



**Public Services & Facilities Committee Meeting
9:00am, Tuesday, March 5, 2024
1207 Palm Boulevard, Isle of Palms, SC and
broadcasted live on YouTube: <https://www.youtube.com/user/cityofisleofpalms>**

MINUTES

1. Call to Order

Present: Council members Miars, Hahn, Pierce (via Zoom)

Staff Present: Administrator Fragoso, Director Kerr, Director Pitts, Director Ferrell

2. Citizen's Comments -- none

3. Approval of Previous Meeting's Minutes – February 13, 2024

MOTION: Council Member Hahn made a motion to approve the minutes of the February 13, 2024 meeting. Council Member Hahn seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

4. Old Business

Discussion of parking reconfiguration layout options for the Intracoastal side of marina parking lot

The City has not yet received feedback from the restaurant about the most recent parking lot reconfiguration.

Administrator Fragoso reported that the restaurant will not extend the lease of the space being used by the contractors working on the ditch at 41st Avenue past the March 8 expiration date. She said the contractors can use the shared lot if needed.. The contractors can keep to the public right of way, on the roadway, and the top of the ditch as much as possible.

Council Member Hahn asked again about the possibility of running the effluent line for the Water & Sewer Commission through the 42" pipe in that area. Administrator Fragoso added that she is not sure the regulatory agencies would permit such a request. Director Kerr said that while the idea seemed to make sense, he shared that it was not the City's intent to finalize the landscaping and paving in that area until after the effluent line is installed.

5. **New Business**

A. **Review of the FY25 Budget for Public Works and Recreation Departments**

Administrator Fragoso shared that the bulk of increase in operational expenses throughout the budget comes from payroll increases, an 11.8% increase in health insurance costs, and increases in property and liability insurances.

She reviewed those line items in the Public Works budget that have increased since FY24. Due to the increased amount of public works' apparatus, the budget should consider an increase in vehicle maintenance costs.

Administrator Fragoso said the proposed budget also includes two drainage projects: the design of an improvement on Palm Boulevard between 37th, 38th, and 41st avenues and the rebudgeting of the Waterway Boulevard project from FY24. The Palm Boulevard project will be funded by half of the ARP funds and a \$1 million received by the State last year for drainage improvements.

Thomas & Hutton will attend the City Council workshop next week to discuss the feasibility of increasing the protections provided by the Waterway Boulevard project. Elevated protections as well as added drainage infrastructure between 21st and 23rd avenues will increase the cost of the project. The City is waiting to hear from FEMA about the award of a grant that will pay for the bulk of the project.

The Public Works budget also includes \$50,000 for the purchase of a used mini excavator to help build the City's stormwater management capabilities.

Council Member Pierce asked if the City is seeing increased revenue projections for the coming fiscal year. Administrator Fragoso said, "The reality is we are not seeing a corresponding increase in revenues." She said they are working on revenue projections and will discuss ideas on how to meet budgetary goals at the City Council Budget workshop.

Administrator Fragoso then reviewed the operational expense increases and requests in the Recreation Department budget, including the replacement of playground equipment, replacement of the material under the playground equipment, painting the building, and the replacement of the floor in the High Tide Room.

Committee members briefly discussed the potential for increasing programming fees for residents. Director Ferrell said she is looking into the fees charged by Mt. Pleasant and the City of Charleton for comparison. Council Member Pierce asked about the feasibility of opening the Recreation Center on Sundays again.

Council Member Hahn asked about the Town of Mt. Pleasant's use of in-house doctors and wondered if the City could financially benefit from participation in their plan.

6. Miscellaneous Business

The next regular meeting of the Public Services & Facilities Committee will be Tuesday, April 2, 2024 at 9am.

7. Adjournment

Council Member Hahn made a motion to adjourn and Council Member Miars seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned at 9:47am.

Respectfully submitted,
Nicole DeNeane
City Clerk