

Town of Seabrook Island  
Ways and Means Committee Meeting  
June 19, 2018  
1:00 P.M.

Mayor Ciancio noted that he had been approached by one of the Lowcountry Marine Mammal Network (LMMN) volunteers who inquired about posting instructive signs on the beach. Our agreement with (LMMN) provides that signs may be posted only with the approval of council. The Mayor requested Councilman Wells meet with LMMN and request them to make a presentation to council. The Mayor also noted that the Town had received a complaint from a resident about the treatment he and his wife had received from LMMN and a volunteer. Councilman Wells noted that he had published an article in the Seabrooker which described the function and purpose of the dolphin project. The Mayor instructed Councilman Wells to remind LMMN that they are to treat beachgoers with respect and suggested he would be willing to meet with the complaining resident. The Mayor requested that Councilman Gregg extend an invitation to the couple who made the complaint to meet with representatives of the Town to discuss their experience.

The Mayor said that Councilwoman Finke had brought a real estate advertisement to his attention that appeared to offer a timeshare interest for sale. He noted that the Town's ordinances prohibit "vacation time shares" but does not define the term. The Mayor reviewed the SIPOA restrictive covenants and state law relating to timeshares and indicated that council should review the issue of prohibiting timeshares, particularly given the difficulty of enforcement when the Town would only learn that a timeshare existed after the fact. Councilwoman Finke asked if the failure to comply with the Town's ordinance would impact the amount of accommodation's tax being collected and noted the concern of the Seabrook Island Club regarding potential abuse of amenity cards. The Mayor requested that Mr. Cronin contact Kiawah's Town Administrator to learn about their experience with enforcement of their "timeshare" ordinance.

The Mayor indicated that he would be meeting with the Town Administrator to work on a map that could be used by the St. Johns Fire Department in assessing damage to the island following a natural disaster. He offered council members the opportunity to participate in that meeting if they so desired.

The Mayor said that the state had revised its standard form of Mutual Aid Agreement. He reviewed the relevant provisions of the agreement and said that it would be placed on the agenda for the next regularly scheduled meeting of Town Council for approval.

Mayor Ciancio reported that he had been asked for an endorsement by Jenny Honeycutt, candidate for District 9 County Council, and solicited council's opinion on whether to offer an endorsement. He noted that the Town had no formal policy in that regard. The general sense of council was that the Town should decline Ms. Honeycutt's request. The Mayor asked the Town Administrator to prepare a statement for council's review and adoption which would state, as a matter of policy, that the Town will not endorse candidates for public office.

Councilwoman Finke suggested the need for trash collection on the beach. She suggested that perhaps the Town could provide collection bags that visitors to the beach could use for their trash collection. The Mayor asked Councilwoman Finke to determine the costs associated with purchasing trash containers and any incremental expenses that would be associated with trash collection.

Councilman Gregg noted that the Town's agreement for standby debris management services is scheduled to expire in September of this year. He reported that the Public Safety Committee (PSC) had undertaken earlier this year to solicit bids for a new standby contract. In response to the request for proposal, five (5) bids had been received and reviewed by the PSC. Councilman Gregg stated that the PSC had developed criteria (set forth in Addendum I) to his memorandum to judge the received bids. Particulars of the bid responses to the criteria were set forth in Addendum II, and a cost comparison based on an assumed set of facts was set forth in Addendum III. From the PSC's evaluation, the bid of Phillips and Jordan was found to have the highest rating notwithstanding that its bid resulted in the highest cost based on the debris cleaning scenario. He stated that he intended to ask for council's approval of the Phillips and Jordan agreement at the next regularly scheduled Town Council meeting. The Mayor noted that the Town's ordinance requires council to accept the "lowest responsible bidder" and referred council members to the criteria set forth in the ordinance describing factors which may be taken into consideration to determine which is the lowest responsible bid.

Councilman Gregg said that he had been asked by the Mayor to head an ad hoc committee to review the Town's Employee Handbook. The committee had made a number of changes to the handbook which had been reviewed by counsel. The committee will review counsel's comments and suggestions and expect to have a draft for review by the Mayor and council by the end of the month.

Councilman Gregg reported on the results of the latest ham radio test and that he and Councilman Crane had prepared a catalog of the Town's radio communication equipment as an element of assessment of the Town's emergency radio communication capabilities. He said they were examining the potential of purchasing 800 MHz radios. Mr. Cronin indicated that State and County agencies now use 800 MHz radios and

those the Town has are nearing the end of support by Motorola. Mr. Cronin indicated the cost could be substantial and noted that there is no money in this year's budget for that expense.

Councilman Wells reported that the Town's Jeep, needed for beach purposes, and the Town's Tahoe were both badly in need of repair. The Mayor noted that the Town had reserved money in each of the past two years for the purchase of a new vehicle and that there was money in the current budget for vehicle repair. Councilman Wells said it would require an expenditure of between \$1,500 and \$2,000 to put the Jeep into minimal working condition.

Councilman Wells indicated that he would be reaching out to the Club, POA and other stakeholders regarding new signage for the Town. Mayor Ciancio asked the status of required contouring of the right of way to eliminate the ponding problem. Councilman Wells was asked to check back with Sunburst Landscaping.

Town Administrator Cronin noted that Seabrook Island Road relining and culvert replacement would start mid-July. The Mayor suggested that the Town put notice on Tidelines and by SIPOA email blast that there may be temporary traffic disruption as that work proceeds.

Mr. Cronin also reported that in connection with adoption of a new policy concerning use of Town Hall for other than Town business, he had requested and received up-to-date Fire Marshall capacity ratings for both council chambers and the new conference room.

Mr. Cronin distributed to council copies of the latest beach patrol report and noted that the patrol had issued its first citation for leash law violation. The individual receiving the citation had gotten several warning notices previously. Mr. Cronin reported that the beach patrol had stopped an individual on the beach for not having his dog on leash and was advised that the dog was controlled by an electric collar. He also noted that the Town's ordinance does not define the term leash. After discussion, it appeared that the sense of council was to require a physical leash. The Mayor said he would present a definition of the term "leash" for council to consider.

Mr. Cronin noted that he had worked with Sue Holloman, who is preparing an in depth article for Tidelines on the beach patrol.

Town Administrator Cronin said that he had been approached by a resident who wanted automobile access to the beach to accommodate his wife's disability. After discussion, the sense of council was that such access should not be allowed.

Town Administrator Cronin reported that the Municipal Association had published a new model business license ordinance. The most significant difference between the proposed revised form of ordinance and the Town's ordinance is the rate classification system used. The Mayor suggested that we need an economic analysis of effect on the Town's revenue if we were to change the method of classification.

Town Administrator Cronin reported that VC3 will be at town hall on July 11<sup>th</sup> for migration of the town's desk top computers to a cloud based system and to replace council's iPads with Microsoft Surface Pro tablets.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 3:45 p.m.



Approved: June 26, 2018

Faye Allbritton, Town Clerk