

July 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  
Mike Perkis, Mayor Pro Tem  
Buddy Howle, Councilman  
Jerry Kaynard, Councilman  
Madeleine McGee, Councilwoman  
Patrick O'Neil, Councilman  
Mary Jane Watson, Councilwoman

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Mayor Smith, followed by the invocation by Councilman Howle. There were 14 members in the audience including three members of the media.

The floor was opened for comments from the citizens. Leo Fetter, 2668 Middle Street, thanked the Fire and Police departments for their work during the recent drownings and water rescues. Summer Coish, 2801 I'on Avenue, suggested that the Town place a warning on the causeway when there are dangerous conditions in the ocean.

**Motion was made by Councilman Kaynard, seconded by Councilwoman McGee, to approve minutes from the June 16, 2009 regular meeting, carried unanimously.**

#### **Reports and Communications**

Mayor Smith stated the Resolution of Appreciation to Everett Presson would be presented at a later meeting.

**Motion was made by Councilman Howle, seconded by Councilwoman Watson, to approve a Resolution Approving an Authorized Official for Town Business, carried unanimously.**

**General and New Correspondence** – Correspondence was received from Thomas DeMille regarding kite surfing. Administrator Benke will meet with him and report back to Council.

**Motion was made by Councilman Kaynard, seconded by Councilwoman Watson, to hear a report regarding beach safety at this time, carried unanimously.**

Chief Stith reported that for four days, 17 volunteers, 8 of 10 Sullivan's Island Fire department employees, Sullivan's Island Police, Mt. Pleasant and Isle of Palms Fire

departments, the Coast Guard, Charleston County, and the Department of Natural Resources helped with the recent drownings and water rescues. He stated the signs regarding danger were well marked and adequate; that lifeguards were not needed; and lifeguards may not have helped in these situations. He thanked the churches for their help, especially a letter written by Father McInerny of Stella Maris Catholic Church. Councilman Perkis suggested that Administrator Benke, Police Chief Howard and Fire Chief Stith build a dialogue with Charleston County to discuss possible options. Councilman Kaynard agreed, and thanked the Fire staff and first responders.

**Attorney Report** – no report

**Board and Commission Reports** – no report

**Administrator's Report**, Administrator Benke. S.C. Department of Health and Environmental Control ocean water quality sample results for the month of June were all satisfactory. Mayor Smith and Councilman Perkis attended the Shoreline Change Community Leaders Discussion forum on July 13 to participate in a discussion of past and future beachfront management in South Carolina.

**Ways and Means Committee**, Councilman Perkis. Comptroller Blanton stated there was a \$238K surplus for fiscal year 2009. He is researching why the Town is not receiving the alcohol beverage licenses on a timely basis. The staff is reviewing performance and pricing of several contractor provided services. Green, Finney, and Horton arrived on site this week to begin the 2009 municipal audit.

**Personnel Committee**, Councilman Kaynard. Monthly report rendered. Salary adjustments were approved for employees in the Fire Department and Water & Sewer Department who completed probation or certifications. The Town has advertised for the various open seats on all Boards and Commissions. The application deadline is August 13, 2009.

**Water and Sewer Committee**, Councilman Perkis. Monthly report rendered. A special meeting of the Water and Sewer Committee has been scheduled for July 23, 2009.

**Building and Construction Committee**, Councilman Howle. Monthly report rendered. Councilman Howle reported that permits, construction, and fees were all down. Beginning in August, the ISO will assess practices and procedures of the Building and Construction Department in an effort to determine flood rating for the Town.

**Fire Committee**, Mayor Smith. Monthly report rendered. Chief Stith earlier reported on the rescue and recovery operations as of July 12. The Town will recognize involved individuals at the next Council meeting. The Isle of Palms and Sullivan's Island will host the annual hurricane preparedness expo on July 22, 2009 at the Sullivan's Island Fire Station.

**Recreation Committee**, Councilwoman Watson. Councilwoman Watson reported on the July 4<sup>th</sup> event at the Park. The Town has received payment of the PARD grant for the Bandstand renovation.

**Real Estate Committee**, Councilman O’Neil. The consultant for the Accreted Land Management Plan has tendered the second draft document of the plan. The public hearing on the draft document is scheduled for Tuesday, August 4, 2009 at 6 PM at the Church of the Holy Cross. Councilman O’Neil stated that a representative from the Mt. Pleasant Open Space Organization will present at the August Committee meeting to inform Council about this organization. The Mt. Pleasant Open Space Organization, like the Lowcountry Open Land Trust, tries to assist in the protection of open and natural spaces. Unlike the Lowcountry Open Land Trust, they are open to much smaller parcels of land, and they are also interested in urban properties as well. Joel Gramling, PhD, would like to map and inventory a small section of the accreted land near Fort Moultrie for the Carolina Vegetation Survey. The public hearing for residents to review and comment on the Comprehensive Plan was held on May 26, 2009. An ordinance to adopt the plan has been prepared for first reading. The public hearing on the draft master plan prepared by Urban Edge Studio is currently postponed for comment on reverse angle parking by the S.C. Department of Transportation. Councilwoman McGee will discuss in the Streets and Maintenance Committee this evening.

**Police Committee**, Mayor Smith. Monthly report rendered. Councilman O’Neil stated that the Police and Fire departments did an excellent job over the Fourth of July weekend. The Charleston County Sheriff’s department has requested Town participation in a joint task force marine unit to respond to the increasing challenges facing law enforcement, dealing with waterborne Homeland Security issues as well as other issues.

**Streets and Maintenance Committee**, Councilwoman McGee. Councilwoman McGee reported that Sullivan’s Island staff Andy Benke, Chief Howard, and Chief Stith, along with Mayor Smith, Council members O’Neil and McGee, and Urban Edge Studio consultants, met with S.C. Department of Transportation representatives Mark Nesbitt and Richard Turner on July 15, 2009. Items of discussion were the Middle Street paving project, traffic calming improvements, and the commercial district study, including reverse angle parking. Councilwoman McGee presented a report to Council of items discussed.

## **Ordinances**

Mayor Smith duly ratified 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 – Approval 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.

Mayor Smith duly ratified Ordinance 2009-04, An Ordinance to Amend Section 14-29 (SIC 30), Subpart I of the Town Code Amending the Provisions Relating to Jurisdiction, Violations and Penalties.

**Motion was made by Councilman O'Neil, seconded by Councilman Perkis, to approve First Reading, by title only, Ordinance 2009-06, An Ordinance Amending the Comprehensive Plan for The Town of Sullivan's Island, Pursuant to the 1994 State of South Carolina Comprehensive Planning Enabling Act, carried unanimously.**

**Motion was made by Councilman Kaynard, seconded by Councilman O'Neil, to have First Reading, by title only, Ordinance 2009-07, An Ordinance Amending Chapter 17 Planning Commission by adding Section 17-11 to Allow for Staff Approval of Plats Without Subdivision, Re-subdivision, or Lot Line Changes, carried unanimously.**

**Motion was made by Councilman Howle, seconded by Councilwoman Watson, to go into Executive Session for legal advice concerning trademarks, insurance coverage RC-1, and Personnel.**

**Motion was made by Councilman O'Neil, seconded by Councilwoman Watson to come out of executive session at 9:00 p.m., carried unanimously.**

Mayor Smith stated that no votes or action were taken during executive session.

**Motion was made by Councilman Howle, seconded by Councilwoman Watson , to adjourn at 9:05 p.m., carried unanimously.**

Respectfully submitted,

Ellen McQueeney