATAX Committee is to generate reasons for people to come to the Isle of Palms in the off-season.

Administrator Tucker reported that the ATAX Committee had discussed having fireworks at New Year's Eve, which would be very difficult for staff to execute since both the Fire and Police Departments are on heightened alert without having an event added to the evening. With that in mind, the Committee thought the tree lighting would be a good alternative. If the Committee is looking to spend money to get people to the island, Chair Bergwerf said she would prefer to see something like the "Taste of the Island" repeated.

Director Page stated that, if the fireworks program was approved, the tree lighting would be very different, possibly on a Saturday rather than Thursday and starting earlier with children's games; it could be more of a festival.

Councilmember Ward asked how much expenditures would exceed revenues in the ATAX fund for FY13; Administrator Tucker looked at the budget and stated that the fund balance would be reduced by two hundred ninety-nine thousand dollars (\$299,000) in FY13 budget as proposed. The ATAX fund balance is projected to nine hundred fifty-three thousand dollars (\$953,000) at the end of FY12.

MOTION: Councilmember Ward moved to approve for discussion a second fireworks program in FY13; Chair Bergwerf seconded.

Councilmember Ward said that he would not support this action because he did not agree with taking such a substantial sum from the ATAX fund balance. Administrator Tucker reminded the Committee that many local governments spend one hundred percent (100%) of the ATAX they receive each year and have no carry forward.

Councilmember Ward stated that he thought a second fireworks program should be paid from Hospitality Taxes. Responding to Councilmember Ward's question, the Administrator stated that expenditures from the Hospitality Fund are made by City Council; unlike ATAX, Hospitality Taxes do not have an oversight committee.

The City is projecting State Accommodations Tax revenues for FY13 to be eight hundred forty-one thousand dollars (\$841,000) and an additional three hundred eighty-eight thousand dollars (\$388,000) to go to the Charleston Visitors Bureau.

Administrator Tucker said that she would caution the City against getting the fund balances too high, because eventually the City would have services that are paid by property taxes rather than by tourist-generated revenue who are the reason for the expense.

VOTE: The motion FAILED on a tie vote of 1-1, and the funds for a second fireworks program will be removed from the budget.

When asked whether the ATAX Committee could bring the request to City Council, Administrator Tucker explained that she will report to Council on changes the ATAX Committee had made to the budget and, if it is the will of Council to alter than in any way, they have the purview to do that.

Recreation Building Fund Revenues

Miscellaneous	\$ 11,900
Includes \$5,000 in registration fees for IOP Beach Run and \$3,000 in State ATAX sponsorship	
Interest Income	134

Recreation Building Fund Expenditures

Bank Service Charges	75
Special Activities	5,500
Expenses related to IOP Beach Run, previously in State ATAX fund	

MOTION: If the Committee determines that the City has reserved sufficient funds to pay for the replacement of the ball-field lights, Councilmember Ward moved to remove \$150,000 from the FY13 Recreation Capital Projects Fund; Chair Bergwerf seconded, and the motion PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

6. New Business

A. Consideration of Replacement of Treadmill

Director Page reported that the treadmill is no longer operating, and she spoke with vendors earlier to get a quote of forty-six hundred dollars (\$4,600) to replace it. According to the Director, the machine has a good warranty and can be gotten quickly.

Councilmember Ward moved to purchase a new treadmill for \$4,600; Chair Bergwerf seconded.

Administrator Tucker stated that this purchase would be an unbudgeted expense from the FY12 Capital Projects fund.

VOTE: The motion PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

B. Discussion of Replacement of Ball-field Lights

Despite her earlier skepticism, Administrator Tucker stated that the City was in a position to proceed in FY12 with the replacement of the ball-field lights with money on-hand reserved for that purpose.

Councilmember Ward asked what the balance in the reserve was; the Administrator recalled four hundred seventy-four thousand dollars (\$474,000).

MOTION: Councilmember Ward moved to spend up to \$474,000 from the reserve fund for the reconfiguration of the ball-fields and ball-field lighting for discussion; Chair Bergwerf seconded.

Director Page commented that Musco Lighting is the "guru of ball-field lights;" she noted that they have done the majority of ball-fields in the area. Musco Lighting is a turnkey operation, doing everything from the engineering to the installation; whereas, state contracts are vendors who sell lights, but do none of the other work. They have exceptional technology in lighting with panels inside the lights to direct the light where the buyer wants it to go. Despite being a little more expensive than others, Musco Lighting provides a twenty-five (25) year guarantee for parts and labor, a monitoring service, and capability of programming the lights from computers. Director Page said that she had been told that these lights were "turtle-friendly." She also indicated that she had asked for quotes for replacing the lights at the tennis and basketball courts as options to the base quote. Director Page commented that to have two (2) lights changed today costs a thousand dollars (\$1,000).

Administrator Tucker referred the Committee to the literature about the lighting and their ability to withstand hurricane force winds of a Category 3 hurricane. Director Page explained that the metal poles will be in a sleeve of concrete several feet into the ground, putting the weight underground.

VOTE: The motion PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

7. Miscellaneous Business

Next Meeting Date: 4:00 p.m., Wednesday, May 3 in the Conference Room.

8. Adjourn

**MOTION: Councilmember Ward moved to adjourn the meeting at 4:50 p.m.;
Chair Bergwerf seconded and the motion PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

Respectfully submitted:

Marie Copeland
City Clerk