

CITY COUNCIL

6:00 p.m., Tuesday, September 27, 2016

The regular meeting of City Council was held at 6:00 p.m., Tuesday, September 27, 2016 in Council Chambers of City Hall, 1207 Palm Boulevard, Isle of Palms, South Carolina. Attending the meeting were Councilmembers Bergwerf, Bettelli, Carroll, Ferencz, Harrington, Kinghorn, Rice and Ward, Mayor Cronin, Administrator Tucker, Attorney Halversen, Assistant Administrator Frago and City Clerk Copeland; a quorum was present to conduct business.

1. Mayor Cronin 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. Following a brief invocation and the Pledge of Allegiance, Clerk Copeland called the roll.

2. Reading or the Journals of Previous Meetings

MOTION: Councilmember Bettelli moved to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of August 23, 2016 and the Special Meeting of August 29, 2016 as submitted; Councilmember Bergwerf seconded and the motion PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

The Mayor reported that the Special Meeting was convened to approve City-sponsored event status to the Home and Garden Television Network's filming of an episode *Beachfront Bargain Hunt* on the island; he commented that the crew had come, filmed and departed without anyone knowing.

3. Citizens' Comments

Randy Bell, 22-41st Avenue, stated that he was appearing before City Council again to provide an update to the speed enforcement efforts on 41st Avenue; he stated that 41st Avenue is a residential street and, as such, should be afforded the same restriction and policing as any other residential street on the island. He said that watching the school children waiting for the bus was scary because they were put in jeopardy by the speeding drivers on 41st Avenue. The IOP Police Department has had two (2) enforcement periods on 41st Avenue, and the following are the results:

<u>TIMEFRAME</u>	<u>SPEED TICKETS</u>	<u>WARNINGS</u>
June 11 th – 30 th	5	17
August 11 th – 30 th	1	22

Mr. Bell was of the opinion that these numbers do not represent enforcement, but a joke. He recalled that when he spoke to Council previously, he was asked what the solution was to the speeding problem and that he had simply responded, "enforcement." He indicated that he has spoken with all of his neighbors, and they were all upset. With the marina redevelopment, Mr. Bell thought more people would come to the island at a time when the City is unable to control the situation that is happening now. He again asked City Council, respectfully, to address the issue before someone gets hurt; he added that, with the documentation the City has on the problem, it could be sued when someone is seriously injured or dies. He stated that he has not seen real enforcement in the three (3) years that he has lived there.

Jim Owens, 2805 Palm Boulevard, stated that his comments do not apply to Councilmembers Carroll, Ferencz and Ward, but to every other Council member whom he chastised for not “soliciting” his opinion on issues confronting the City.

Jim Raih, 3904 Cameron, stated that the changes to the Procurement Ordinance were impressive, but he was concerned about throwing the old ordinance away and starting from scratch. He recalled that he had bid on the management of the marina and for the marina redevelopment plan, on which the City has spent one hundred nineteen thousand dollars (\$119,000). Although the City has learned a great deal for the one hundred nineteen thousand dollars (\$119,000), he questioned the wisdom of spending another forty-six thousand dollars (\$46,000) on a project that the City does not know if it is going to undertake. He concluded by thanking City Council for all they do.

Chris Crowley, 6485 Come-about Way, Awendaw, identified himself as the owner of Coastal Expeditions that operates out of the IOP Marina. He stated that he was attending the meeting to address the First Reading of Ordinance 2016-08 banning movable trailers from which businesses can operate. Mr. Crowley reported that he had attended the Planning Commission meeting where they unanimously approved language that basically states that no mobile units can be used on the Isle of Palms except for City-sponsored events. He noted that Coastal Expeditions, a kayak tour business, has been on the island since 1992. Coastal Expeditions was launching kayaks from the boat ramp, but their launching caused the power boat traffic to back up. So they voluntarily moved from the boat ramp to the Intracoastal Waterway, south of Morgan Creek Grill and north of TidalWave Watersports; the investment in the move was twelve thousand dollars (\$12,000) including five thousand dollars (\$5,000) for a new 16x7 custom built, mobile vending trailer from which they plan to operate and to move off-island for the months of December, January and February. Mr. Crowley stated that the move was a mitigating effort to help the flow of the marina until the redevelopment takes shape; it is intended to be stop-gap measure until such time as the redevelopment becomes a reality and they have a more permanent location

Julia Tucker, 2303 Hartnett, said that she had just spent two (2) hours studying the FY16 finances for the City and was pleased to see “nothing but positive numbers;” there was a year-end surplus and tax revenues were up. She had seen on the Agenda that the City was transferring fifty-thousand dollars (\$50,000) into the Disaster Recovery Fund. With these numbers, the City has an opportunity to put money back into the community, for instance, the cardio room at the Rec Center. She said that she used the room frequently when the program began and enjoyed it; in the years since it was set up, nothing has been done to improve the space and only some pieces of equipment have been replaced. She stated that tourism funds had increased by two hundred sixty-five thousand dollar (\$265,000) over last year and the revenue is increasing every year. In her opinion, tourism money was free money and should be spent on the guests of the island, but also for residents. She urged Council to make improvements to the cardio room. Ms. Tucker stated that she was not a boater, but she did like to go to the marina; the only problem was that, with the disorganized parking and the myriad of signs, she got lost in the parking lot. She remarked that the residents of the Isle of Palms deserve better.

Stuart Colman, 10 Live Oak Drive, reported having attended the Real Property Committee meeting of September 16th and feeling frustrated by not knowing, therefore not understanding, what was in the ATM proposal for approximately forty-seven thousand dollars (\$47,000) and not

being able to have a dialogue with Committee members. He indicated that one (1) thing missing from the upland portion of the redevelopment plan was shared-use parking; he also had other observations of the plan that he shared with Council. (The full text of Mr. Colman's comments are attached to the historical record of the meeting.)

Jack Tracey, 104 Shady Lane, voiced his opposition "to vast improvements to the marina;" he reminded Council that the marina was to service the needs of islanders and the changes look to satisfy the needs of off-islanders. He agreed that the parking lot needed to be paved, rotten boards should be replaced and a coat of paint would be good as well. He noted that, in his opinion, a vast majority of boaters was consuming alcoholic beverages when on the water, which creates a dangerous situation. He asked that Council keep in mind that their job was to serve the residents of the island, and, with the aging population of the island, he anticipated a lessening of boat ownership on the island.

John McMaster, 2801 Palm Boulevard, said that he has been informed that the City has "too much money in reserves and that it needs to be spent;" he continued that Council has "found a lot of ways to waste it." He commented that the City might have money in reserves, but he thought that a lot of maintenance has not been done; his observation was that, if the City had done the property maintenance, the reserves might not be so high. On the Agenda item for thirty-five hundred dollars (\$3,500) to remove showers from the public restrooms, he suggested that, between now and the beginning of the next beach season, a plumber could be found that would replace the existing showers for thirty-five hundred dollars (\$3,500). In his words, the City is going "to spend ten thousand dollars (\$10,000) to put lipstick on a pig (the public restrooms)," so the public restrooms should be fixed. He stated that he uses the cardio room on an average of three (3) times a week and spending half a million dollars on a cardio room does not guarantee that people are going to come. He also suggested that the City could get permission from SCDOT to use reserve funds to repair/replace the City's sidewalks so that "this wealthy island would not have sidewalks look like they are in a ghetto."

4. Reports from Standing Committees

A. Ways and Means Committee

At the meeting of September 20th, the Treasurer reported on the FY17 year-to-date performance; two (2) months into the year, the City is at one hundred eleven percent (111%) of collections relative to prior year. General Fund expenditures are at thirteen percent (13%) of the FY17 budget, at a time when the target is seventeen percent (17%). If an August receipt had been deposited timely, the cash balance would have been the same as the prior year in the General Fund; total cash has increased by two million dollars (\$2,000,000) from this time last year.

August Accommodations taxes were strong at two hundred eighteen thousand dollars (\$218,000) exceeding last year's performance. August was also a good month for Hospitality Taxes with collections of approximately ninety-three thousand dollars (\$93,000). The Beach Preservation Fee Fund increased by more than two hundred eighteen thousand dollars (\$218,000).

The Parking Lot worksheet netted one hundred eighty-eight thousand dollars (\$188,000) after the expenditures to automate the lot. Parking kiosks will be covered for the winter around October 1.

1. **Award a contract to Carolina Fencing in the amount of \$11,200 to replace the baseball field fencing**

MOTION: Mayor Cronin moved to award the contract to Carolina Fencing for \$11,200 as detailed above; Councilmember Carroll seconded and the motion PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

2. **Approval of up to \$20,000 as a match for the Shore-based Saltwater Fishing Grant to have a fishing dock at the Marina**

MOTION: Mayor Cronin moved to approve up to \$20,000 as a match for the Shore-based Saltwater Fishing Grant; Councilmember Bergwerf seconded.

The Mayor said that the City was applying for a saltwater fishing grant with a cap of one hundred thousand dollars (\$100,000); this action is to show that, if given the grant, the City is willing to put forward City funds as a match equal to twenty percent (20%) of the grant up to twenty thousand dollars (\$20,000).

VOTE: The motion PASSED on a vote of 6 to 3 with Councilmembers Carroll, Ferencz and Ward casting the dissenting votes.

3. **Approval of up to \$3,500 to remove the showers from the exterior wall of the public restrooms and install temporary free-standing showers**

MOTION: Mayor Cronin moved to approve up to \$3,500 to remove showers from the exterior of the public restrooms and install temporary free-standing showers; Councilmember Bergwerf seconded.

The goal is to get the unsightly showers off the wall but still give people the opportunity to shower off and clean their feet when they leave the beach.

Councilmember Bergwerf stated that the City has a permit for a dune walkover and the plan is to expand the deck where the showers would be installed; if the showers were to be permanently installed now, they would have to be redone when the boardwalk is constructed. She also stated that the construction of the new boardwalk is imminent.

Councilmember Ferencz asked about the timeline for the walkover since the City has had the permit for a couple of years.

Administrator Tucker explained that the delay in construction of the boardwalk has been the delay in a final decision about what the City is going to do about the public restrooms. Since the City is not looking at replacing the restrooms, circumstances have changed, i.e. a new appraised value for the building and a new basis for computing available funds under the fifty percent rule (50%). If the figures are such that the needed repairs can be done, the City needs to be prepared to make the renovations and construct the boardwalk with permanent, free-standing showers.

Mayor Cronin noted that the City has received new flood maps that take the restrooms out of a V zone and put them in a new O zone; the City needs to learn the regulations and workings of that zone. The new O zone might not require that the building be elevated, but the maps do not go into effect for another year.

VOTE: The motion PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

- 4. Award of a contract to Hill Construction in the amount of \$9,620 for buildings conditions assessment**

MOTION: Mayor Cronin moved to award a contract to Hill Construction for buildings conditions assessment; Councilmember Bergwerf seconded.

The Mayor explained that this was an effort to become knowledgeable about the maintenance of City buildings by a professional company that looks after buildings and maintenance. They will provide the City with a buildings assessment from which the City can lay out a timeline of what has to be taken care of immediately and what needs to be dealt with over a period of time.

VOTE: The motion PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

- 5. Award of a contract amendment Tasks 1-3 and 5 with ATM in the amount of \$46,900 to refine the Conceptual Redevelopment Plan for the IOP Marina**

MOTION: Mayor Cronin moved to award a contract amendment for Tasks 1-3 and 5 in the amount of \$46,900 as detailed above; Councilmember Rice seconded.

Mayor Cronin stated that the completion of these tasks will give the City a more detailed plan that is acceptable for everyone in the community to look at and to have a more specific budget for the cost of the various elements making up the redevelopment plan on which to base decisions about needs versus wants.

Councilmember Ferencz voiced her understanding that this work does not take the City to biddable documents which could cost the City an additional three hundred thousand dollars (\$300,000).

Administrator Tucker responded that she would have to go back to the minutes of the meeting to confirm that this figure was correct.

Repeating her question from the Ways and Means Committee meeting, Councilmember Ferencz asked if the completion of this work would get the City to a point where it could hold an open forum with the citizens and to a referendum.

The Mayor responded affirmatively and added that, without costs, the City does not know what it is planning for.

The Mayor also confirmed to Councilmember Ward that he has agreed to hold a referendum on the issue.

Councilmember Ward stated that he had read comments in meeting minutes that seemed to put the decision to hold a referendum in question.

Councilmember Kinghorn stated that holding a referendum was yet to be determined when Council has more information on which to make a decision.

Mayor Cronin commented that whether or not the City receives funds from the Boating Infrastructure Grant will have a major impact on how the City proceeds.

VOTE: The motion PASSED on a vote of 7 to 2 with Councilmembers Carroll and Ward casting dissenting votes.

6. **Award of a contract to Petersen Grading, LLC in the amount of \$35,000 to make repairs to the 49th Avenue beach access**

MOTION: Mayor Cronin moved to award a contract of \$35,000 to Petersen Grading for repairs to the 49th Avenue beach access; Councilmember Bettelli seconded.

The Mayor noted that the project will be funded from the Disaster Recovery Fund since the problem was the result of Joaquin and that the City has already received eleven thousand three hundred seventy-one dollars (\$11,371) from FEMA toward the repairs. Since the bids came in considerably higher than the original estimate, staff will submit an amended worksheet for the true cost of thirty-five thousand dollars (\$35,000); he noted that the state has committed to pay the City's twenty-five percent (25%) match through their emergency management funds.

VOTE: The motion PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

7. **Approval of distribution of FY16 positive net result transferring \$50,000 to the Disaster Recovery Fund, \$500,000 to the Capital Projects Fund and \$87,940 to remain in the unassigned General Fund balance**

MOTION: Mayor Cronin moved to distribute the FY16 positive net result as detailed above; Councilmember Ward seconded and the motion PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

8. **Approval for the millage to remain the same as TY2015**

MOTION: Mayor Cronin moved to approve the millage to remain the same as TY2015; Councilmember Harrington seconded and the motion PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

The Ways and Means Committee also had a long discussion about amendments to the City's procurement ordinance; Attorney Halversen has been reviewing changes to state law relative to purchasing as well as other local municipalities' ordinances to put before the Committee for consideration.

On October 17th, the City will hold a public parking input session to gather information from residents about the parking management program initiated in May. Giving a week to digest residents' input, the Mayor suggested that City Council hold a Special Meeting on Monday, October 24th at 4:00 p.m. to make decisions on improvements to the program for next season.

Expecting a large turnout, Councilmember Carroll suggested that the meeting of October 17th be held at the Rec Center; Mayor Cronin had no objections and asked Director Page to check for available space.

The Mayor also reported that the Ways and Means Committee set the date of Tuesday, November 1st for a financial look-ahead meeting and asked to move the time up to 3:00 p.m.

Councilmember Ferencz noted that the minutes state that the City's parking kiosks would be covered on or around October 1 until mid-March and asked if parking would be free at the marina for the same period of time.

Mayor Cronin responded that the marina is under a lease and that charging for parking was a management decision; he stated that boaters are charged five dollars (\$5) to launch their boat and that the launch fee includes parking but does not guarantee a parking space. For other visitors, parking is free. The Mayor added that the marina manager is considering a change to the structure that would have separate payments to launch and to park.

The next Ways and Means Committee meeting will be at 5:00 p.m., Tuesday, October 18th.

B. Public Safety Committee

At the meeting of September 12, the Committee again discussed encroachments in the rights-of-way, and Chief Buckhannon stated that with the season winding down, he was prepared to begin identifying the encroachments that interfere with parking or create a safety hazard to start the removal process before the next beach season. He indicated that he would address the safety hazards, i.e. the hard structures, first. On the subject of parking, Councilmember Bergwerf reported that she has received a few emails from residents who "applauded" the parking plan; people enjoyed getting their neighborhoods back. Chair Bettelli expressed the opinion that the October special meeting about parking should be an educational tool for residents as well as input gathering meeting for Council and staff. In a discussion of storm warning preparedness, Chief Graham stated that some twenty to thirty (20-30) island residents who would need special assistance in a storm event have pre-registered with the Fire Department; Chief Graham said that this program is promoted at the Disaster Expo every year; information is also on the City's website. The City sustained no damage from Hermine; City offices were closed on Friday at 1:30 p.m. due to increasing winds to ensure the safety of personnel leaving the island. The City also followed Charleston County's lead relative to operating conditions.

In the August report from the Fire Department, Chief Graham reported that personnel assisted the Dewees Island Fire Department by transporting a paramedic to the island on two (2) occasions, August 14th and August 26th. Crews found fire and black smoke coming from a structure fire on Charleston Boulevard on August 28th; once the fire was extinguished, personnel completed salvage, overhaul and cause and origin investigation. Personnel responded to a total of one hundred sixteen (116) calls in the month; fifty (50) of them were EMS calls. Personnel responded to a total of seven hundred ninety-five (795) calls year-to-date. Chief Graham reported that the island may lose the presence of the QRV; staff will monitor its use and provide feedback to Charleston County. If that happens, the County's goal is to get the island a quicker transport unit. The Chief reported that there has been a change of command at the County, and re-vamping has occurred throughout the system. They have hired additional personnel with the plan to get a transport vehicle closer to the island. During the month, the Department had its annual Insurance Service Office (ISO) evaluation; and Chief Graham expects to get good results. Personnel conducted several station tours, removed a tree from a residence on 34th Avenue, installed car seats and assisted an elderly resident on Waterway Boulevard up the stairs to their home.

From the August Police Department report, Chief Buckhannon told the Committee about a burglary that occurred where the home owner's iPad remote that he uses to control his security system was stolen. Over the following week or week and a half, six (6) different homes were burglarized and a variety of items were taken; police apprehended the perpetrator in the act of stealing from another home, and upon gaining access to the person's vehicle, officers found the homeowner's iPad remote among other things that linked to the other burglaries. Sgt. Kraig Thompson has been recognized by a citizen for the time spent mentoring an individual who was down on his luck and helping to get him back on track. Chaplain Rob Dewey recognized Pfc. Matt Maloney for his compassion and consolation to the woman whose husband drowned in Wild Dunes. The National Night Out, sponsored by the Police Department, was a huge success that was well attended by residents; the event received participation from several businesses on the island that provided food. The young people enjoyed the face painter and the helicopter was interesting to everyone. The Police Department had forty-nine hundred (4,900) calls from the total number of calls of six thousand two hundred ninety-one (6,291). Officers wrote seventy-one (71) citations from the three hundred two (302) traffic stops in the month; year-to-date accidents are down by thirty percent (30%). During the month, officers wrote one hundred thirty-nine (139) incident reports; they have written eleven hundred twenty-four (1,124) reports year-to-date. The City has added a newly certified officer to the force; he has begun the twelve (12) weeks of field training.

The next meeting of the Public Safety Committee will be at 9:00 a.m., Tuesday, October 4th.

Councilmember Bettelli reminded residents that the IOP Connector Run is Saturday, October 1st and the Connector will be closed from 7:00 a.m. till 10:00 a.m. Mayor Cronin asked Director Page to get that information on the message boards for residents and visitors.

Councilmember Ferencz asked for the reasoning behind Chief Graham's comment that she was not a proponent of rip current flags; Councilmember Bettelli said that, if the City decides to use the rip current flags, they must be used every time a rip current exists, making the City responsible and liable.

C. Public Works Committee

Councilmember Ward, reporting on the meeting of September 6th, stated that, according to Director Pitts, the City's compactor and pad on Front Beach were thoroughly cleaned twice in the month of August; the contractor HDR Services was called to the island three (3) times in the month to mow rights-of-way. Public Works personnel were called upon to remove some limbs at the Mayor Carmen R. Bunch Park for the construction of the golf cart path between 18th and 20th Avenues. Miscellaneous garbage increased for August, but yard debris and household garbage collections were at a five (5) year high. With no unusual expenses, vehicle maintenance was relatively low, putting the Department back within budget. In an update on the Phase II Drainage project, Administrator Tucker reported that the IOP Water and Sewer Commission (IOPWSC) has returned the executed easement documents needed for the project to move forward; Civil Site Environmental was asked if the drainage could follow another route, but the answer was that it must remain as drawn. In a further update, the Administrator reported that the City has received the easement from the IOPWSC and it was given to Attorney Halversen earlier in the evening to be recorded. After researching the various types of pooper-scoopers, Director Pitts recommended that the City not make a change. A problem with the water line has delayed the construction of the golf cart path between 18th and 20th Avenues; that problem has been resolved, but the contractor has started another job. The issue of trailers on the island was sent to the Planning Commission for recommendation(s) on an amendment to the current ordinance, but, at their most recent meeting, they did not reach a conclusion. The discussion of the condition of Palm Boulevard from Breach Inlet to the Connector carried over from the previous meeting, and the Administrator Tucker informed the Committee that she and the Mayor were still trying to schedule a meeting with SCDOT to discuss the City's long-standing request for bike paths on both sides of Palm Boulevard from Breach Inlet to 57th Avenue. The items that the City would like to see included in the COG's work product are as follows:

- Feasibility and suitability analysis of the creation of regulations bicycle lanes on both sides of Palm Boulevard for the entire length of Palm Boulevard from Breach Inlet to 57th Avenue.
- Construction of a multi-use path to connect the right shoulder of the Isle of Palms Connector, which is used by bicyclists and pedestrians, to the sidewalk on Palm Boulevard.
- Construction/expansion of regulation bicycle lanes/multi-use paths along Waterway Boulevard and Forest Trail.

The Administrator and Assistant Administrator will be attending a meeting on September 15th sponsored by the COG on this subject. Consideration of City representation at IOP Water and Sewer Commission meetings revealed that it had been a practice of the City in the past. After the Administrator expressed the opinion that for the City to attend their meetings would be well received, the decision was made to bring it before Council. Councilmember Bettelli stated that, when he was Chair of the Public Works Committee, he attended the Commission meetings; Councilmember Ward agreed to assume that responsibility. Pursuant to concerns about Front Beach cleanup, Director Pitts reported that, on Monday mornings, Mr. Schupp pays members of the Public Works Department for beach cleanup beginning at 6:45 a.m. to 7:30 a.m., before they report to work for the City. Councilmember Ferencz recalled that the Public Works Committee had been instrumental in getting the decorative lights at Front Beach in collaboration with SCE&G; she questioned whether the City could use funds from the non-standard service clause to get pretty, security lighting in the municipal parking lots.

Other topics discussed were voting procedures at Council and Committee meetings and consent agendas as well as the purpose of “Miscellaneous Business” on agendas.

The Public Works Committee will hold its next meeting at 11:00 a.m., Tuesday, October 11, 2016.

Mayor Cronin reported that he had met with DOT the day before, and he pushed them, but they were not willing to commit to re-paving and improvements to Palm from Breach Inlet to the Connector. The Mayor left the meeting thinking that the wait may not be too long.

Councilmember Kinghorn acknowledged that SCDOT has a priority list and asked if the Mayor knew where the City was on that list.

The Mayor did not think the City was very far down the line, but what gets done is totally dependent on funding; in addition, federal money is involved, meaning more regulations and requirements.

Councilmember Rice asked if the City had a schedule or any information about spraying for mosquitoes by Charleston County.

Mayor Cronin only knew that mosquito abatement was going to begin a round of aerial spraying on Thursday, September 29th through the weekend. Charleston County Mosquito Abatement had a representative at the Wellness Fair who informed the Mayor that they were testing putting a spray unit on the back of an ATV that would afford them the ability to get off the roads and into the dune system, along the Intracoastal Waterway on the golf course, etc. Staff will be sending them a letter asking to be part of that process.

D. Recreation Committee

From the meeting of September 7th, Councilmember Carroll reported that the minutes were approved after some re-wording to properly reflect Councilmember Kinghorn’s position that space for an enlarged cardio room exists within the current footprint of the Recreation Center. Four (4) citizens who were very complimentary of staff and the programs attended the meeting; they offered comments about the cardio room both pro and con. They also stated that seniors would like to be more involved in the planning and preparation for Keenagers’ meetings and to organize and discard book offerings at the lending library. Director Page stated that the lending library would accept newer novels, which residents are more likely to read; the Director also stated that staff would welcome all volunteers to assist with Keenagers’ monthly potluck lunches. Fall athletics are getting underway with two hundred eight (208) youths registered for soccer. As a part of the Employee Wellness Program, Wacky Golf was played at the Links Course in Wild Dunes, and employees attending had a wonderful time. The first Keenagers meeting was September 7th at noon, and the Community Wellness Fair was held on Wednesday, September 22 from 7:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. East Cooper Medical Center donated bloodwork for employees, and Harris Teeter covered the expense for employee flu, tetanus and pneumonia shots. “Ghostly Tide Tales” is scheduled for October 21st, Pumpkin Painting will be October 27th, the Halloween Carnival will be on October 31st and the Holiday Street Festival will be December 3rd. The 18th Annual Half Rubber Tournament was held on Saturday, 20th with fifteen (15) teams participating; a local Charleston team “Below Average” won.

Based on data gathered by the Rec Department's casual surveys, a key concern was whether information about recreation activities and programs was getting to all residents of the island. Administrator Tucker thought that the segment of residents that is being missed is those who move to the island and have no children living at home to be involved with Rec activities and sports - they are mature adults. One (1) member stated that, if someone buys a home on the island, but uses a realtor from Mount Pleasant, the buyer might never have known of the existence of a recreation department, much less the variety of programs and activities offered. Since the last meeting, Director Page met with a vendor of the shade sails for the playground equipment and learned that one (1) 40 X 40 sail with three (3) poles would cost the City twenty thousand dollars (\$20,000). The consensus was that planting another tree would be the best option since it would cost very little and require less maintenance and upkeep. The Committee had a lengthy discussion about the Recreation Department's Master Plan and expansion of the Recreation Building; topics included the reasons behind scrapping the plan to reconfigure the ball fields, the need for programs to remain on the Recreation Department grounds, and the difficulties in scheduling all of the programs, many of which operate simultaneously. Consideration was also given to expanding the history series to include talks by island residents who are retired college sports coaches, writers, or the resident who recently completed hiking the Appalachian Trail. Councilmember Rice suggested having a second "Music in the Park" event in the fall next year; she considered it to be a rather simple event to put on and that it was a good-spirited event enjoyed by all ages.

Councilmember Carroll announced again that the IOP Connector Run would be on Saturday, October 1; currently approximately nine hundred (900) runners/walkers have registered.

The Recreation Committee will hold its next meeting at 9:00 a.m., Wednesday, November 2nd in the Conference Room.

E. Personnel Committee

From the meeting of September 16th, Councilmember Harrington reported that the Committee had a long discussion about the demand on staff time for Council directed meetings, and the recommendation from the Personnel Committee was for all standing committees to consider the benefits in efficiency, cost savings and more productive staff time by significantly reducing the number of Council directed meetings. To demonstrate its support for this concept, the Personnel Committee will reduce regular meetings by fifty percent (50%), or six (6) meetings per year; if the need arises, a special meeting can be called. The balance of Councilmember Harrington's comments and a copy of the staff-prepared time study are attached to the historical record of the meeting. At the October meeting, the Committee will consider appointments to boards and commissions and a policy for elected officials' use of City-owned electronic devices and email accounts.

August Safety Sweepstakes winners are Amy Lee of the Judicial Department, Peter Gray of the Fire Department, Pfc. Chad King of the Police Department and Charles Williams of Public Works.

Staff vacancies are one (1) in General Government for the Payroll and Human Resources Officer and four (4) positions in the Police Department. The need for a Permitting Clerk in the Building Department is anticipated effective January 1, 2017.

The Personnel Committee will hold its next meeting at 10:00 a.m., Thursday, October 13th in the Conference Room.

Councilmember Carroll stated that, at the August Ways and Means and City Council meetings, fifteen (15) items of business were voted on, and the agenda for this meeting contains eight (8); in his opinion, there were many items of business from the standing committees. He stated that the City was a ten-plus million dollar (\$10,000,000+) per year business and that Council, as a group, only meets two (2) times a month to discuss issues.

Councilmember Kinghorn commented that the issue is not Council's time; "the report from the Personnel Committee was about staff time, and, if staff can better use their time, that is the responsible thing for [Council] to do."

Councilmember Ferencz stated that she agreed, but made note that both the Administrator and Assistant Administrator attend every meeting; their time could be cut in half if they were to attend meetings individually. Her point was that there are other ways to reduce staff time without reducing the number of meetings. She stated that her concern was the need for a measurement tool of how the City was being more efficient or more productive by eliminating meetings; she was not convinced that having fewer meetings would equate to less work for staff.

Councilmember Kinghorn stated that, if Council were to implement this plan next year, Council could judge whether it was beneficial, were meetings reduced too much, were staff improvements made otherwise, were procedural improvements made? He noted that, with the recommended changes to the procurement code, the number of items appearing on Ways and Means and Council agendas would be reduced.

Referring to the section of the City Code about standing committees and their responsibilities, Councilmember Ferencz stated that the responsibility for the Personnel Committee to make appointment recommendations for boards and commissions was not included.

F. Real Property Committee

Reporting on the meeting of September 8th, Councilmember Bergwerf announced limited success with marina parking at the Rec Center, but the Committee and marina tenants will work over the winter to find a better, more workable solution. Morgan Creek Grill management attended the meeting with pictures showing the need to replace the walk-in freezer; there was a discussion on who should be responsible for the expense and the floor repair; the discussion will continue at the October meeting. The charrette with ATM on the marina redevelopment continued related to the next steps; their proposal received final approval earlier in the meeting. Based on citizens' comments at the Council meeting of August 23rd, the consensus of Council was not to construct a fishing pier at the end of 25th Avenue, but to use grant funds on a dock at the marina, as originally planned, to reduce the overall cost of the redevelopment project. The Committee unanimously voted to proceed with the fishing dock application and to commit twenty percent (20%) of the grant award up to twenty thousand dollars (\$20,000) as matching funds. On the subject of the public restrooms, the Committee is committed to doing whatever repairs are needed immediately, starting with the removal of the showers from the exterior, rear wall; the short-term goal is to install temporary, free-standing showers within the coming month. An extension of the deck will become

part of the new boardwalk; as the boardwalk is nearing completion, more permanent and aesthetically pleasing, free-standing showers will be installed. Director Kerr has been researching what must be considered when calculating the fifty percent (50%) rule; he found a recent ruling by FEMA that says repairs and maintenance that do not require a permit do not have to be included in the calculations. Director Kerr stated that staff is currently in the process of getting approval at 42nd Avenue; all of the paperwork is assembled and ready to be submitted to OCRM for permitting. The City is asking for permission to put an ADA surface all of the way from where the soft sand stops and the hard sand begins. He noted that handicap accesses are located at Sea Cabins, 21st is happening, 32A, 42nd Avenue and 9th Avenue. The present plan for the 42nd Avenue access is to install one (1) wider path not two (2) parallel paths. On the subject of beach restoration, the City is working to complete the grant application to the state for part of the thirty million dollars (\$30,000,000) included in the state budget for beach restoration along the South Carolina coast. Everything is on hold currently until a decision is made about the borrow site. Earlier in the evening, Council awarded a contract to Petersen Grading to make the repairs to the 49th Avenue beach access and a contract to Hill Construction for a building conditions assessment. In addition, Councilmember Bergwerf stated that she thought it was incumbent upon City Council to consider adding a person to the City staff in the next budget cycle; this person would be responsible for managing all of the City-owned properties, in terms of maintaining that property on a level equal to what the citizens expect; all City assets should be taken care of the way the Recreation Department is.

The next meeting of the Real Property Committee is at 9:30 a.m., Monday, October 10th in the Conference Room.

When Councilmember Carroll asked about a second meeting of the Real Property Committee, Councilmember Bergwerf stated that the Committee had held a special meeting to discuss and vote on the ATM proposal.

Councilmember Carroll then quoted from the minutes of that meeting as follows:

Councilmember Harrington noted that the Real Property Committee had been given stewardship over the marina and it is in need of repair; in his opinion, there was no need for a referendum.

Councilmember Harrington stated that the City “was not at any point near a referendum;” until this work is done, the City has not idea of the cost.

5. Reports from City Officers, Boards and Commissions

- A. Accommodations Tax Advisory Committee** – no meeting in September
- B. Board of Zoning Appeals** – minutes attached
- C. Planning Commission** – minutes attached

Mayor Cronin said that the City now has the new flood maps, and staff needs to understand how these new flood plain regulations affect the City’s existing ordinances; the City must adopt ordinances, and the decision must be made whether it makes citizens safer or less safe in executing these new regulations. The Mayor recommended that the Planning Commission be tasked with reviewing the existing maps and ordinances to compare them to the new maps and

regulations to recommend how the City should continue to protect the assets of the island's citizens.

Councilmember Rice asked how often the flood maps are updated; Mayor Cronin replied that the data point is being moved from 1929 to 1988 as an indicator of how frequently the maps are updated. The Mayor said that the maps might be more technically accurate, but they have been quite a surprise to the Mayor and City staff.

Administrator Tucker remarked that the new maps do not look as disaster resistant as the existing maps.

The Mayor encouraged Councilmembers to review the maps, and the Administrator noted that they are also on the City's website for review by residents.

Councilmember Ferencz read from the Planning Commission minutes that Director Kerr "perceived an urgency among members of Council to enact something quickly before more requests for Special Exceptions were filed," but such a request has been submitted by Coastal Expeditions that will be ruled upon under the existing ordinance. The Councilmember stated that, prior to the acquisition of the trailer, Coastal Expeditions operated from a small office in the footprint of the marina store, and, when the kayaks were moved from the boat ramp, they arranged for the trailer. The Councilmember asked why they had not maintained the office in the store's footprint; that small office is now being used by the company renting paddleboards.

The Mayor assumed that the reason Coastal Expeditions chose not to maintain the old office was based on logistics.

Councilmember Rice noted that the paddleboarders continue to launch from a dock at the boat ramp.

- 6. Reports from Special or Joint Committees – None**
- 7. Petitions Received, Referred or Disposed of – None**
- 8. Bills Already in Possession of Council – None**
- 9. Introduction of New Bills, Resolutions and Proclamations**

First Reading, by title only, of Ordinance 2016-08 – An Ordinance Amending Title 5, Planning and Development, Chapter 4, Zoning, Article 1, General Provisions, Section 5-4-38, Table of Permitted Uses in Commercial Districts, of the City of Isle of Palms Code of Ordinances to Prohibit Mobile and Temporary Units Being Used for Outdoor Sale or Rental of Personal Property, Except During City-Hosted, -Sponsored or –Sanctioned Special Events

MOTION: Mayor Cronin moved to approve First Reading, by title only, of Ordinance 2016-08; Councilmember Ward seconded.

Councilmember Rice asked how the term “footprint” is defined.

Director Kerr answered that this was a nuance the Planning Commission wanted to preserve in the Code; right now the outside sales part of the Code speaks globally to all things outdoors. What the Planning Commission wanted to do was to write the Code in such a way as to allow for a business, for instance a restaurant, to get permission to construct a deck and enclose it for additional seating, i.e. hard, fast permitted structures could continue to ask for these things, whereas a temporary trailer, van, etc. could not even ask for an exception through the Board of Zoning Appeals. Responding to the Councilmember’s question, the Director said that the Planning Commission tied it to a building permit, so the building must be permitted, permanent and within the footprint of it – it would have to be a portion of the building that received the building permit.

VOTE: The motion PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

First Reading, by title only, of Ordinance 2016-09 – An Ordinance Amending Title 5, Planning and Development, Chapter 4, Zoning, Article 1, General Provisions, Section 5-4-16, Temporary Uses, of the City of Isle of Palms Code of Ordinances to delete reference to mobile homes, storage and office trailers used for temporary housing, storage and offices for City emergency and public safety equipment and personnel as permitted temporary uses.

MOTION: Mayor Cronin moved to approve for First Reading, by title only, of Ordinance 2016-09; Councilmember Bettelli seconded.

Director Kerr explained that this ordinance is a cleanup of the Code; it was enacted when the Fire Department had to move into trailers at the Citadel Beach House.

VOTE: The motion PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

10. Miscellaneous Business

Next Meeting Date: 6:00 p.m., Tuesday, October 25, 2016

11. Adjournment

MOTION: Councilmember Ward moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:03 p.m.; Councilmember Carroll seconded and the motion PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

Respectfully submitted:

Marie Copeland
City Clerk