

**TOWN COUNCIL MEETING  
KIAWAH ISLAND MUNICIPAL CENTER  
COUNCIL CHAMBERS  
November 6, 2007, 2:00 PM  
Minutes**

**I. Call to Order:** Mayor Wert called the meeting to order at 2:00 PM.

**II. Pledge of Allegiance**

**III. FOIA:** Notice of this meeting has been published, and posted, in accordance with the Freedom of Information Act and the requirements of the Town of Kiawah Island.

**IV. Roll Call**

Present: William G. Wert, Mayor  
Council: Alan L. Burnaford, Mayor Pro Tem  
Don McIver  
Charles R. Lipuma  
G. Steven Orban

Also Present: Ken Gunnells, Town Treasurer  
Tumiko Rucker, Town Administrator  
Catherine Wilson, Town Clerk

Absent: Dennis Rhoad, Town Attorney

**V. Mayor Wert moved without objection to amend the approved agenda to include the following additions: Item 1, New Business- Appointment of Sally Rhoad as Town Attorney; and Item 2, Grant from the Conservancy. Item E will be moved to Item A under New Business.**

**VI. Approval of Minutes**

A. Town Council Meeting: October 2, 2007

**Mayor Wert motioned to approve the October 2, 2007 minutes; Mr. Orban seconded the motion. Mr. Lipuma and Mayor Wert made corrections to the minutes. With those corrections the minutes were approved as submitted.**

## **VII. Citizens Presentation:**

### **Ms. Ann Cleveland and Hacker Burr from Charleston Collegiate**

Ms. Ann Cleveland and Mr. Hacker Burr, Director of Admissions, addressed the Town Council about the Charleston Collegiate School. Mr. Burr shared the history of the school, with its beginnings as the Sea Island Academy and said that the school is at a great place. He discussed the financial aid system and stated that the school has more minority students than other private schools and more students on financial aid because they want to allow everyone an opportunity to attend. Mr. Burr commented that Charleston Collegiate welcomes community involvement and he hoped this would be accomplished by getting the schools name out to the public more. Ms. Ann Cleveland thanked the Mayor and Town Council for the opportunity to speak and educate the Town about the Charleston Collegiate School. She stated that she had been a resident of downtown Charleston for years and that Charleston Collegiate is a “hidden jewel” that needs to be discovered by more people. Both Burr and Cleveland commented that the Charleston Collegiate school is in the process of forging bonds between students and the John’s, Kiawah, and Seabrook Island communities. Ms. Cleveland also highlighted the schools new guest speaker program which will host a variety of well-known speakers of various topics and invited all to attend. Mr. Burr stated that the school is distinguished by the following facts: The only co-educational, non-sectarian, Preschool-12, independent school in metropolitan Charleston; A nurturing environment with small classes and a 7:1 student-faculty ratio; the largest minority student enrollment of 24% and a minority faculty representation of 19%; the largest percentage of students on financial aid in Charleston; an Exhibition of Mastery project for 12<sup>th</sup> graders that requires an independent study, culminating in both an oral and written presentation before an advisory committee and an audience; a focus on student individuality, specifically with regard to the expanded learning center, where special needs are met and/or accommodated; the only theater program run by a member of the Actor’s Equity; and a competitive athletic program for all students wishing to participate.

## **VIII. Old Business:**

### **A. Security Camera and Audio Visual Equipment**

Mr. McIver stated that the Ways and Means Committee had approved two expenditures to be brought to Town Council: 1) \$5,000 for Audio Visual Equipment for the second floor conference room; 2) \$6,750 for a security camera system in Town Hall facilities.

**Mr. McIver motioned for Town Council to approve the expenditure of \$5,000 for Audio Visual Equipment for the second floor conference room and \$6,750 for a security camera system in Town Hall facilities. Mr. Burnaford seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.**

## **IX. New Business:**

### **A. Presentation of Government Financial Officers Association’s (GFOA) Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (CAFR) and Popular Annual Financial Report (PAFR)**

David Vehaugn, of the SCGFOA, presented the Town of Kiawah Island with both the Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting and the Popular Annual Financial Reporting Award on behalf of the Government Finance Officers Association.

This is the Town's third consecutive year receiving the Certificate of Achievement. Mr. David Vehaun presented these awards.

**A. Selection of Salley Rhoad as the Acting Town Attorney**

For personal reasons, Town Attorney, Dennis Rhoad will be unable to perform the duties of Town Attorney for a period of no more than 120 days.

**Mayor Wert motioned to appoint Salley Rhoad as the acting Town Attorney for a period of time not to exceed 120 days. Mr. Burnaford seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.**

**B. Visitor's Guide Funding \$20,000-Budgeted**

Mr. McIver stated that the Ways and Means Committee had approved the printing of the Visitor's Guide. Mr. McIver noted that the Town requested that the Kiawah Island Community Association place the Town Seal and a notation that the guides are "Provided by the Town of Kiawah Island" on the guide.

**Mr. McIver motioned to approve the expenditure of \$20,000 for the Kiawah Island Guest Guide funding. Mr. Orban seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.**

**C. Extension of Island Beach Services Franchise Agreement**

Mr. McIver stated that the Ways and Means Committee voted to extend the Island Beach Services for one year. This franchise agreement term shall be extended for an additional term commencing on November 1, 2007 and expiring on October 31, 2008. This will be effective November 6, 2007 (see attached).

**Mr. McIver motioned to approve the extension of the Island Beach Services Franchise Agreement for one-year. Mr. Orban seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.**

**D. Membership in the Charleston Chamber of Commerce**

Mayor Wert opened discussion about the Town of Kiawah Island joining the Charleston Chamber of Commerce. The Council discussed other local governments that are members of the Chamber and their respective levels (See attached). Mr. Orban asked at what financial level the Town should join. Mayor Wert suggested the \$500 level of membership. Mr. McIver noted that he was familiar with organizations similar to the Chamber and he thinks it is a good idea for communities and businesses to be members for the overall good of a community.

**Mayor Wert motioned for the Town of Kiawah Island to join the Charleston Chamber of Commerce at the \$500.00 membership level. Mr. Burnaford seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.**

**E. Letter to the Presidential Candidates**

Mayor Wert explained that he had received a letter from Mayor Riley inviting South Carolina mayors to join an initiative that he and Mayor Bill Barnett in Spartanburg have initiated to raise awareness about climate change (See Attached). Mr. Burnaford asked if the Town would prepare their own letter to send to the candidates. Mayor Wert answered yes. Mr. Lipuma asked if the Town would be able to address other issues than global warming. Mayor Wert responded affirmative to both and said that the Town can write the letter to personally fit the views of the Town of Kiawah Island.

**Mayor Wert motioned to have Mr. Burnaford draft and send a letter concerning climate change to the presidential candidates on behalf of the Town of Kiawah Island. Mr. Lipuma seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.**

**F. Capital Equipment Grant from Conservancy**

Mr. McIver explained that the Town of Kiawah Island is a recipient of the Capital Equipment Grant from the Conservancy. On October 7, 2007, the Kiawah Conservancy's Executive Committee formally approved \$29,858.00 to be allocated for the purchase of supplies (GPS Collars, receivers, etc.) for the second phase of the GPS Bobcat study. Mr. McIver said that on January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2008, \$30,000 will be given to the Town of Kiawah Island from the Conservancy for the Bobcat Study and related equipment. The Town would be reimbursed for the \$15,000 deposit and purchase costs of additional equipment related to the bobcat study.

**Mr. McIver motioned that the Town expend \$15,000 for deposit on additional equipment related to the Bobcat Study. Mayor Wert seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.**

**X. Correspondence**

**A. 2007 Community Rating System (CRS) Recertification (See Attached)**

Mrs. Rucker stated that the CRS Recertification letter was for informational purposes only and that the recertification process finished with the community being in good standing in the CRS for the next year. This recertification confirms that the flood insurance rates for Kiawah Island residents remain constant.

## **XI. Committee Reports**

### **Environmental Committee**

Mr. Lipuma said that the Island has experienced high tides and rough surf during the past month. Even so, and despite some dune scarfing, overall, the beach is in good shape. Mr. Lipuma noted that the number of wildlife calls decreased during the fall and is expected to further decrease during the winter. There was one call on November 5, 2007 in reference to a dolphin stranded in a tidal pool at Captain Sam's. There was no action necessary. The dolphin was able to exit as the tide came in two hours later. KINHC has agreed to fund the 2008 research on the Painted Bunting Study. This will include \$12,700 for the purchase of 22 transmitters. Jim Jordan and Eric Rice hosted an event at the Nature Center for the Mt. Zion Elementary students. (See Attached Wildlife Report.)

### **Arts Council**

Mr. Lipuma said the Arts Council has held its first two events of this season, including: From Baroque to Broadway and the Charleston Symphony Orchestra. Both of these events have been well attended and very entertaining. Mr. Lipuma reminded those in attendance of the Wanda Johnson concert with Shrimp City Slim on Friday, November 9<sup>th</sup>, 2007 and the Holiday Dinner. Mayor Wert took the opportunity to praise the Arts Council and stated that the Town should feel great about funding the Arts Council.

### **Public Safety**

Mr. Orban reported that the Beachwalker Drive project drive is in the landscaping and irrigation phase that will increase the looks of the road. The remaining process will include the addition of different plants, grasses, and 20 more trees. The mitigation proposal for the Parkway has been submitted to the Corp of Engineers. The Town has been working with the South Carolina Nature Conservancy to obtain land on Edisto Island. Once purchased this land would be converted to a Conservation Easement. Mr. Orban said the Town should receive a response from the Corp of Engineers by the end of the following week. Mr. Orban discussed the October 16, 2007 Public Safety Committee meeting and said that since the meeting two additional "No Biking" signs have been installed; one at the exit of Freshfield's along the inbound land, and another at the outbound lane just before the curve. Mr. Orban commented that John Johnson of the Seabrook Island Citizen Emergency Response Team (CERT) spoke to the Public Safety Committee about starting a CERT on Kiawah Island. Mr. Orban said that he did not see the need for a CERT on Kiawah Island and suggested if discussion were necessary it be brought up at next month's meeting.

### **Financial Issues**

Mr. McIver had no report.

### **Sea Island Issues**

Mr. Burnaford reported that there have been two meetings at the John's Island High School concerning an update to the 2000 road study. There was also a County Planning Commission meeting. The County is in the process of gathering opinions in order to complete the Comprehensive Plan. Mr. Burnaford welcomed and encouraged attendees to go to the upcoming meetings in order to share ideas with the County Planning Commission.

## **XII. Town Administrator's Report**

Mrs. Rucker stated that since last month's issue with the cut telephone cables on the Island, she and the Mayor have met with Ted Creech, Division Manager from AT&T. They have established some acceptable procedures for notification and resolution of problems. The company has provided a direct dial telephone number for Kiawah residents affected by the cut cable in order for them to call and request a 3-day rebate for their loss of service. The open enrollment of Insurance for all employees has been completed ahead of schedule. Mrs. Rucker said that she attended a luncheon for the Barrier Island Free Medical Clinic, where Blue Cross Blue Shield, among other supporters like the Town of Kiawah Island were recognized for their support. The clinic will be opening their new facility on Maybank Highway in the coming months. Mrs. Rucker has established a point of contact with the supervisor from the South Carolina Department of Transportation to provide updates of any lane closings or traffic delays associated with the Bohicket Road Bridge replacement. Residents will be notified by e-mail blasts notifying residents of any traffic delays. Mrs. Rucker mentioned that Town Notes is available online in pdf format.

## **XIII. Mayor's Report**

Mayor Wert congratulated Mrs. Rucker for her selection to deliver the welcoming address at the South Carolina Municipal Association's Clerks and Treasurers Institute. He also congratulated Mr. Gunnells on his appointment to the South Carolina Municipal Court Board of Directors. Jim Jordan will be delivering the State of the Beach Address on December 12, at 2:00pm.

## **XIV. Citizens' Comments/Questions**

**Wendy Kulick, 38 Marsh Edge Lane:** Mrs. Kulick thanked the Town for its sponsorship of the 3<sup>rd</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> graders from Mt. Zion to come to the Discovery Nature Center.

## **XV. Council Members Comments**

Mr. Burnaford had no comment.

Mr. McIver had no comment.

Mr. Orban commented that the latest edition of Town Notes looked very good.

Mr. Lipuma said he had noticed several home tour signs throughout the Island that were not ARB approved and suggested being ever vigilant in the enforcement of non-approved signs.

**XVI. Executive Session/ Personnel Matters and Legal Matters**

**Mayor Wert moved to go into executive session to discuss personnel matters and legal matters at 3:21 PM; No votes or actions were taken during executive session.**

**XVII. Adjournment:**

**Mayor Wert moved to adjourn the regular meeting at 5:00 PM; motion seconded by Mr. Orban. Motion carried unanimously.**

Submitted by \_\_\_\_\_  
Cathy Wilson, Town Clerk

APPROVED: \_\_\_\_\_  
William G. Wert, Mayor

DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

CC: Mayor Wert  
Dennis Rhoad, Esq.  
Tumiko Rucker, Town Admin  
Council Members  
Town Treasurer  
Planning Commission