

December 1, 2014

A Special Meeting of Town Council was held on the above date at 6:00 p.m. at Town Hall, all requirements of the Freedom of Information Act having been satisfied.

Present were: Jerry Kaynard, Mayor Pro-Tem
Chauncey Clark, Councilman
Susan Middaugh, Councilwoman
Patrick O'Neil, Councilman
Mary Jane Watson, Councilwoman

Mayor Pro-Tem Kaynard called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm and stated the press and public had been notified in accordance with State law. The purpose of the meeting was for First Reading of an ordinance to increase business license fees; approval of funding for preliminary engineering report for sewer treatment plant construction; and executive session for a contractual matter.

Motion was made by Councilman O'Neil, seconded by Councilwoman Middaugh, to have First Reading of Ordinance 2014-13, an Increase of Business License Fees.

Mayor Pro-Tem Kaynard stated business license rates are reviewed annually, and the increase matches the consumer price index cost of living increase. Administrator Benke added that seven years ago property taxes made up about 56% of the general fund revenue. Since then, the business license tax was brought in-line with the annual increases. Last year 37% of the revenue in the general fund came from property taxes; the other 63% originated from people that use Sullivan's Island as a business environment. Councilwoman Middaugh added that the 67% also includes other items such as franchise fees, accommodations and hospitality fees and spoil area usage. **Motion carried unanimously.**

Motion was made by Councilwoman Middaugh, seconded by Councilman Clark, to approve funding for preliminary engineering report by HDR in the amount of \$44,200. Administrator Benke stated that the original engineering package form HDR included all the capital items that were associated with the FEMA grant application. Depending on the award of that grant, there may be elements or tasks in their package that will not be done. The engineering report needs to proceed even if the FEMA grant is not awarded. Councilwoman Middaugh stated that DHEC requires an engineering study for any upgrade or expansion of sewer and water facilities. This will be required whether the Town receives the full FEMA funded project or whether a reduced scope project is used. The cost of this engineering report will be part of the Town's match if the FEMA grant is awarded. Mayor Pro-Tem Kaynard inquired about the shelf-life of the project. Water and Sewer Manager Gress stated when the construction permit is issued, the permit becomes the shelf life. The PER is part of the permit application process. The authorization is for the funding; instructing HDR to proceed will be an administrative function when the documents are ready. **Motion carried unanimously.**

Motion was made by Councilman O'Neil, seconded by Councilman Clark, to go into Executive Session at 6:20 p.m. for a contractual matter, carried unanimously.

Motion was made by Councilman O'Neil, seconded by Councilman Clark, to come out of Executive Session at 6:45 pm. Mayor Pro-Tem Kaynard stated no votes or action was taken during Executive Session.

Motion was made by Councilwoman Middaugh, seconded by Councilman Clark, to authorize the Town Administrator to make a counteroffer on contractual matter, carried unanimously.

Motion was made by Councilwoman Middaugh, seconded by Councilwoman Watson, to adjourn the Special Meeting at 6:46 pm, carried unanimously.

Council then proceeded with its regularly scheduled Workshop.

Respectfully submitted,



Ellen Miller