



City Council

6:00 p.m., Tuesday, February 24, 2026
City Hall Council Chambers
1207 Palm Boulevard, Isle of Palms, SC

MINUTES

1. Call to Order

Present: Council members Bogosian, Cohen, Carroll, Streetman, Miller, Ward, Miars, Pierce, Mayor Pounds

Staff Present: Administrator Kerr, Deputy Administrator Kuester, City Attorney McQuillin, various department heads

2. Citizen's Comments

Renee Reddy, Ocean Boulevard, said she is representing several homeowners in that same area. She spoke with concern about the USACE project, stating it has damaged the beach. She would like that project to stop pumping sand immediately. She also would like the City to bring in Foth/Olsen to oversee the USACE and upcoming beach renourishment projects. She believes it is negligent for the City to continue with the USACE project.

MOTION: Council Member Bogosian made a motion to allow another speaker for Citizen's Comments. Council Member Cohen seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Cherylee Vanderham, Ocean Boulevard, asked that City Council bring in Foth/Olsen to determine the proper amount of sand needed for the renourishment of the south end of the island. She does not want another renourishment done by CS&E.

3. Presentations – Spirit of the Island Award

Mayor Pounds read from Mr. Jimmy Carroll's letter nominating Dudley Spangler for the Spirit of the Island Award. Chief Oliverius read a tribute to Mr. Spangler on behalf of the Public Safety departments. These awards were presented to Mrs. Spangler and her family.

4. Approval of previous meetings' minutes

MOTION: Council Member Bogosian and Council Member Miller seconded the motion.

- A. City Council Meeting – January 29, 2026
- B. Special City Council Meeting – February 10, 2026
- C. Special City Council Meeting-Bid Appeal – February 10, 2026

Council Member Pierce noted a date error in the February 10 Special City Council meeting.

VOTE: The minutes were approved as amended.

5. Old Business

A. Discussion and consideration of beach renourishment

Given the technical complexity and significance of the beach renourishment discussion, the reader is directed to the YouTube video for the entirety of the conversation: <https://youtu.be/x-n0xFpf9Tc?t=719>. It was the decision of City Council at the March 24, 2026 meeting to include a link to the video of the discussion rather than a verbatim transcript.

B. Update and discussion of the wage and compensation study

Administrator Kerr said wage and compensation study is still with the Administration Committee. Evergreen will be at the Administration Committee's March meeting and will also attend City Council's meeting on March 10.

C. Discussion and consideration of Beach Preservation Ad Hoc Committee recommendations

Mayor Pounds noted that the recommendations in yellow are the ones still needing City Council direction. He suggested waiting until Foth/Olsen presents their report to make further decisions.

Administrator Kerr said the Beach Preservation Committee has not yet discussed these. He briefly reviewed those still needing direction from Council.

D. Discussion of upcoming Town Hall Meeting – March 26, 2026

City Council discussed possible formats for the upcoming Town Hall meeting on March 26, 2026 at the Recreation Center. Mayor Pounds asked Council members to forward names of possible moderators to Administrator Kerr.

6. New Business

A. Discussion and consideration of bid appeal order

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

B. Discussion and consideration of appointing a Council liaison to the Accommodations Tax Advisory Committee

Mayor Pounds said it was not intended for all committees to have a City Council liaison. Council Member Ward said the ATAX Committee should be independent and free of City Council influence.

Council Member Miller said the liaison could answer questions as needed and act as a resource for the Committee.

City Attorney McMillin said there is no conflict having a City Council member act as a liaison and adding a liaison is a policy decision.

MOTION: Council Member Pierce made a motion to create a City Council liaison for the Accommodations Tax Advisory Committee. Council Member Miller seconded the motion. A vote was taken as follows:

Ayes: Miller, Cohen, Miars, Bogosian, Pierce

Nays: Ward, Streetman, Carroll, Pounds

The motion passed 5-4.

MOTION: Council Member Millar made a motion to appoint Council Member Cohen as Council liaison to the Accommodations Tax Advisory Committee. Council Member Pierce seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

C. Discussion and consideration of acceptance of a patrol vehicle donation

Administrator Kerr said a resident would like to donate a Tesla to the Police Department. There will be upfitting expenses should City Council approve the donation. The owner has been asked to prepare a letter of intent to donate.

Chief Cornett said the vehicle will serve administrative staff, like a detective or command staff, “and that would cycle that patrol vehicle to a patrol officer or to another individuals to offset the purchase next year.” A charging plug for the vehicle is already available at the Public Safety Building.

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

D. Discussion and consideration of changes to tuition reimbursement policy

MOTION: Council Member Ward made a motion to approve. Council Member Streetman seconded the motion.

Administrator Kerr said these changes will dial back a generous tuition reimbursement policy. The savings can be redirected to other employee benefits or incentives. Additionally, the changes will allow the City to recoup expenses should an employee leave the City’s employ prior to the required stay after completion of classes.

VOTE: A vote was taken with all in favor.

E. Discussion and consideration of the purchase of turnout gear for \$29,707.87 from Safe Industries

Administrator Kerr said there will be additional purchases made from this line item in the future.

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

9. Committees, Boards, and Commissions Reports

A. Council Committees – Chair reports and minutes attached

Chair reports were skipped due to the late hour.

B. Board of Zoning Appeals – minutes attached

C. Planning Commission – minutes attached

D. Accommodations Tax Advisory Committee – No meeting in February

E. Environmental Advisory Committee – minutes attached

F. Beach Preservation Committee – minutes attached

10. Ordinance, Resolutions, and Petitions

a. Second Reading -- none

b. First Reading

- i. **Ordinance 2026-01** – an ordinance creating a standing Ways and Means Committee

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

- ii. **Ordinance 2026-02** – an ordinance to regulate residential lighting

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

MOTION: Council Member Ward made a motion to suspend the rules of order to allow for discussion at First Reading. Council Member Cohen seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Council Member Ward asked if this ordinance prohibits accent or decorative lighting in trees on private property. City Attorney McMillin said this new section only applies to lighting on residential buildings, not landscape lighting.

Council Member Miars said the intent of the ordinance is to prevent spotlights and excessive lighting.

Administrator Kerr said the intent of the ordinance is to “not have lighting shine onto your neighbors or shine onto natural areas like the woods. There were things in there about how many foot candles would equate to not shining, but if you think about it, if your neighbor has a little candle, it’s not shining onto your property. So the key term was that it either shielded or it not shine onto your neighbor or not shine into natural areas. Their intent would be that there would be a more comprehensive document that would be given out with building permits that would provide all the foot candles and lumens and Kelvin ratings and all that kind of super specific stuff as guidance to guide you towards compliance.”

He added that bright security lighting needs to be shielded and pointed downward. It cannot be shining onto another property.

Mayor Pounds said it “feels very HOA-ish to me.”

Council Member Cohen suggested some rewording: “It says on residential structure, and this was the first one to deal mostly with lighting on waterways and the marsh and the docks. And since it says on residential structures, it doesn’t stop anybody from sticking a pole in their yard and putting their flood lights on a pole. So I wanted to suggest kind of rewording of it that outdoor lighting shining directly onto the intercoastal waterway, marsh, or other natural areas outside the owner’s property shall be extinguished when outdoor area is not in active use.”

He added, “Looking through on the second one, and this tied back into it was outdoor lighting on residential properties and in excess of 40 watts or 300 lumens shall be installed so that the lamp

or light emitting element is not visible from adjacent properties.” He said wattage can be easily checked by an inspector during daylight hours.

Discussion ensued as to what Committee should reconsider this ordinance. City Attorney McMillin said, “If you all make changes to the zoning ordinance which were not considered by the Planning Commission, it has got to go back to the Planning Commission and then back for approval under the Comprehensive Planning Act.”

VOTE: A vote was taken on First Reading as follows:

Ayes: Cohen, Miars, Bogosian, Pierce, Miller

Nays: Streetman, Ward, Carroll, Pounds

The motion passed 5-4

MOTION: Council Member Cohen made a motion to remand Ordinance 2026-01 back to the Environmental Advisory Committee for further consideration. Council Member Miller seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Council Member Miars said she would address City Council’s concerns about the lighting ordinance with the Committee.

iii. Ordinance 2026-03 – an ordinance to establish decibel limits in the noise ordinance

MOTION: Council Member Bogosian made a motion to approve and waive the reading, and Council Member Miars seconded the motion.

MOTION: Council Member Ward made a motion to suspend the rules of order to allow for discussion at First Reading. Mayor Pounds seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Regarding the nighttime decibel limit, Council Member Ward asked of the City Attorney: “Are the decibel readings in all the areas, commercial and residential, or just residential is 55 decibels?”

City Attorney McMillin responded, “This applies to any person, entity, or establishment.” He added that establishment includes commercial enterprise.

Council members Ward and Streetman expressed concern that 55 decibels was too low in the evening. Council Member Carroll said the ordinance does not address ambient, environmental, or sustained noise.

Administrator Kerr noted that many of the Front Beach businesses are already adhering to lower noise levels at night, adding that he doesn’t think many noise complaints are filed during these hours.

Council Member Miars said the Police Department needs a noise level to enforce the noise ordinance. Council Member Cohen explained what 55 decibels might sound like in a home and why he supports that nighttime level.

VOTE: A vote was taken as follows:

Ayes: Cohen, Miller, Bogosian, Pierce, Miars

Nays: Streetman, Ward, Carroll, Pounds

The motion passed 5-4.

c. Proclamations and Resolutions

Resolution 2026-01 – to authorize the consumption of beer and wine at the Front Beach Festival on March 7, 2026

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

11. Executive Session

12. Adjournment

Council Member Ward made a motion to adjourn, and Council Member Carroll seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned at 8:58pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Nicole DeNeane

City Clerk

IOP City Council

The signatories to this document are all residents or homeowners on the southern beaches of IOP. We very much appreciate the Council exploring all options to restore the beaches on this beautiful island. We understand that for the restoration to proceed, the Council will need easements from all owners impacted by the renourishment. It is our understanding that the owners are ready to co-operate with the City in this effort and provide all easements necessary between the property boundaries as indicated in county records and the setback line as last approved by the General Assembly in 2018. It is the request of the residents that to have a positive outcome for all and secure the approval of all residents on the southern beaches, the City consider the following:

1. Given that the City has tasked Foth Olson to come up with a longer-term strategic plan for a healthy beach, we suggest that Foth Olson be retained to provide a second opinion on the short-term renourishment plan to ensure compliance with the long term plan. As part of this second opinion, Foth Olson should be asked to determine what it would take to replace the dune, so the crest of the dune is at the baseline for ALL homeowners on the southern beaches. This would be consistent with the City not usurping the General Assembly authority in setting the baseline/setback line and inadvertently relocating the baseline without due process and General Assembly approval as called for under state law.
2. Foth Olson should also be asked to give a second opinion on the amount of sand required for the renourishment to have a dry sand beach at all tides seaward of the new dune as called for under state law 48-39-270 (4). This sand calculation should exclude the ACE spoils pumping is not a compatible sand and does not hold on these beaches as seen over the last several months.
3. We believe the city by involving Foth Olson at this stage will provide Foth Olson with a better basis for their recommendations to retain all this renourished sand. We hope that the city recognizes that the Foth Olson recommendations on retaining this sand and building these beaches will be better served by involving Foth Olson on the front end of this project determining how much sand and the placement of the sand that ensures long term viability and compliance with state law.
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on private property between their escarpment and the setback line. Just like every other municipality, homeowners should be allowed to use their own sand or structures to protect their property landward of state setback lines by rescinding the 250-foot ordinance. We believe this ordinance unfairly impedes the ability of homeowners to protect their own land and causes the city to spend taxpayer dollars on private property as well as exposes all taxpayers to unnecessary liability that no other municipality in this state does. This is even more concerning because this ordinance was originally put in place to keep structures from being built on accreted land not to restrict property rights on private property beyond the jurisdiction of the state and beyond any municipality in SC.

Thank you for your consideration. We are willing and able to help secure all necessary easements with the above mentioned assurances from the city.

Signed: Residents of the Southern IOP Beaches.

Ram Reddy
118 Ocean Blvd 2/23/26

IOP City Council

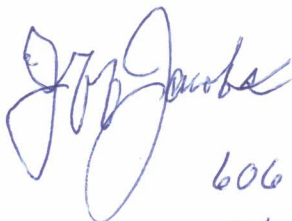
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Signed: Residents of the Southern IOP Beaches.

 Susan Jacobs
606 Ocean Blvd
Isle of Palms, SC 29451

IOP City Council

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Signed: Residents of the Southern IOP Beaches.

Ronald Vanderham
Cheyler Vanderham

302 OCEAN Blvd

IOP City Council

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Signed: Residents of the Southern IOP Beaches.

Stan Custer
Nancy Custer

322 ocean Blvd.

IOP City Council

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Signed: Residents of the Southern IOP Beaches.

Michael Hamby 2/19/26
Mary Hamby 2/19/26

IOP City Council

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A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "K West", with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Kyle & Angela West

IOP City Council

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A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Tom and Amy Leonard', written in a cursive style.

Tom and Amy Leonard

300 Ocean Blvd, IOP

IOP City Council

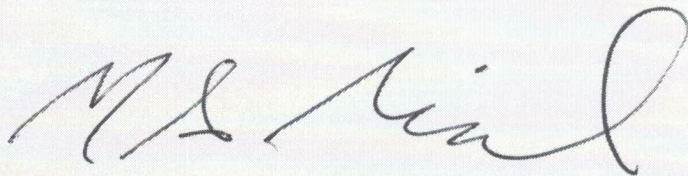
The signatories to this document are all residents or homeowners on the southern beaches of IOP. We very much appreciate the Council exploring all options to restore the beaches on this beautiful island. We understand that for the restoration to proceed, the Council will need easements from all owners impacted by the renourishment. It is our understanding that the owners are ready to co-operate with the City in this effort and provide all easements necessary between the property boundaries as indicated in county records and the setback line as last approved by the General Assembly in 2018. It is the request of the residents that to have a positive outcome for all and secure the approval of all residents on the southern beaches, the City consider the following:

1. Given that the City has tasked Foth Olson to come up with a longer-term strategic plan for a healthy beach, we suggest that Foth Olson be retained to provide a second opinion on the short-term renourishment plan to ensure compliance with the long term plan. As part of this second opinion, Foth Olson should be asked to determine what it would take to replace the dune, so the crest of the dune is at the baseline for ALL homeowners on the southern beaches. This would be consistent with the City not usurping the General Assembly authority in setting the baseline/setback line and inadvertently relocating the baseline without due process and General Assembly approval as called for under state law.
2. Foth Olson should also be asked to give a second opinion on the amount of sand required for the renourishment to have a dry sand beach at all tides seaward of the new dune as called for under state law 48-39-270 (4). This sand calculation should exclude the ACE spoils pumping is not a compatible sand and does not hold on these beaches as seen over the last several months.
3. We believe the city by involving Foth Olson at this stage will provide Foth Olson with a better basis for their recommendations to retain all this renourished sand. We hope that the city recognizes that the Foth Olson recommendations on retaining this sand and building these beaches will be better served by involving Foth Olson on the front end of this project determining how much sand and the placement of the sand that ensures long term viability and compliance with state law.
4. Given that all homeowners are unlikely to give the city easements landward of the setback line, Foth Olson should also calculate the sand to extend the beach paths to the new dune system and allow homeowners to handle any gaps that

may exist on private property between their escarpment and the setback line. Just like every other municipality, homeowners should be allowed to use their own sand or structures to protect their property landward of state setback lines by rescinding the 250-foot ordinance. We believe this ordinance unfairly impedes the ability of homeowners to protect their own land and causes the city to spend taxpayer dollars on private property as well as exposes all taxpayers to unnecessary liability that no other municipality in this state does. This is even more concerning because this ordinance was originally put in place to keep structures from being built on accreted land not to restrict property rights on private property beyond the jurisdiction of the state and beyond any municipality in SC.

Thank you for your consideration. We are willing and able to help secure all necessary easements with the above mentioned assurances from the city.

Signed: Residents of the Southern IOP Beaches.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Michael A. Mislack". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large loop at the end.

Michael A. Mislack
304 Ocean Blvd, IOP