



City Council

6:00 p.m., Tuesday, January 28, 2025
City Hall Council Chambers
1207 Palm Boulevard, Isle of Palms, SC

MINUTES

1. Call to Order

Present: Council members Bogosian, Streetman, Anderson, Ward, Hahn, Miars (via Zoom), Pierce, and Carroll, Mayor Pounds

Staff Present: Director Kerr, City Attorney McQuillin, various department heads

2. Citizens' Comments – none

3. Election of Mayor Pro Tem

MOTION: Council Member Streetman nominated Council Member Ward for Mayor Pro Tem. Council Member Hahn seconded the motion.

MOTION: Council Member Anderson nominated Council Member Bogosian for Mayor Pro Tem. Council Member Pierce seconded the motion.

There being no other nominations, a vote was taken for Council Member Ward as Mayor Pro Tem with Council members Streetman, Ward, Hahn, Carroll, and Mayor Pounds voting in the affirmative. Council Member Ward was elected Mayor Pro Tem.

4. Special Presentation- Discussion of beach conditions and consideration of funding additional protective measures- Steven Traynum

Mr. Traynum provided an update on beach conditions. He said the beach is in as good of a condition as it has been in the last year. Pools in the 5th block are close to the 20' critical line. He said tides higher than 6' are not expected through March. The most critical area is in Wild Dunes around Seagrove and Beachwood East. He believes additional sandbags in that area are needed. This area of sandbags will need rebuilding and restacking.

He said US Fish & Wildlife needs to issue their biological opinion for the shoal management project, and they are planning to do that that in March. Upon receipt of that, he expects the State will issue their permit, and work can begin in April.

Regarding the USACE Beneficial Use Project, Mr. Traynum said they are anticipating completing their work on Sullivan's Island at the end of February. The project should take approximately six months. Their work on IOP will happen during turtle nesting season, and they will adhere to all rules set for the protection of the endangered species.

He shared, "They are getting very close to signing the agreement to dredge the Breach Inlet channel, which would occur before they do the remainder of this spoil, beneficial use project.

So that is another 50-60,000 cubic yards of sand that they are going to be placing on the Isle of Palms for free and also opening up the navigation and the waterway. They will be able to do that a more rapid pace than what they are doing now.”

Mr. Traynum said there is a lot of exposed sand at low tide at the site of the shoal. Once the permits are in hand, they will decide where the sand from the shoal will be placed.

Council Member Pierce asked if there is a Plan B should the Beneficial Use Project not materialize as planned. Mr. Traynum said they are “working on the permit application for the next large scale renourishment that would include both ends of the island regardless of whether the Corps does this project or not.” Those permits are 9-12 months from being issued.

Mr. Traynum added that beach conditions have been more stable in the last 6 months than they have been in the last two years.

Discussion ensued about the placement and costs of and caveats with groins. Mr. Traynum said he would prepare some information on groins for City Council’s consideration.

MOTION: Council Member Hahn made a motion approving an amount up to \$50,000 for additional sandbags as needed. Council Member Anderson seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

5. Approval of previous meetings’ minutes

- a. City Council Meeting – November 12, 2024
- b. Special City Council Meeting – December 10, 2024
- c. Special City Council Meeting – January 7, 2025
- d. Special City Council Workshop – January 14, 2025

MOTION: Council Member Ward made a motion to approve, and Council Member Anderson seconded the motion.

Council Member Streetman offered two spelling corrections in the November 12 and December 10, 2024 minutes.

VOTE: A vote on the minutes as amended was taken with all in favor.

6. Old Business - none

7. New Business

- a. **Consideration of awarding a contract to Munnerlyn Pyrotechnics for July 4th, 2025 fireworks for \$40,000 RFB2024-11 [FY25 Budget, SC ATAX - \$45,000]**

MOTION: Council Member Pierce made a motion to approve, and Council Member Streetman seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

- b. **Discussion of next steps for Beach Preservation Ad Hoc Committee recommendations**

Director Kerr provided a detailed explanation of the revised recommendations grid now showing those recommendations that are currently happening or are being worked on, those

that could be part of the scope of a second opinion, and the recommendations that will be long-term actions.

He said he has spoken with eight firms who could provide a second opinion. Prices for such work ranged from \$20-50,000. He suggested issuing an RFQ, then culling down the responses to two options, then asking for proposals for City Council's consideration. He believes this could be done by the February Workshop. Council Member Pierce suggested that members of the Beach Preservation Ad Hoc Committee could review the responses to the RFQ.

Mayor Pounds and Council Member Pierce said a broader discussion with Council is needed on many of the recommendations.

c. Consideration of allocating \$30,000 to hire a coastal consultant for second opinion-proposal forthcoming

MOTION: Council Member Pierce made a motion to approved \$30,000 to hire a coastal consultant for a second opinion pending an update with a proposal. Council Member Anderson seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

d. Consider Administration Committee recommendation to appoint Rod Turnage to the ATAX Committee

MOTION: Council Member Pierce made a motion to approve, and Council Member Bogosian seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

e. Consideration of entering into an agreement with Heritage Links for an amount of \$600,000 to incorporate flood protection work into the upcoming golf course renovation [FY25 Budget, Capital Projects \$930,000]

Director Kerr gave a detailed explanation of the costs for this project. He said, "What is being requested is authorization to enter into an agreement for tat work which is in our packet at \$521,000. However, that amount does not include the tide valves that we will need to buy. We get better pricing on those. It will also not include any construction administration from Thomas & Hutton, which we would like to include. So we estimate this portion of the project to be \$600,000."

Director Kerr pointed out that the costs of materials has come down "significantly" and that "pricing in general appears to be trending down," hence the lower costs than originally anticipated.

Council Member Pierce asked for a clean copy of this price schedule for the workshop.

MOTION: Council Member Anderson made a motion to approve, and Council Member Hahn seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

f. Consideration of awarding a contract to Drexel Hill Services for painting the exterior of the Recreation Center for \$56,132 [FY25 Budget, Capital Projects \$50,000]

MOTION: Council Member Anderson made a motion to approve, and Council Member Pierce seconded the motion.

Director Kerr said the lowest bid includes a second coat of paint due to concerns about the paint adhering to the building. Several Council members spoke in favor of Drexel-Hill's services.

VOTE: The motion passed unanimously.

8. Boards and Commissions Report

- a. Board of Zoning Appeals – minutes attached
- b. Planning Commission – minutes attached
- c. Accommodations Tax Advisory Committee – no meeting in January
- d. Environmental Advisory Committee – minutes attached

9. Ordinances, Resolutions and Petitions

- a. **Second Reading** – none
- b. **First Reading-** Ordinance 2025-01 Parking

MOTION: Council Member Ward made a motion to reorder the agenda so that the First Reading of Ordinance 2025-01 occurs after Executive Session. Council Member Bogosian seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

c. Resolutions

- i. **Resolution 2025-01 – a resolution to adopt parking fees**

MOTION: Council Member Pierce made a motion to approve and waive the reading. Council Member Anderson seconded the motion.

Director Kerr said these fees will go into effect in March. Council Member Anderson said the Public Safety Committee needs to discuss the fees for an annual pass.

Council Member Ward said residents have expressed concern there will be a parking fee increase every year. Mayor Pounds said these fees now match those charged by the County.

VOTE: The motion passed unanimously.

- ii. **Resolution 2025-02 – a resolution to create Beach Preservation Committee**

Mayor Pounds said the Administration Committee will work further on the framework for this new committee.

MOTION: Council Member Bogosian made a motion to approve and waive the reading. Council Member Anderson seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

- 10. Executive Session** – to receive legal advice about parking ordinances, receive updates on all pending cases, and discuss employment matters- specifically the appointment and compensation of the City Administrator. Upon returning to open session, Council may take action upon matters discussed in Executive Session.

MOTION: Council Member Ward made a motion to go into Executive Session to receive legal advice about parking ordinances, receive updates on all pending cases, and discuss employment matters- specifically the appointment and compensation of the City Administrator. Council Member Anderson seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

City Council entered into Executive Session at 7:29pm.

City Council returned from Executive Session at 8:44pm. Mayor Pounds said no decisions were made.

MOTION: Council Member Pierce made a motion to approve Ordinance 2025-01, and Council Member Hahn seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

MOTION: Council Member Hahn made a motion authorizing the Mayor “to accept the settlement agreement and approve the fee arrangement with AirBNB within the short-term rental litigation.” Council Member Ward seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

11. Miscellaneous

12. Adjournment

Council Member Ward made a motion to adjourn, and Council Member Hahn seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned at 8:45pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Nicole DeNeane
City Clerk