

July 18, 2006

The regular meeting of Town Council was held on the above date at Town Hall, all requirements of the Freedom of Information Act having been satisfied:

Present were: Carl J. Smith, Mayor
Patrick O'Neil, Mayor Pro Tem
Debra Hazen-Martin, Councilwoman
Jane Ellen Herron, Councilwoman
Charles Howle, Councilman
Everett Presson, Councilman

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Mayor Smith. Following the Pledge of Allegiance, Mayor Smith stated: This evening I went to the wake for David Coste. David was an old Island resident, truly an Island person. If anybody knew David, he knew what a gentleman David was. He enjoyed the marsh, he enjoyed hunting, and he just enjoyed hanging out. It is truly sad for me because I didn't know David that well, but he was the kind of person you didn't have to know well. I want to read something that reflects what David was about; a minor incident in his life. There was an occurrence in the marsh about the late 70's and David and Father McInerny were marsh hen hunting, which is something they had done since their boyhood years. David lived here all of his life. His family went back several generations; I believe they were the caretakers of the Lifesaving Station in the 1800's. Anyway, David Coste was charged with illegal firing of a gun and shooting birds within the jurisdiction of the Town of Sullivan's Island. That evoked a response and I'll read portions of it.

It is from the Sullivan's Island Marsh Hen Hunters Association. [laughter] For those who are unfamiliar with it, this sport is considered by many to constitute an integral part of the celebrated lifestyle of Island people, not to mention [these are some of Father McInerny's words that he always throws in and we run to the dictionary to look up] the gustatory delight afforded by a well-made marsh hen stew over grits. It is an immemorial custom in that no living person can remember when it began. It goes on... We take this opportunity to commend the professionalism of Officer Price of the Island Police Force, and the judicious handling of a questionable matter by the Honorable Louis Stith [which means it was thrown out]. [Laughter] They, Father McInerny and David Coste, lived all their lives together. They were boyhood friends. At the wake there were lots of memories there with David, and pictures. David was far younger than me. He didn't live out the years that he should have had. After Councilwoman Herron finishes the invocation, I would like a moment of silence for David as well as George DeAntonio, who was an old island resident but had left the island awhile back, but still lived here many years as well. He passed away also.

Councilwoman Herron gave the invocation, followed by a moment of silence for David Coste and George DeAntonio.

There were 15 private citizens and seven members of the media present for the meeting.

The floor was opened for comments from the citizens. Bobby Thompson, 2917 I'on, stated all need to work together regarding the smoking ordinance in order to avoid lawsuits. Tim Holbrook, 1902 I'on, stated enough signatures have been secured for a referendum regarding the smoking ordinance, if necessary. He stated they will now file for an injunction. He requested that Council table the enabling enforcement of the ordinance. Susan Middaugh, 2424 Raven, asked

Council to move forward with plans for the RC-2 area to be placed in a conservation easement. Norman Khoury, 1728 P' on, stated the Islanders for Conservation are available for assistance with the management plan of the accreted area.

Motion was made by Councilman Presson, seconded by Councilman Howle, to amend the agenda to delete the executive session, as the Town Attorney is not available for the meeting for legal advice, carried unanimously.

Motion was made by Councilman Presson, seconded by Councilman Howle, to approve the minutes of the June 20, 2006 meeting, carried unanimously.

Reports and Communications – Motion was made by Councilman Howle, seconded by Councilman O'Neil, to approve A Resolution to Approve and Support the Draft Fiscal Year 2007 Budget for CARTA, carried unanimously. Motion was made by Councilwoman Hazen-Martin, seconded by Councilman Howle, to approve A Resolution to Approve Financing Terms for Equipment Lease Purchase, carried unanimously.

General and New Correspondence – New correspondence was received tonight from Dr. Susan Middaugh, as she presented during citizens' comments.

Attorney's Report – There was no Attorney's Report.

Administrator's Report, Administrator Benke. The hurricane preparedness meeting on July 12 sponsored by Sullivan's Island and Isle of Palms was well attended. The CARTA Budget Resolution was passed this evening.

Ways and Means Committee, Mayor Smith for Councilman Perkis. Financial reports received.

Personnel Committee, Councilwoman Hazen-Martin. A notice of resignation was received from Sara Lybrand, effective July 22, 2006. The Personnel Committee held an exit interview on July 11th, and the position will be advertised.

Water and Sewer, Councilwoman Hazen-Martin. The water line project is basically finished. The sewer plant project is almost finished; the landscaping is now being done.

Building and Construction Committee, Councilman Howle. Monthly report received.

Fire Committee, Councilwoman Herron. Monthly report received. Councilwoman Herron expressed her appreciation for the hard work to put on the Hurricane Expo.

Recreation Committee, Councilwoman Herron. Refurbishing the tennis courts will be discussed at the next Committee meeting. Chief Stith reported that the mound project was almost complete, and top soil will be delivered next week. The Park Foundation will be invited to the next Committee meeting to discuss the mound.

Real Estate Committee, Councilman O'Neil. The lease agreement and ordinance for leasing the Town property to the Gadsden Cultural Center is complete and submitted for first reading tonight. The environmental organization Surfrider Foundation will place 3 recycle bins on a trial basis at Stations 12, 18-1/2, and 22-1/2. The Real Estate Committee met with Dr. Norm Levine on July 13th to discuss the baseline study draft of the accreted land. A final study is being prepared. The appraisal results for 1602 Thompson have been received. A public hearing will be

held before the Committee meeting on August 7, 2006 concerning the possible purchase of this property. Discussion will continue at the next Committee meeting concerning Section 21-27 – principal building square footage. Councilman Perkis and Administrator Benke will meet with the cell tower consultant next week and will have a recommendation for the August committee meeting.

Police Committee, Mayor Smith. Several residents have communicated that alcohol consumption on the beach is excessive. Police officers and beach services will focus on the problem. A resident has expressed concern regarding vehicles parking seaward of Flag Street at Station 18-1/2 Street, as emergency vehicles have difficulty accessing the beach. Chief Howard will increase patrols in this area; Chief Stith has increased signage in the area. A letter of appreciation was received for the Police Department's "Street Talk" meeting. The Police Department is developing a formal process for citizens concerns.

Streets and Maintenance, Councilman Presson. The Town met with Mark Nesbit of SC Department of Transportation to review several road and traffic issues on the Island. Some items discussed were a change at the intersection of Jasper and 703; a stop sign at Station 22 and Pettigrew; a stop sign around Osceola and Middle (does not qualify under SCDOT regulations, but if the neighbors agreed, they could petition for one); lowering the speed limit on Jasper (does not qualify under SCDOT regulations, but could possibly paint median on Jasper to lower speed and prevent passing); flashing 15 mph signs in the commercial district, that the Police Department could turn on/off.

Motion was made by Councilman O'Neil, seconded by Councilman Howle, to have First Reading, by title only, of An Ordinance to Amend Chapter 14, by Adding a New Section 31: The Lease of Certain Real Property to the Sullivan's Island Gadsden Cultural Center, an Eleemosynary Corporation, carried unanimously.

Motion was made by Councilman O'Neil, seconded by Councilwoman Hazen-Martin, to have First Reading, by title only, of an Ordinance to Amend Chapter 21, Section 173 A (1) and 175 E of the Zoning Ordinance of the Town of Sullivan's Island, pertaining to the Board of Zoning Appeals, carried unanimously.

Motion was made by Councilman Presson, seconded by Councilman Howle, to have Third Reading of An Ordinance to Amend Section 21-75 B (10) of the Zoning Code of the Town of Sullivan's Island Code or Ordinances Pertaining to Boatlifts, carried unanimously.

Motion was made by Councilman Presson, seconded by Councilman Howle, to have Third Reading of An Ordinance to Amend Section 21-15 A (1) (b) of the Zoning Code of the Town of Sullivan's Island Code of Ordinances Pertaining to Driveway Width, carried unanimously.

Motion was made by Councilwoman Hazen-Martin, seconded by Councilman Howle, to have Third Reading of An Ordinance to Amend Section 21-22 (1) (c) of the Zoning Code of the Town of Sullivan's Island Code of Ordinances Pertaining to HVAC stands, carried unanimously.

Motion was made by Councilman Howle, seconded by Councilman O'Neil, to have Third Reading of An Ordinance to Amend Section 21-137 B (2) of the Zoning Code of the Town of Sullivan's Island Code of Ordinances Pertaining to Fences, carried unanimously.

Motion was made by Councilman O'Neil, seconded by Councilwoman Hazen-Martin to defer Second Reading of An Ordinance to Convey Battery Logan Property to Federal Government, carried unanimously.

Motion was made by Councilman Howle, seconded by Councilwoman Herron, to adjourn, carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Ellen McQueeney
Town Clerk