

TOWN OF HILTON HEAD ISLAND PUBLIC FACILITIES COMMITTEE

Date: May 5, 2009

Time: 2:00 P.M.

Members Present: John Safay, George Williams, Drew Laughlin

Members Absent: None

Staff Present: Steve Riley, Curtis Coltrane, Scott Liggett, Charles Cousins, Jill Foster, Jeff Buckalew, Jayme Lopko, Cary Gaffney

Others Present: Ken Heitzke, *Councilman*, Bill Ferguson, *Councilman*, Michael Marks, *Coastal Discovery Museum*

Media Present: Daniel Brownstein, *The Island Packet*

1. Call to Order.

The meeting was called to order at 2:00 P.M.

2. FOIA Compliance:

Public notification of this meeting has been published, posted and mailed in compliance with the Freedom of Information Act and the Town of Hilton Head Island requirements.

3. Committee Business:

Councilman Laughlin moved to approve the Minutes of March 24, 2009. Councilman Williams seconded the Motion. The Minutes of March 24, 2009 were unanimously approved.

4. Unfinished Business: None

5. New Business

• **Master Plan Update for Honey Horn**

Jayme Lopko, Senior Planner stated in January, 2002, Town Council entered into an agreement with the Coastal Discovery Museum for the use of the Honey Horn Property. This agreement included a lease and also a Master Plan describing the proposed use of the property. Since that time, there have been several occasions where the Coastal Discovery Museum had intended uses for the Honey Horn property which were not on that Master Plan. Per the agreement that was approved by Town Council in 2002 any use that was not specifically on that Master Plan would have to come back to Town Council for approval. In order to try and expedite any processes with Honey Horn and to avoid having to come back to Town Council any time there was a small change or something not listed on the Master Plan, staff worked with the Museum to try and update the Master Plan to make it a little to make it a little more general and to give them a little more flexibility to use the property.

After a brief discussion, Councilman Williams moved that the Public Facilities Committee forward the Honey Horn Master Plan Update to Town Council with a recommendation of approval. The Motion passed unanimously.

- **Stormwater Utility – Consideration for Fee Adjustment**

Chairman Safay stated the Committee is being asked to discuss the consideration for a fee adjustment. We are not being asked for a recommendation, just to discuss and broach the subject which will come up during the budget hearings later this month.

Scott Liggett, Director of Public Projects & Facilities/Chief Engineer stated staff recommends the Public Facilities Committee endorse a Stormwater Utility Fee of \$100.43 per year per SFU. The increase in fee from \$50.76 is necessitated primarily by the execution of service agreements with various Planned Unit Developments (PUD’s) which has effectively expanded the system over which the Town is responsible and the unfunded mandates of Phase II of the National Pollution Discharge Elimination System (NPDES). Additionally, there remains small order, follow-on stormwater work within the Town still to be accomplished.

It is expected that the revised fee will provide adequate funding for the next several years without adjustment. In addition to the burden of debt service, the fee supports staffing, the operation and maintenance needs over all service areas including stormwater pulp stations, water quality monitoring, NPDES compliance, professional services and additional small scale capital projects among other things. A more detailed breakdown is as follows:

Debt Service	\$1,247,500
Staff	\$ 311,000
Systems Operation, Maintenance and Lagoon Dredging	\$1,000,000
Professional Services/New Projects (pay as you go or debt Service on new bond - \$5m)	\$ 600,000
NPDES Phase II compliance	\$ 50,000
Water Quality Monitoring	\$ 60,000
Hazardous Material Round-up	\$ 80,000
Public Education – Partnership with County	\$ 30,000
Regional Water Quality Projects – Partnership with County	\$ 60,000
Subtotal	\$3,438,500
Administrative Costs (5%) Beaufort County	\$ 171,925
Total	\$3,610,425

As a result, with total programmatic cost of \$3,610,425 and 35,950 SFU’s (billing units) the cost per SFU is \$100.43.

Councilman Williams stated it was his opinion that doubling the fee in this time and age is very difficult.

Chairman Safay stated he was in agreement with Councilman Williams in the sense that to suddenly double a fee is never easy but it is probably less easy now than ever before. On the other hand, we cannot shirk our responsibilities. If this is what it is, this is what has got to be done. It is just too important to just say we can slip it for five years or something. Chairman Safay asked between now and the next presentation of this during budget presentation or if it comes back to this Committee if there is anyway you could look at some of these numbers particularly in the \$1,000,000 and \$600,000 line items above to see if anything can be deferred.

Chairman Safay stated that he looked forward to hearing any refinements that possibly could be made.

6. Adjournment:

Councilman Williams moved to adjourn the meeting. Councilman Laughlin seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned at 2:55 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Karen D. Knox
Senior Administrative Assistant