

**CITY COUNCIL MEETING**  
7:00 p.m., Tuesday, August 25, 2009

The regular meeting of the City Council was held at 7:00p.m., Tuesday, August 25, 2009 in Council Chambers of City Hall, 1207 Palm Boulevard, Isle of Palms, South Carolina. Attending the meeting were Council members Bergwerf, Bettelli, Buckhannon, Duffy, Loftus, Piening, Rice and Taylor, Mayor Cronin, City Administrator Tucker, Assistant to the Administrator Dziuban, City Attorney Sottile and City Clerk Copeland. There was a quorum present to conduct business.

1. Mayor Cronin called the meeting to order and acknowledged that the press and the public had been duly notified of the meeting in accordance with the Freedom of Information Act. The Mayor offered the invocation that was followed by the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag and the roll call.

2. **Approval of Previous Meetings' Minutes**

**MOTION: Councilman Taylor moved to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of July 28, 2009 and the special meeting of August 18, 2009 as submitted; Councilman Bettelli seconded and the motion PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

3. **Citizens' Comments**

Bill Huggins, Field Service Manager for the Municipal Association of South Carolina (MASC), was attending the Council meeting to present to the City of Isle of Palms the 2009 Municipal Achievement Award in the category of Communications for the City's e-newsletter. Mr. Huggins acknowledged that the award had been presented to Mayor Cronin at the MASC annual meeting in Hilton Head, South Carolina on Saturday, August 8, 2009. These are Mr. Huggins' comments:

"We recognize the City for finding an economical and environmentally friendly way to respond to residents' requests for information. And you took another step when you went further with this by creating three (3) distinct e-newsletters, which is a very interesting approach and a good one – separate publications for residents and those interested in the City's recreation opportunities. That really gives you that kind of personal approach. This is a great example of innovation and creativity on the part of leadership in this community. One purpose of the award, of course, is to be able to share these kinds of great ideas with other communities throughout the state, and, of course, by having this program you are able to accomplish that very task; we find it extremely useful in that regard. The presentation at conference involved a video presentation, which was well done, I thought, of your e-newsletter efforts, and three hundred (300) officials from across the state were present to witness that. "

Mayor Cronin noted that the Achievement Award was one (1) of many that were conferred at the conference in various categories, but "they are all inspired initiatives by cities and city employees - this one, of course, was inspired by citizens, some of whom are here – and our employees that embraced it and pushed it forward. It was a grass roots effort, and I am hoping other communities can follow our lead as we are looking at what they do also as something we may be able to build on. It is well done and I encourage the Municipal Association to keep the whole program going forward. Besides, we've won two (2) now."

Deborah Johnson, 4 Grand Pavilion, asked that the Council approve the sand fencing for area of the beach at Grand Pavilion because she believes the beach to be extremely fragile there. She expressed the need to create dunes with the advent of the residents of the Village that have added approximately two hundred (200) people to the area with plans to add more. She noted that there were areas washed out from the high tides over the past weekend.

Neal Crocker, Grand Pavilion, encouraged the approval of the sand fencing at Grand Pavilion and added that, in his opinion, fencing should go to the end of the renourished area. He also reported that the high tides had over-washed the cone of the beach.

Jeff Jacobs, 606 Ocean Boulevard, spoke to the short-term rental signage that currently requires that each short-term rental unit have a single sign with capacities of people and cars; he stated that there is not consistent location for the signs in these residences. He reported that, over the last two (2) months, two documents have been developed; the purpose of the signs was "to allow the City to make its best effort to inform the short-term rental guests of . . . livability and safety rules." Mr. Jacobs displayed the first sign and explained that it was a revision of the capacity sign that he proposed be placed on the refrigerator in rental units; the second, which he referred to as a porch sign, was to place on main exits to the porches and carries pertinent information about outdoor livability issues and safety. Mr. Jacob's request of City Council was to enact an ordinance making the quantity, content and location of the signs mandatory and standardized across the island. He expressed his opinion that this is the best opportunity for residents and guests to enjoy the Isle of Palms and to peacefully co-exist. The text of his comments and examples of the newly created signs are attached to the master copy of minutes for this meeting.

Sandy Stone, 7 Ensign Court, commented that he had worked with Mr. Jacobs on the signage discussed previously. He stated that the major goals of the signs revision were to standardize the signs, to standardize the location of the signs and to have a clear and concise sign; however, he feels the revision is too wordy and not concise. Therefore, he asked that Council not move forward with making this sign mandatory, but work on developing a clearer and more concise message. In his opinion, the signage should address only noise, parking and occupancy at the residence because those are the issues confronting full-time island residents. Mr. Stone commented that, if signage is mandated, he is unsure how it would be enforced and suggested the involvement of the Police Department for input.

Larry Pearson, 22 Dune Ridge, commented on the excitement being created by the City's candidates canvassing the island to obtain the required number of signatures to have their names placed on the ballot. He announced that the Isle of Palms Community Association, whom he represented at the meeting, was disbanded in November 2007 and legally dissolved today. He reported that there had been funds remaining in the corporation, and, according to corporate guidelines, any remaining balance was to be donated to the Isle of Palms Fire Department. With that explanation, he presented Administrator Tucker with a check in excess of fifteen hundred dollars (\$1,500); Mayor Cronin expressed the Fire Department's thanks.

**4. Reports from Standing Committees**

**A. Ways and Means**

1. Recommendation from the Recreation Committee to spend no more than \$1,700 from the Tree Fund to replace a dead live oak tree and to remove and replace a dead palm tree.

**MOTION: Councilwoman Rice moved to approve the recommendation from the Recreation Committee; Mayor Cronin seconded and the motion PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

2. Recommendations from the Public Safety Committee

**MOTION: Councilman Taylor moved to**

- 1) **Accept the donation of one (1) Low Speed Vehicle;**
- 2) **Consider removing surplus right-of-way on Palm Boulevard between U.S. Post Office and Carolina;**
- 3) **Award a contract for a security gate for temporary evidence storage in the Public Safety Building in an amount not to exceed \$1,800; and**
- 4) **Approve the donation of two (2) portable defibrillators to the S.C. Aquarium and an equipment exchange with the Awendaw Fire Department;**

**Councilman Bettelli seconded.**

Mayor Cronin clarified the phrase "removing surplus right-of-way" to mean that the City was taking the property from the state's surplus.

Councilman Loftus reminded the Chair that he has asked for clarification from the City's attorney about the possibility of the property reverting to the original owner at some point in the future. Administrator Tucker confirmed that she had spoken with Attorney Sottile about whether the space could possibly be an easement on someone else's property. If that were the case, the City would be acquiring the same easement. The Administrator believes that SC DOT is going to give the City title to the property; that being the case, someone would have to challenge the City's deed and title.

**Call for the Question: The motion PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

3. Acceptance of the bid for sale of the pumper fire truck.

**MOTION: Councilman Taylor moved to accept the high bid of \$17,500 for a pumper fire truck from Company Two; Councilman Bettelli seconded and the motion PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

4. Acceptance of the Recommendation from the Real Property Committee to award the contract for management of the Isle of Palms Marina to Marina Joint Ventures.

Councilman Taylor reflected that this decision had been complex and had taken a great deal of time from the members of the Real Property Committee. By way of history, he related that a limited liability corporation has managed the marina facility since the City purchased it in 1999, and the City has been renewing those agreements over the years. As time for another renewal was nearing, the City had the opportunity to refinance the bond that financed the marina from non-taxable to taxable; the benefit to the City was that it was no longer limited to the number of long-term leases on the property.

The RFP for the marina management was available to bidders June 1, 2009 and bids were due on July 15, 2009. Bidders were asked to bid both lease and management agreement options, and the City would base its decision on which option by which bidder was the most profitable to the City. Only two (2) bidders responded to the RFP and one (1) of those chose not to bid on the lease option.

Once the Real Property Committee had analyzed the bids, counseled with the City's attorney and reached its decision, the Committee charged the City Administrator with making a counter-offer, which the bidder accepted. The result of the Committee's work and the Administrator's negotiations is the motion presented at this meeting.

**MOTION: Councilman Taylor moved to award the contract for operation of the marina to Marina Joint Ventures in the form of a lease with annual payments totaling \$150,000, application of the CPI every year beginning in year two (2) of the lease and additional rent in the amount of fifteen percent (15%) of gross profit in excess of \$450,000; Councilwoman Rice seconded.**

Administrator Tucker reviewed other issues in the lease as follows:

- The lease will be between the City of Isle of Palms and Marina Joint Ventures;
- The initial term will be five (5) years with two (2) consecutive renewals possible;
- The lease year will begin October 1 and end September 30;
- Annual rent is \$150,000;
- CPI applies each year;
- The City receives additional rent in the amount of 15% of gross receipts in excess of \$450,000;
- Rent will be paid – 80% of the base rent (\$120,000) paid in six (6) equal monthly installments in the months of May, June, July August, September and October; the balance will be paid in equal installments in January, February, March, April, November and December; and
- A security deposit is required, but will be refunded after twenty-four (24) months of the lease remaining in good standing.

Other issues that were clarified in the lease include the following:

- The lessor has responsibility for the underground storage tank, and the lessee is to do appropriate monitoring with leak detection devices and to report to DHEC;

- The lessee must maintain business interruption insurance, but language was inserted into the “Damage and Destruction” clause offering an abatement of rent equivalent to the percentage lost if there is a major loss at the marina;
- Clarifications were made to the site plan for the building containing the office and the captains’ baths and the actual site plan for the entire five-acre (5 ac) site illustrating what is actually on the grounds and parking;
- There were minor corrections to the list of improvements to fixtures; and
- A clarification of the hours of operation as seven (7) days per week winter and summer, in the summer from 7 am to 7 pm, and in the summer 7 am to 5 pm.

Attorney Sottile corrected the motion that was printed in the Ways and Means minutes to say the additional rent would be fifteen percent (15%) of gross profit, not gross revenues as the motion states.

Councilman Duffy reminded the Chair that he had inquired, at an earlier meeting, about an “out” clause for the City as there was for the lessee, Marina Joint Ventures. Administrator Tucker responded that she had discussed this with the City Attorney who had informed her that to add such a clause was possible. She noted that counsel had also given a word of caution that to insert such a clause at this time would affect the term of the lease; therefore, negotiations would have to re-start. For that reason, she was advised against adding a “City out” clause. She reminded Council that the City had entered into a similar lease with another marina tenant and had been able to negotiate its way out with no damage to the City.

Councilman Duffy expressed his discomfort with the decision regarding a “City out;” he noted that fifteen (15) years was a long time to be unable to have a break. Based on this action, Councilman Duffy stated that he would not be able to support the motion.

Councilman Taylor commented that the City has longer agreements that are similar to this with the restaurant and the store. The Administrator elaborated that the restaurant has a similar five (5) year and renewable; the store opted for a shorter initial term, but the City has recently notified that they want to renew.

**Call for the Question: The motion PASSED on a vote of 8 to 1 with Councilman Duffy casting the “nay” vote.**

**B. Public Safety Committee**

Councilman Buckhannon reported that the last Public Safety meeting has been held in the new Public Safety Building where there had been several citizens present to comment to the Committee. Among the residents speaking were Jeff Jacobs discussing rental signage, Sandy Stone who spoke on the same topic and Brett Carlson who discussed the change in route for the Barrier Island Ecothon to be held October 25, 2009. In the area of *Old Business*, there was a discussion on residential sprinkler requirements, and Director Kerr stated that the City could not enact laws that supercede state laws.

The Committee accepted the donation of a Low Speed Vehicle (LSV) from Palmetto Custom Carts; the vehicle will be used by the Police Department.

5. Approval of Charleston Metro Marine Patrol Unit

The Committee also discussed participation with Charleston County for a joint task marine patrol unit; it is an endeavor by the Charleston County Sheriff's Office to solidify participation of IOP personnel on their equipment.

**MOTION: Councilman Buckhannon moved for the City to enter into the mutual aid agreement with the Charleston County Sheriff's Office based on continuing legal review; Councilwoman Bettelli seconded.**

Administrator Tucker reported that Attorney Sottile wanted a couple of provisions within the agreement changed and was working with the County's attorney; final approval would be contingent upon those changes being made. The agreement represents no cost to the City.

Councilman Buckhannon stated that one issue had been that Attorney Sottile wanted changed was that the contract was written so as to continue in perpetuity; Attorney Sottile prefers that the contract be renewed annually.

**Call for the Question: The motion PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

The Committee approved the addition of the state's excess right-of-way on Palm Boulevard between the U.S. Post Office and Carolina.

Councilman Buckhannon stated that the Committee had also approved the eighteen hundred dollar (\$1,800) expenditure for the security gate in the Public Safety Building to protect temporary evidence storage. In the original plan, the cost of this gate was quoted at fifty-five hundred dollars (\$5,500); Chief Buckhannon has managed to save the City thirty-seven hundred dollars (\$3,700).

2. Discussion of Lowering Speed Limit to 35 mph on Palm Boulevard between Breach Inlet and the Connector

The purpose for discussion of lowering the speed limit on Palm between Breach Inlet and the Connector was that Sullivan's Island is in the process of lowering the speed limit to 35 mph on Jasper. In addition the speed limit on the remainder of Palm on the Isle of Palms is also 35 mph.

**MOTION: Councilman Buckhannon moved to authorized the City Administrator to work with SC DOT to have the speed limit lowered to 35 mph between Breach Inlet and the Connector; Councilwoman Bergwerf seconded.**

Councilwoman Rice asked if this change would make it legal for golf carts; it was agreed that this change would not affect golf carts because it is considered a primary state road.

Councilman Taylor stated that he would like to have the speed reviewed on Palm Boulevard from 41<sup>st</sup> Avenue to the area that is 35 mph by the Public Safety Committee; he noted that to take the 41<sup>st</sup> Avenue curve at 35 mph is pretty fast. Councilman Buckhannon noted that Highway 703 (Palm Boulevard) ends at 41<sup>st</sup> Avenue.

**Call for the Question: The motion PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

Councilman Buckhannon reported that the Committee had been asked to post “deer crossing signs” on Palm Boulevard. Despite the relatively large deer population on the island, the Committee has opted to pursue a course of resident education.

The Committee voted to recommend to City Council approval of the donation of two (2) defibrillators that were outdated for the Fire Department to the South Carolina Aquarium and the exchange of surplus fire hose for air packs that the City’s Fire Department uses.

2. Re-Adoption of the City’s Safety Policy

Mayor Cronin noted that a resolution related to employee safety was included in meeting packets. Chairman Buckhannon explained that the safety policy had to be regularly adopted in relation to the City’s safety audit that will take place tomorrow, Wednesday, August 26, 2009.

**MOTION: Councilman Buckhannon moved to approve the resolution stating the City’s Safety Policy; Councilman Taylor seconded and the motion PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

3. Discussion of Dates of Ribbon Cutting at the Public Safety Building

Councilman Buckhannon stated that the date for the ribbon-cutting at the Public Safety Building needed to be decided; at the Public Safety Meeting, 5:30 p.m. on Friday, September 25 had been considered. Mayor Cronin asked whether any Council members had conflicts with that date or time. After confirming that the City staff had sufficient time, it was decided that the Public Safety Building ribbon-cutting would take place at 5:30 p.m., Friday, September 25.

Councilwoman Bergwerf expressed her opinion that Council should discuss comments on rental signage. Councilman Buckhannon commented that the Public Safety Committee had approved the wording changes Mr. Jacobs had made to the rental signage and gave the Building Department authorization to distribute the new signs, and this has been done. In addition, the Committee agreed that any ordinance changes would wait until the meeting scheduled for September 16, because there could be more changes suggested at that meeting, and it did not make sense to engage the City attorney to amend the ordinance more than once.

Councilwoman Bergwerf recounted that a couple of months ago the realtors had asked to meet with the new Livability Officer, and they showed great support for the ordinance and expressed the importance for the rental companies to know that their renters had the information. She repeated the request from both Mr. Jacobs and Mr. Stone for a mandated location for the rental

signage; she expressed the opinion that the signage would be support to the police should a complaint be made against a rental unit.

Councilman Buckhannon commented that he supported the idea but reiterated the fact that a meeting has already been scheduled to discuss issues related to short-term rentals.

Councilman Loftus stated that the meeting scheduled for September had a much broader scope, and he expressed concern that this topic would get lost in the context of other issues. He remarked that, at the Public Safety Meeting, Mr. Stone had been supportive, but tonight expressed his desire to delay action until there could be additional changes to the rental sign.

Councilman Buckhannon explained that, if there are items for discussion at the meeting next month that could go on for months, the subject of short-term rental signage should be the first item on the agenda.

Councilman Duffy countered that, since the meeting in September is to include the Planning Commission, to discuss the language of rental signage made no sense because the rental signage did not come under the Planning Commission's purview. He understood the Planning Commission's role for short-term rentals and their economic impact on the island.

Mayor Cronin clarified that the words on the rental signage were the responsibility of the Administrator and the staff to work out with whomever they choose to draw into the decision; if changes are needed, it is within their capabilities to do it. The only decision before the Council is the mandating of the signs – how many, where, the enforcement capability, etc. He reminded Council that there is no motion currently before the body to consider action about the specific location of rental signage. The Mayor noted that he would be happy to place rental signage first on the agenda for the September meeting and to work with it until there is a resolution.

Councilman Taylor stated that he was not worried about the language, but about the legal mandate. He suggested that the Council could either go into Executive Session tonight to receive whatever legal advice is necessary to satisfy the policy decision or compile the questions, pass them on to the attorney and meet in three (3) weeks.

Mayor Cronin commented that his concern was the additional signage requested – where it gets posted, how they get posted, how many are required, etc.

On the other hand, Councilwoman Bergwerf stated that she did not see the additional signage problematic in any way, but she did believe the sign mandated to the refrigerator would be helpful to the police.

Councilwoman Rice questioned whether the mandate be in effect upon receipt of a rental license; Mayor Cronin responded in the affirmative. She continued by asking if wherever people go they must bear the burden of following the laws of the jurisdiction whether the laws are posted on the refrigerator or not. Mayor Cronin quoted, "Ignorance of the law is not excuse." Therefore, the presence or absence of the sign does not dictate whether a case can go forward in Livability court.



**MOTION:** Councilman Duffy moved to go into Executive Session at 8 p.m. to receive legal advice; Councilwoman Bergwerf seconded and the motion PASSED on a vote of 8 to 1; Council members Taylor cast the negative vote.

**MOTION:** Councilwoman Rice moved to return to regular session at 8:30 p.m.; Councilman Taylor seconded and the motion PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

Mayor Cronin announced that the Council had not taken any votes or any action while in Executive Session.

**MOTION:** Councilman Loftus moved to amend the short-term rental ordinances to require that the mandated short-term rental signage be placed conspicuously within fifteen feet (15') of the front door and permanently affixed to the structure; Councilwoman Bergwerf seconded and the motion PASSED on a vote of 5 to 4 with Council members Bettelli, Buckhannon, Rice and Taylor voting against the motion.

#### **C. Public Works Committee**

Councilman Bettelli reported that, according to the Public Works Director, July had the highest volume of garbage collected on the island he has ever seen; the yard debris was unusually high as well. Eadie's has begun the fifth year of the five-year (5 yr) drainage plan. Public Works was asked to remove the City's fireworks' debris from the roof of Sea Cabins. A report was made that someone has been seen unloading construction debris brought onto the island from a work site; Councilman Bettelli urged citizens to call the Police Department at the time such activities are occurring because law violators can only be prosecuted when they are caught in the act. The City has received engineering and design work for the 54<sup>th</sup> through 57<sup>th</sup> Avenue drainage project. The beach monitoring results for July were satisfactory according to DHEC requirements.

In addition, Councilman Bettelli announced that the City had received one hundred thousand dollars (\$100,000) in CTC funds for the 54<sup>th</sup> through 57<sup>th</sup> Avenue drainage project. He reminded Council that the Administrator had been told, when she applied for the funds, that multi-year projects that had had no activity could be viewed unfavorably. At the meeting the previous evening, it was noted that the CTC Committee had asked its staff for projects for which no work had been done for over two (2) years.

Councilman Bettelli also informed the Committee that the black marks on the roads were left by SC DOT when they were here re-surfacing roads; they assure us they will be back to cleanup behind themselves.

#### **D. Recreation Committee**

Councilwoman Rice reported that the Recreation Center had been extremely busy over the summer and attendance has been wonderful. Of keen interest to all residents is the Community-wide Wellness Fair to be held from 8 am until noon on Thursday, September 17 at the Recreation Center. If anyone is interested in having blood work done that day, there will be

a charge of twenty-five dollars (\$25.00) to island residents. The City has been notified that the PARD grant may not have the funds to fill the grant request from the City this year; the City has historically received a couple of thousand dollars that has been spent on playground equipment. There was also discussion about replacing two (2) trees that was voted on earlier.

#### **E. Personnel Committee**

Councilman Piening reported that the advertisement for openings on boards and commissions has been placed in the local newspapers; applications must be turned in by August 31 to be considered. At the last meeting, the Committee had given the Administrator her annual review; it was the consensus of Council that she continues to do an excellent job and the evaluation showed that. He announced that the Safety Sweepstakes winners were as follows:

Building Department – Rhonda Gibbons  
Public Works – Russell Roper

Fire Department – Eric Bolen  
Police Department – Fran Overdorf

#### **F. Real Property Committee**

Mayor Cronin reported that the Real Property Committee had met twice on August 4; the second meeting was dedicated to the evaluation of the bids for the management of the marina.

At the morning meeting, there had been several citizens who spoke in favor of additional sand fencing in areas of the beach restoration project. The marina manager reported that July had been a good month for the marina, but business was slower in August. The manager informed the Committee that there has been a series of property thefts at the marina and the police are paying special attention to the area. Morgan Creek Grill informed the Committee that they would like to re-negotiate their lease. The restaurant has added valet service as an amenity for its guests. A representative of Coastal Science and Engineering (CSE) was present for the discussion on the sand fencing in the area of Grand Pavilion; at that meeting, the Committee was in possession of a quote from CSE that totaled eighteen thousand dollars (\$18,000) and only marginal comments about the effectiveness of adding fencing. The Committee chose to table the issue for further discussion at the Council meeting. Mayor Cronin related that he had approached the Wild Dunes Community Association; their offer was included in the meeting packet. They have just short of five hundred feet (500') of fencing that they will provide at no charge; they also have seventy-two (72) posts to use; most significantly they are willing to provide volunteer labor to get the job done. The proposal from the Wild Dunes Community Association totals fifty-nine hundred dollars (\$5,900).

**MOTION: Councilman Loftus moved to approve \$5,900 for sand fencing in the fall and vegetation in the spring; Councilwoman Rice seconded and the motion PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

Mayor Cronin added that the City has authorized CSE to obtain the necessary permit.

The second meeting of the day was to evaluate the bids for management of the marina; the work was done in Executive Session. Upon returning to regular session, the motion was made to pursue Marina Joint Ventures Lease Proposal #3 as the most advantageous to the City and

Administrator Tucker was charged with negotiating, on behalf of the City, the terms of the lease with Marina Joint Ventures. Those negotiated terms were reviewed earlier.

## **5. Reports from City Officers, Boards and Commissions**

### **A. Accommodations Tax Advisory Committee** Discussion of City-wide Event for January 2010

Mayor Cronin reported that he had made a presentation to the Committee that followed the concept from the Charleston Visitors Bureau to “Be a Tourist in Your Own Town;” the Mayor proposed Councilman Loftus’ idea of doing something on the island in January to boost business for the local merchants and restaurants. The question before the Council now is how to make such an event happen assuming there is support from City Council to proceed. Among the questions Mayor Cronin posed to Council were: “1) Does Council support doing something of this order? 2) How big does this thing grow? 3) Do we have the resources to pull it off in this year or do we have the resources to pull it off in two (2) years?”

Councilman Taylor asked for a definition of the scope, a budget and the goal. Mayor Cronin responded that the purpose was to try to stimulate the community to of island residents to do something unique with the dining and drinking establishments using the down period in January. He stated that the idea was to accomplish this in one (1) weekend, rather than spread it out over a month.

Councilman Loftus stated that the present plan was for the event to be held the last weekend in January, between the end of the football playoffs and the Super Bowl. He described “an island-wide celebration, in which we would try to involve all the restaurants and other business communities in the event, plus private organizations, like the Exchange Club, IOPNA, the VFW and just do an island thing to celebrate being on the island rather than folks leaving the island that weekend. Maybe highlight the restaurants and the great things we have here. It could involve a big party, like we had for the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary at the Windjammer where we would have a good rock ‘n roll band. Part of it would be engaging the Rec Center to help out with babysitting. And what I would like to see is to get some of the trolleys used in downtown Charleston; we could basically have hop on and hop off where people would drive to one (1) establishment, get something to eat, get on the bus to go to another establishment, and, literally, the buses would take people home at the end of the day. The idea is to celebrate this great place we live in and have a wonderful time with it. I would like to see us enjoy and again do things with the Rec Center. Also our new Public Safety Building – engage our police and firemen where there could be some “show and tell;” I would like to involve the real estate community where they can showcase properties and give the residents the chance to walk through some of their premier rental properties or some of their other properties. Again a big focus on the Isle of Palms and what a great place to live.”

Mayor Cronin commented, “That’s a dream! The question is the resources to make it happen.”

Councilman Taylor repeated his question about the anticipated cost; he added that City Council could not approve anything without knowing how much it will cost.

Councilwoman Bergwerf suggested that the restaurants should be asked for their opinions about such an event; Mayor Cronin stated that the restaurants were represented at the ATAX meeting and all were very supportive.

Councilwoman Rice expressed concern about the staff time that would be involved, and she asked that, if the Council did approve funding, it should also approve funding for an event planner to pull it together. Mayor Cronin related that he has contacted the Charleston Visitors Bureau to find out if the City could borrow one (1) of their personnel to perform that task.

Councilman Taylor asked that the sponsors of the idea develop a plan to present to Ways and Means in September.

Councilman Bettelli stated that, if the project were too much to organize on this scale, perhaps the City could do something on a much smaller scale where the City does not provide the babysitting or the buses. He stated that he would not relish the opportunity for police officers get the people from place to place who have been drinking – he added “that is not the way to see the Public Safety Building.”

Mayor Cronin agreed to develop the idea further for presentation at the September Ways and Means Committee meeting since he had not received any negative feedback from the Council.

**B. Board of Zoning Appeals** – minutes attached

**C. Planning Commission** – minutes attached

**6. Reports from Special or Joint Committees** - None

**7. Petitions Received, Referred or Disposed of** - None

**8. Bill Already in Possession of Council**

**Second Reading of Ordinance 2009-12 – An Ordinance Authorizing the Leasing of One (1) E-One Pumper Fire Truck**

**MOTION: Councilman Taylor moved to waive the reading and to approve for Second Reading Ordinance 2009-12 authorizing the leasing of one (1) E-One pumper fire truck; Councilman Bettelli seconded and the motion PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

**9. Introduction of New Bills, Resolutions and Proclamations**

**First Reading, by title only, Ordinance 2009-13 – An Ordinance Amending the Comprehensive Plan for the City of Isle of Palms, S.C. Pursuant to the 1994 State of South Carolina Comprehensive Planning Enabling Act.**

**MOTION: Councilman Bettelli moved to approve Ordinance 2009-13 for First Reading; Councilman Buckhannon seconded.**

Mayor Cronin announced that there would be a Public Hearing and Second Reading at the September City Council meeting.

Councilman Duffy expressed concern that August 12 is indicated as the document date, but there appear to be internal inconsistencies, i.e. the bulkhead replacement that was completed before the date of the document. Mayor Cronin replied that Councilman Duffy should direct this type of concern to Director Kerr to get them incorporated for Second Reading.

Councilman Loftus asked if the document had to be done in 2009; Director Kerr stated that it must be done in 2009. Councilman Loftus indicated that he was asking because much of the data is nearly ten years (10 yrs) old, based on the 2000 census. Director Kerr stated that the ten-year (10 yr) cycle goes from the City's initial plan of 1999; there was to have been a review in 2004, between 1999 and 2004 there was a great deal of new data related to the 2000 census. He indicated that the document before them was intended to be a review, and a major re-write will be required in 2014. Mayor Cronin added that an amendment could be done when data from the 2010 census becomes available if there are material changes.

**Call for the Question:            The motion PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

**10.    Miscellaneous Business**

Mayor Cronin reminded Council members that there will be a workshop on short-term rentals at 5:30 p.m., Wednesday, September 16, 2009 in Council Chambers; the Planning Commission has been invited to join Council.

The unveiling of the Plant-a-Palm marker has been tentatively set for 9 a.m. on Monday, September 21, 2009; the event will be held in the 21<sup>st</sup> Avenue curve. Councilwoman Rice reminded everyone that it was the twentieth anniversary of Hurricane Hugo.

The Mayor referred to the municipal election of November 3, 2009 and announced that the League of Women Voters would be presenting an occasion to "Meet the Candidates" at the Recreation on Wednesday, October 28, 2009.

**11.    Executive Session** – held earlier in the meeting

**12.    Adjourn**

**MOTION:    Councilman Buckhannon moved to adjourn at 9:02 p.m.;  
Councilman Taylor seconded and the motion PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

Respectfully submitted:

Marie Copeland  
City Clerk