

April 21, 2009

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
Pat O'Neil, Mayor Pro Tem
Buddy Howle, Councilman
Jerry Kaynard, Councilman
Mike Perkis, Councilman
Everett Presson, Councilman
Mary Jane Watson, Councilwoman

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Mayor Smith, followed by the invocation by Councilwoman Watson. There were 30 members in the audience including three members of the media.

The floor was opened for comments from the citizens. Rita Langley, 1618 Middle Street, commented she would like Council to consider a place for a community garden. Norman Khoury, 1728 I'on Ave., Eloise Bradham, 3109 I'on Ave., and Eddie Fava, 2424 Myrtle Ave. commented on the accreted land management plan. Bill Dunleavy, 2314 Jasper Blvd., stated that the noise ordinance is confusing and is now being interpreted differently; and is concerned about a resident's constant complaints to the Police department. Rusty Bennett, 3124 Marshall Blvd., stated a resident's constant comments about restaurants in the commercial district have caused the Town and business district much time, energy and money.

Motion was made by Councilman Kaynard, seconded by Councilwoman Watson, to approve minutes from the March 17, 2009 Regular Meeting and March 23, 2009 Special Meeting, carried unanimously.

Motion was made by Councilman Perkis, seconded by Councilman Kaynard, to approve a Resolution to adopt a Water and Wastewater Rate Structure, carried unanimously.

Reports and Communications

General and New Correspondence – (Councilman Howle joined the meeting at this time). Correspondence was received from Lanneau Siegling regarding a Boys & Girls Club fund-raising event at the park; Jim Brown, Michal Baird, and Hartley Cooper regarding the accreted land management plan; Celia Thiedke regarding signage on the causeway for public awareness on cars idling while the bridge is open for boats; and the SCDOT concerning the Annual Isle of Palms Connector Run and Walk for the Child.

Attorney Report – no report

Board and Commission Reports – no report

Administrator's Report, Administrator Benke. State Archaeologist Dr. Jonathan Leader gave a presentation of the results of his site analysis of the Station 22 Street Cemetery using a ground penetrating radar. The Planning Commission held a public hearing on proposed amendments to Sections 21-109F(8) (a,b); 21-97(E); and 21-137(C) of the Zoning Ordinance on March 11, 2009. The ordinance is submitted for first reading tonight. The ad hoc committee established by Council held meetings on February 24 and March 24, 2009. The next meeting will be held on April 24, 2009. The National Park Service has invited the public to a special lecture by Sullivan's Island lighthouse architect Jack Graham on April 26, 2009 at the Lighthouse grounds. The OCRM Charleston office held a public hearing for proposed revisions to the Beachfront Baseline and 40 Year Setback Line on April 6, 2009. Council requested to have an OCRM representative come speak at the May Committee meeting because Council was unable to attend their public hearing due to a Committee meeting on April 6, 2009. The League of Women Voters of the Charleston Area will present a Sullivan's Island candidate forum on April 27, 2009 at 7:00 p.m. The forum will be held at the Ft. Moultrie Visitor Center Auditorium. Mr. Benke attended the Stimulus 101 Summit sponsored by the Municipal Association of South Carolina on April 17, 2009 in Columbia, S.C.

Ways and Means Committee, Councilman Perkis. Councilman Perkis commented on the March 2009 financial statement and the FY10 budget. A budget workshop will be held on Monday, May 11, 2009 from 4-6 p.m. The Comptroller has rolled over a certificate of deposit to obtain a 3.05% interest rate. Eight vacation rental licenses remain open as of April 3, 2009.

Personnel Committee, Councilman Kaynard. Monthly report rendered.

Water and Sewer Committee, Councilman Perkis. Monthly reports rendered. Mr. Gress stated the Middle Street Water Line Crossing is a little behind schedule due to a rain day and the backhoe being serviced. There is no revised date yet for SCDOT to begin paving Middle Street. Councilman Perkis stated that he and Water & Sewer personnel had met with the staff of Mt. Pleasant and Isle of Palms water departments to discuss opportunities to work together to benefit all water departments. One subject discussed was aquifer storage recovery, which is an underground water storage tank.

Building and Construction Committee, Councilman Howle. Monthly report rendered. An agreement with Dawson Inc. General Contractors has been signed for the bandstand repairs, and they should be completed by mid-May. Several residents have requested the dune walk over at Station 25 Street be extended seaward approximately one hundred feet from the current beachside terminus. This will be discussed at the next Committee meeting.

Fire Committee, Mayor Smith. Monthly report rendered. The Insurance Services Office Department Review was completed today, and the results should be available in about two months. Sullivan's Island Fire and Rescue provided assistance with the fireboat at a recent incident in North Charleston. Battalion Chief Phillips of the North Charleston Fire Department has forwarded a letter of appreciation.

Recreation Committee, Councilwoman Watson. The Park Foundation Dance is April 24, 2009 at the Sand Dunes Club. The Isle of Palms Run and Walk on the Connector is scheduled for Saturday, October 3, 2009. The SCDOT has approved the road closure; therefore, heavier traffic loads for SC703 are anticipated that day.

Real Estate Committee, Councilman O'Neil. The public hearing for residents to review and comment on the Comprehensive Plan is scheduled for May 26, 2009 from 6 to 9 pm at Holy Cross Episcopal Church. The final draft document of the Commercial District Master Plan has been received from Urban Edge Studio. The traffic study information, parking plan (reverse angle) and street closure was discussed in a meeting with Mark Nesbit at SCDOT on March 24, 2009. A date for the public hearing remains to be set. The Consultant has tendered the second draft document of the Accreted Land Management Plan. The Selection Committee met with Dr. Kana on March 23, 2009 to review the draft document. The Selection Committee will be preparing a list of comments for Coastal Science and Engineering. A public hearing date should be set after final comments are forwarded to Coastal Science and Engineering. The ad hoc committee appointed by Mayor Smith to study the noise issue in the CC District and surrounding residential district prepared specific recommendations for Town Council. The noise ordinance will be discussed by Council in Executive Session this evening.

Police Committee, Mayor Smith. Monthly report rendered. Two local companies donated a new class of vehicle called a "Low Speed Vehicle" to the Police Department for patrol use. Palmetto Custom Carts and EcoSense Global Rentals are donating the LSV so the police will now have an electric car that is street legal. The presentation was held on April 9, 2009.

Streets and Maintenance Committee, Councilman Presson. Work on the Ben Sawyer Bridge replacement is underway. The SCDOT has created a 40 mph work zone along S.C. Highway 703. General discussion by Council and legal advice from Counsel regarding the extension of Raven Drive from Station 26 Street to Station 26-1/2 Street is scheduled for Executive Session this evening. Councilman Presson stated that the parallel parking in front of Off the Hook restaurant is a dangerous situation. After discussion, Building Official Randy Robinson will research the subject and report back to Council.

Ordinances

Motion was made by Councilman O’Neil, seconded by Councilman Howle, to have First Reading, by title only, of Ordinance 2009-02, An Ordinance Amending Chapter 21, Zoning, Article XII, Design Review Board, to Add Section 21-109(F)(8)(a,b), (9)(a,b) and 10(a,b,c) DRB Applications-Procedures, Add Section 21-97(E), Certificates of Appropriateness-Procedures, and to Amend Section 21-137(C), Accessory Use/Structures Permitted/Restricted – Approvals Required, of the Code of Ordinances for the Town of Sullivan’s Island to Enable Staff Review and Approval of Certain Minor Projects, Alterations, and Certain Minor Design Changes to Previously issued Certificates of Appropriateness, carried unanimously.

Motion was made by Councilman Perkis, seconded by Councilman Howle, to have First Reading, by title only, Ordinance 2009-03, An Ordinance to Adopt Budget for July 1, 2009 through June 20, 2010, carried unanimously.

Motion was made by Councilman Howle, seconded by Councilman O’Neil, to go into Executive Session, carried unanimously.

Motion was made by Councilwoman Watson, seconded by Councilman O’Neil, to come out of Executive Session, carried unanimously. Mayor Smith stated that no votes or action was taken during Executive Session.

Motion was made by Councilwoman Watson, seconded by Councilman Perkis, to adjourn at 10:00 p.m., carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Ellen McQueeney