

# Public Safety Committee

## Regular Meeting

February 17, 2026 – 10:00 AM

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Seabrook Island Town Hall, Council Chambers  
2001 Seabrook Island Road  
Seabrook Island, SC 29455



## MINUTES

### CALL TO ORDER

Chairman May called the meeting to order at 10:03 am.

### ROLL CALL

**Committee Members Present:** Darryl May, Chairman; Jim Sporn, Jill Boissonnault, Mike Sankovich, and Bruce Ludwin

**Town Staff Present:** Joe Cronin (Town Administrator), Abby Grooms (Communications Director), and Peter Wiggins (Town Clerk).

### FOIA STATEMENT

The Town Clerk confirmed that the meeting was advertised in compliance with the requirements of the South Carolina Freedom of Information Act. Agendas were posted and furnished to news media and all others requesting notification.

### APPROVAL OF MINUTES

January 20, 2026

*Mr. Sankovich motioned to approve the minutes of January 20, 2026, seconded by Mr. Sporn.*

**Mr. Sankovich's motion was APPROVED unanimously.**

### ITEMS FOR INFORMATION AND DISCUSSION

#### **Comprehensive Emergency Plan**

Chairman May stated that he would be meeting with Mayor Kleinman and Mr. Cronin to discuss what work the Town's Emergency Planning consultant had done over the past two years. He stated the prior committee considered the need for an updated Comprehensive emergency Plan, but never got to a point where they could recommend the adoption of a plan to the Town Council. He stated the current plan is lengthy and repetitive and needs to be cut down. He stated most people would agree a shorter document is more comprehensible rather than a lengthier document whose strategies are buried in too much text. Chairman May closed by stating that once he meets with the mayor and the administrator, the committee can begin to discuss strategies for reducing the length of the plan, what role the consultant will play in the drafting of the plan, and the

mechanical steps that will be required to complete the rewrite and update of the plan.

**Chapter 32 Amendments  
(Beach Rules)**

Chairman May stated the Beach Rules will be a little more complex. He stated there was information included in the packet that spelled out the history of the draft Beach Rules ordinance that was tabled by the Town Council in October. Mr. May stated that the redlined text amendments included in the agenda packet were the amendments of last year's Environment & Wildlife Committee. Chairman May continued by stating the committee should not be swayed or influenced by the redline amendments in the draft ordinance, however, he wanted the committee to see the current iteration of the ordinance so they could see what the issues are. Chairman May reminded the committee the recommendation of these Beach Rules amendments will be part of a joint effort with the Environment & Wildlife Committee. Chairman May closed by stating it was his plan along with the Chair of the Environment & Wildlife Committee that each committee take a few issues that have been discussed by the prior Environment & Wildlife Committee, and have a joint workshop for a final recommendation of the Beach Rules.

**Low Speed Vehicles**

Chairman May stated another potential agenda item that was discussed last year was Low-Speed Vehicles, although he stated he wasn't sure what the committee would do. He stated the committee could review data provided to the committee last year by SIPOA. He reminded the committee that any action taken by the committee would only apply outside the SIPOA security gate. He continued by stating that he would gauge the appetite of the committee on the issue as the year goes along.

**Contracted Code  
Enforcement**

Chairman May stated that the committee would also discuss the possibility of the Town contracting with off-duty Charleston County Sheriff's Office deputies to patrol Seabrook Island. He stated these patrols would most likely take place in the evenings when the Town's code enforcement officer is not working. He stated to the committee that during the drafting of the short-term rental ordinances, there was discussion of a noise ordinance that would be in effect from 10:00 pm – 6:00 am. He stated it was pointed out during these discussions that there is no active code enforcement on Seabrook Island during those times, and that ended the discussion of the possibility of a noise ordinance.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION ITEMS**

**Beach Patrol Services RFP**

*Mr. Sankovich motioned to adjourn into Executive Session for the purpose of discussing contractual matters related to the Town's Beach Patrol Services RFP, seconded by Ms. Boissonnault.*

Mr. Sankovich's motion was APPROVED unanimously.

The Public Safety committee entered Executive Session at 10:44 am.

*Mr. Sankovich motioned to re-enter open session, seconded by Mr. Ludwin.*

Mr. Sankovich's motion was APPROVED unanimously.

The Public Safety Committee re-entered open session at 11:49 am.

Chairman May stated the committee had two choices for a recommendation to the Town Council on the awarding of the Beach Patrol Services contract. He stated the two choices were USA Management and Barrier Island Ocean Rescue.

*Ms. Boissonnault motioned to recommend the awarding of the Beach Patrol Services contract to Barrier Island Ocean Rescue, seconded by Mr. Ludwin.*

Ms. Boissonnault's motion was APPROVED unanimously.

Chairman May stated the RFP included a request of the bidders to include a price quote for providing services between April 1 and September 30. He stated there was a request to also provide a quote for year-round service.

Mr. Cronin stated the Town has a vendor that provides geospatial data gathered by telecommunications companies that allows the Town to estimate how many people are on the beaches of Seabrook Island in a given day, month, or year. He stated in an average year, peak visitor trips to the beach are between May and September, and the average is approximately 50,000 individuals per month.

*Mr. Ludwin motioned that the Town retain the beach patrol service schedule as it is currently, from April 1 through September 30, seconded by Mr. Sporn.*

Mr. Sporn stated that given Mr. Cronin's presentation, he didn't see any anomalies that would warrant a change in the schedule, and that this was not even considering the added cost.

Mr. Sankovich stated that the data did not support a need for an additional six months of beach safety services.

Chairman May stated the reality is, is that the extra six months of service is not free. He stated that it is fair to characterize the cost of

the extra six months of service as substantial, and that is something the committee should take into consideration.

Mr. Ludwin's motion was APPROVED unanimously.

**ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business before the committee, Chairman May declared the meeting adjourned at 12:06 pm.

Peter D. Wiggins II, MPA  
Town Clerk