



SPECIAL CITY COUNCIL MEETING
5:00pm, Tuesday, December 10, 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 Bogosian, Anderson, Ward, Hahn, Miars, Pierce, and Carroll, Mayor Pounds

Staff Present: Administrator Fragoso, Director Kerr, various department heads

2. Citizen's Comments -- none

3. Special Presentations

Swearing in of Rusty Streetman to the Isle of Palms City Council

Administrator Fragoso swore in Rusty Streetman to the City Council.

4. Purpose

A. Consideration of nominations and appointments to standing committees for 2025:

Mayor Pounds nominated Council Member Bogosian, Council Member Jimmy Ward, and himself to the Administration Committee, noting that Council Member Carroll would replace him upon the hiring of the new City Administrator.

Mayor Pounds nominated Council Member Bogosian, Council Member Anderson, and Council Member Streetman to the Public Safety Committee.

Mayor Pounds nominated Council Member Miars, Council Member Pierce, and Council Member Hahn to the Public Services & Facilities Committee.

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

B. Consideration of nominations and appointment to CARTA Board of Directors – Jimmy Ward

Mayor Pounds nominated Council Member Ward to the CARTA Board of Directors.

C. Consideration of nominations and appointment to Charleston Visitors Bureau Board of Directors – Rusty Streetman

Mayor Pounds nominated Council Member Streetman to the Charleston Visitors Bureau Board of Directors.

D. Consideration of nominations and appointment to the Charleston, Berkeley, Dorchester Council of Governments – Jan Anderson

Mayor Pounds nominated Council Member Anderson to the Charleston, Berkeley, Dorchester Council of Governments.

E. Consideration of nominations and appointment to the Environmental Advisory Committee – Katie Miars

Mayor Pounds nominated Council Member Miars to the Environmental Advisory Committee.

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

F. Consideration of appointments to Boards and Commissions

Mayor Pounds made the following appointments to the City's Boards and Commissions:

David Cohen, Tim Ahmuty, and Sandy Stone to the Planning Commission for terms expiring on 12/31/2026,

Mary Pringle, Cindy Marrs, Eric Cicora, and Sean Popson to the Environmental Advisory Committee for terms expiring on 12/31/2027, and

Suzy Wheeler and Glenn Thornburg to the Board of Zoning Appeals for terms expiring on 12/31/2027.

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

G. Consideration of Second Reading of Ordinance 2024-07 – An ordinance to permanently amend the standing committees starting January 1, 2025

MOTION: Council Member Bogosian made a motion to approve, and Council Member Hahn seconded the motion.

MOTION: Council Member Pierce made a motion to amend by having "if requested" removed from multiple places in the ordinance to clarify "that these are the responsibilities of the committee." Council Member Ward seconded the motion.

Discussion ensued as to the duties of the committees and if there would be any instance in which the City Administrator would not request a committee's assistance with a particular concern. Council members feel this change clarifies the responsibilities of the various committees.

VOTE: The motion to amend passed unanimously.

VOTE: A vote on the motion as amended passed unanimously.

H. Update on beach conditions and status of shoal management and consideration of approving additional funding for sandbags as needed if emergency triggers are met

Mr. Traynum thanked Administrator Fragoso for her work and service to the City.

Mr. Traynum updated the Council: “Several different projects going on at the same time. We have emergency work going on at both ends of the island, the south end and the north end. We have a permit application out for a shoal management project. We have an Army Corps of Engineers beneficial use project that also includes supplemental dune restoration work that the City is sponsoring. We have a permit being put together and the engineering being done for large scale renourishment, and we have ongoing monitoring. The current conditions at the south end, this top right photo, is from today. There is actually a pretty good berm in front of most of the properties at the south end, south of 5th Avenue, we are out of our King tides season now. We have got thorough the over 7’ predicted tides. We do, and I’ll mention this in a minute, we do have this upcoming weekend, we’re about to a 6-1/2’ tide predicted again, so we may have some impacts this weekend. You’re likely to get water back up to the bags then, but then after that, we don’t have another predicted tide above 6’ through February. So we are in a little bit better position right now in normal weather conditions. Now, if we have a big nor’easter that comes and sits off the coast, then that’s a major storm impact and will certainly change the way things look.

“Right now, there is kind of an erosional arc close to 5th Avenue between 5th and 6th. That’s the only area on the south end that we see actively eroding, and there is a lot of sand north of there that looks like it’s kind of moving down. So it is looking okay. Favorable. I don’t want to be overly optimistic with it, but it certainly is looking a little bit better than it has in recent months.”

He continued: “Up at the north end, you see a couple of aerials of where the shoal currently is, and just to highlight a couple of things, the area in front of Grand Pavilion, which you can see on that bottom left photo, has continued to kind of benefit from sand that’s attaching those all the way down there. So that has helped maintain the beach in front of the Grand Pavilion area. The erosional hotspot at Beachwood East is just between that attaching sand and then the large shoal that is further to the north.” He shared and explained images of the shoal attachment in that area. He believes the sand will be accessible in 2-3 months.

There is still active erosion further up by the Ocean Club building. He said, “It’s been pretty stable, but with significant storms that area is going to probably be the focus of additional erosion that may need some actual mitigation. So what we are looking at over the next two months or so, again, we are through the King tides, this is looking at just the tide chart over the next 30 days, you can see where we are at, and anything below six is great. Anything below seven at this point we will take. So this is very favorable.”

Mr. Traynum reported that the USACE anticipates finishing the Sullivan’s Island portion of the beneficial use project at the end of December. It will take them two weeks to move the pipe, and

they will begin pumping sand onto the Isle of Palms in mid-January starting at 9th Avenue and working their way down towards the inlet.

He said, “We are going to work with the Corps to try to optimize where the sand is being placed to account for the current condition of the beach.”

Mr. Traynum added that the sand being placed is fine, beach compatible sand. He said it looks “messy” on some days, but he is pleased overall with how it looks. He further clarified that 50,000 cubic yards of sand will be moved (via contract) into the dunes. He said only 20,000 cubic yards is needed to build “a dune along that entire stretch. The permit allowed for another 30,000 yards to be able to shift south of where they are placing it because they are stopping at 2nd Avenue. They are not placing material any further south, and at the time, south of 2nd was incredibly eroded, and we were anticipating having to actually kind of build a beach in that area as well. So we have some flexibility to be able to supplement the beach within some areas with extra volume.”

He shared that there is a “high potential” that the USACE will add another 50,000 cubic yards of sand to restore the dune/beach south of 10th Avenue when they dredge the channel.

The supplemental work of pushing the sand will begin 1-2 months after the USACE begins pumping sand.

Mr. Traynum said the newer sandbags are holding up better. He would like to be prepared to move quickly and add sandbags to the Ocean Club/Seascape area if there is a storm in the next two months. He believes having 200-250 bags will provide sufficient protection. He also said that once the USACE project starts, bags from the south end could be moved to Ocean Club/Seascape area. The contract with Collins would need to be modified to have the bags moved. Any sandbags left behind will be emptied onto the beach where they are currently located.

Administrator Fragoso said that allocating funds now will allow the City to move quickly in the event of a storm since City Council does not have another voting meeting until January. Any new bags would be filled and placed if a narrow set of conditions are met. She added that private property owners are still able to protect their own property.

MOTION: Council Member Pierce made a motion to approve an amount not to exceed \$100,000 for the purchase and placement of sandbags if needed. Council Member Hahn seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

I. Consideration of award of contract to Collins Construction for supplemental dune work as part of the USACE beneficial use project for Breach Inlet in the amount of \$425,000 [FY25 Budget, Beach Preservation Fund, \$400,000]

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

Administrator Fragoso said Collins Construction was the only company who submitted a bid to move 50,000 cubic yards of sand. The bid amount is \$25,000 over the \$400,000 budgeted

amount. She said this bid does not include any cost for the removal of the sandbags already in place. She suggested waiting 30-60 days after USACE starts placing sand on the island before requesting removal costs.

VOTE: The motion passed unanimously.

5. Adjournment

Council Member Anderson thanked Administrator Fragoso for her service to the City.

Council Member Ward made a motion to adjourn, and Council Member Pierce seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned at 5:43pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Nicole DeNeane
City Clerk