

**SPECIAL CITY COUNCIL MEETING**  
6:00 p.m., Tuesday, December 9, 2008

The Special Meeting of the City Council was held at 6 p.m. on Tuesday, December 9, 2008 in Council Chambers of City Hall, 1207 Palm Boulevard, Isle of Palms, South Carolina. Attending the meeting were Council members Bettelli, Buckhannon, Cronin, Duffy, Loftus, Piening and Taylor, Mayor Pro Tem Rice, City Administrator Tucker, City Attorney Sottile and Assistant to the Administrator Dziuban. There was a quorum present to conduct business.

1. Mayor Pro Tem called the meeting to order and reported that the press and the public had been duly notified of the meeting in accordance with the Freedom of Information Act. After the invocation, the Mayor Pro Tem led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

Assistant to the Administrator Dziuban called the roll and noted that all of Council was present.

**2. Consideration of Appointments to Standing Committees for 2009**

The appointments are on the attached list.

**MOTION: Councilman Bettelli moved to approve the appointments to Standing Committees as presented; Councilman Cronin seconded and the motion was UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED.**

**3. Report from Standing Committee - Personnel  
Consideration of Appointments to Boards and Commissions**

**And**

**4. Consideration of Appointments of City Judges, Assistant Judge, City Attorney and Assistant City Attorney**

Councilman Piening reported that many people wanted to continue serving on the board or commission to which they had been appointed; the Personnel Committee decided that, if a person had served less than two (2) full terms, he/she would be eligible to be re-appointed.

**MOTION: Councilman Taylor moved to approve the appointments to boards and commissions set forth by the Personnel Committee; Councilman Bettelli seconded.**

Councilman Piening commented that letters were sent to persons currently serving on a board or commission about their desire to be re-appointed with a return deadline for the responses. There was discussion about individual committee members' responses that

may not have been received within the time frame; Mayor Pro Tem Rice reminded Councilman Piening that specific individuals could not be discussed in open session.

**MOTION: At 6:18 p.m., Councilman Loftus moved to go into Executive Session to discuss personnel matters related to the appointments to board and commissions for 2009; Councilman Duffy seconded, and the motion was UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED.**

City Council returned to regular session at 6:33 p.m.; Mayor Pro Tem Rice noted that no action and no votes had been taken in Executive Session.

To define his earlier motion, Councilman Taylor announced the Personnel Committee recommendations for the record; they are as follows:

ATAX (3 year term)	Sandy Ferencz, At-large seat Rick Linville, Lodging seat, re-appointment
Board of Zoning Appeals (3 year term)	Michael Layman, re-appointment
Code Board of Appeals (4 year term)	Brian Garner
Planning Commission (2 year term)	Lisa Safford, unexpired seat of Bob Hooper (1 year) Barbara Bergwerf, re-appointment Pat Campbell, re-appointment Sandy Stone, re-appointment Dick Watson, re-appointment

There were two (2) other components to the Personnel Committee recommendations; they are as follows:

A)	Judges, 2 year term	Jeannette M. Harper Michael A. Molony
	Assistant Judge, 2 year term	Barry C. Holden
B)	City Attorney, 1 year term	Nick Sottile
	Assistant City Attorney, 1 year	Stirling Halversen

Councilman Duffy inquired about the term length for the judges; Administrator Tucker reported that state law now requires two (2) year terms. Administrator Tucker introduced Stirling Halversen to the Council at this time.

**Call for the Question: The motion to approve the Personnel Committee appointments to boards and commissions PASSED on a vote of 7 to 1; Councilman Piening cast the dissenting vote.**

**5. Award of Contract for One (1) Fire Truck and Equipment to Fireline representing E-One of Greenville, South Carolina in the amount of \$342,155.25**

Mayor Pro Tem Rice recounted that this purchase had been discussed at the Ways and Means Committee meeting, and the Ways and Means Committee had voted unanimously to recommend the purchase to City Council. Since the Ways and Means meeting, the RFP was issued and the City received one (1) bid. Mayor Pro Tem Rice also noted that the City has purchased E-One equipment in the past and been very pleased with the equipment.

Administrator Tucker informed the Council that not only had the RFP been published in the *Post and Courier*, but also had been posted on-line and sent to five (5) vendors. The Administrator stated that the City had been pleased to receive the bid from E-One given that E-One equipment is consistent with much of the equipment that the City already has. The estimated cost of the truck was three hundred sixty thousand dollars (\$360,000), and the City would finance the truck through a municipal lease. Administrator Tucker reiterated that there would be no financial outlay for this equipment until FY 2009-2010 and that delivery would be after the start of the next fiscal year.

**MOTION: Councilman Taylor moved to award the contract to Fireline/E-One for the purchase of a new fire truck in the amount of \$342,155.25; Councilman Buckhannon seconded.**

Councilman Loftus asked Chief Graham about the amount of use the truck being replaced has had over the past several years. Chief Graham responded that the 1991 pumper was considered to be un-manned on a daily basis, but it had been used to fight a fire that day; whenever another piece of equipment is out of operation due to service, this pumper is put into operation. The Chief added that the 1991 pumper was checked out every day and was put into service twice a week; it is considered a frontline piece of equipment and is maintained accordingly.

Councilman Loftus recalled that Chief Graham had requested, during the budget process, the addition of twelve (12) firefighters; with the purchase of this equipment, would she be making the same request again? Chief Graham answered that the

acquisition of this new equipment did not play in the need for additional firefighters and that she would again be seeking additional personnel.

Councilman Loftus stated that, after studying the maintenance records for the 1991 pumper, he did not think it had been an especially costly piece of equipment when compared to other equipment in the City's fleet. Chief Graham recalled that the service needs for the 1991 pumper – if the City were to decide to keep it - were distributed at the Ways and Means Committee meeting and she was prepared to distribute them again tonight.

Mayor Pro Tem Rice repeated the fact that the replacement of the 1991 pumper is in the Capital Budget for FY 2009-2010; the only issue before Council tonight is to award the contract (6) months earlier.

Councilman Cronin noted that the City would incur a three thousand dollar (\$3,000) cancellation fee if the purchase order were to be cancelled by March 31, 2009; he asked that this figure be included in any motion that would be made.

Councilman Taylor noted that the City's fire equipment is kept at "fire fighting ready" condition at all times through constant maintenance. When the vehicles are replaced, the City gauges the best time to replace and sell them by reviewing the optimum life of the piece of equipment. As a result of the sale of the oldest truck, Councilman Taylor commented that the cost of the new truck would not be \$342,155.25, but that price less the sale price of the old truck.

Councilman Bettelli explained that the purpose of the three thousand dollars (\$3,000) cancellation fee was to allow the City to cancel its purchase order should the Council determine, during upcoming budget preparations, that the City would not have the revenue stream to support the purchase.

Councilman Duffy asked how the cost of refurbishing the 1991 pumper compared to the first payment on a new truck; Councilman Duffy recalled from the Ways and Means meeting that the initial payment on a new truck would be approximately seventeen thousand dollars (\$17,000). Mayor Pro Tem Rice related that the Council had determined that eighteen or nineteen years (18-19) was the optimum life of a fire truck to allow the City to recuperate the most money when selling.

Administrator Tucker located the amortization schedule that had been distributed at the Ways and Means meeting and reported that the initial payment on the new truck was indicated to be \$53,048 based on a purchase price of three hundred sixty thousand dollars (\$360,000) and an interest rate of five percent (5%). Based on the bid price and

the expectation of a lower interest rate, the payment should be considerably less than quoted at Ways and Means.

**Call for the Question: The motion PASSED on a vote of 5 to 3 following a roll call vote where Councilmen Duffy, Loftus and Piening voted against the purchase.**

**MOTION: Councilman Loftus moved to change the November 2009 City Council meeting to November 17 so as not to fall in the week of Thanksgiving; Councilman Taylor seconded and the motion PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

**MOTION: Councilman Cronin moved to reschedule the May 2009 Council meeting to May 19, 2009; Councilman Taylor seconded and the motion PASSED on a vote of 7 to 1 with Councilman Piening casting the "nay" vote.**

- 6. MOTION: Councilman Piening moved to go into Executive Session at 6:40 p.m. to discuss personnel compensation issues related to the City Attorney; Councilman Taylor seconded and the motion PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

City Council returned to regular session at 6:53 p.m.; Mayor Pro Tem Rice announced that there had been no votes and no action taken in Executive Session.

- 7. MOTION: At 6:55 p.m., Councilman Taylor moved to adjourn the meeting; Councilman Duffy seconded and the motion PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

Respectfully submitted:

Marie Copeland  
City Clerk