

TOWN OF HILTON HEAD ISLAND  
**INTERGOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS COMMITTEE**

Minutes of the Tuesday, February 16, 2010  
Regular Meeting

*Members Present:* George Williams *Chairman*; Ken Heitzke, Bill Harkins

*Members Absent:* None

*Others Present:* Thomas D. Peeples, *Mayor*; John Safay, *Councilman*; Bill Ferguson, *Councilman*; Joe Croley, *Hilton Head Area Association of Realtors*

*Staff Present:* Greg DeLoach, *Assistant Town Manager*; Lavarn Lucas, *Fire Chief*, Brad Tadlock, *Deputy Fire Chief*, Joheida Fister, *Fire Marshall*, David Cooler, *Administrative Battalion Chief*; Faidra Smith, *Administrative Manager/Public Information*; Vicki Pfannenschmidt, *Administrative Assistant*.

*Media Present:* Rene Dudley, *Island Packet*

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**I CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order at 2:00 p.m.

**II 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 requirement.

**III APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**A. December 15, 2009 Regular Meeting**

Mr. Heitzke moved to approve. Mr. Harkins seconded. The motion was approved by a vote of 3-0.

**IV CHAIRMAN'S REPORT**

Mr. Williams stated he had no report this month. He explained Mayor Peeples was present to brief the Committee on pending changes in building codes requiring mandatory automatic fire sprinklers in one and two family residential homes. After discussion, Mr. Harkins moved and Mr. Heitzke seconded to amend the agenda to include the review of the proposed changes to building codes specifically of mandatory requirement of automatic fire sprinklers in residential construction.

**V UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

**• Update of 2010 General Assembly Session Issues**

Greg DeLoach updated the Committee on activities since the last meeting. He reviewed the list of letters sent which included a letter to MASC requesting they consider including I-26 and I-95 improvements in their 2010 legislation; a letter to U.S. Representative James Clyburn requesting I-95 and I-26 improvements; a letter to the House Ways and Means Committee and copied BCLD opposing Governor Sanford's proposal to cut the Local Government Fund; a letter to Senator Davis and copied BCLD expressing the Town's concern about the proposed point of sale legislation and the need for comprehensive tax reform; a letter to Senator Davis and copied BCLD requesting a stop to the Okatie Crossings Tax Incentive legislation until a complete analysis is conducted; and a letter to all members of the Senate and copied BCLD opposing the Okatie Crossings Development Tax

Incentive Legislation. He added that the full House and Ways and Means Committee will meet in the next few weeks to go over budget proposals and per the SCAC report there has been no discussion of the funding level for the Local Government Fund. He also informed the Committee that the Okatie Crossing Development Proposed Tax Incentive Bill S.1054 was given a favorable report by the Senate Finance Committee.

## VI NEW BUSINESS

- **S.907 – Emergency Medical Services, To Repeal Article 1, Chapter 61, Title 44 of the 1976 Code, Relating to Emergency Medical Services – Fire & Rescue Department Comments**
- **H.3468 – Children’s Emergency Medical Services Act – Fire & Rescue Department Comments**
- **H.3710 – Emergency Medical Services Act – Fire & Rescue Department Comments**

Chief Lucas reviewed each of the above bills noting they are all Emergency Medical Services bills and relate to the release of information. He provided comments in detail as to his opposition of the bills. After lengthy discussion, it was decided the Committee would recommend that Town Council authorize a letter of support for Chief Lucas’ opposing comments concerning bills S.907, H.3468 and H.3710 regarding Emergency Medical Services; noting there will be a meeting with Representative Chalk for his input prior to the letter being sent.

- **Review of Mandatory Requirement of Automatic Fire Sprinklers in Residential Construction**

Mr. Williams invited Mayor Peeples to review the proposed changes in the building code concerning the above mandatory requirement. Mayor Peeples stated the requirement would be very costly to homeowners and this is not economically the right time to make this change. He explained this would be required in all new construction which would not only affect new home builders but would also include any construction concerning additions to existing homes. Chief Lucas stated Mayor Peeples’ interpretation of the changes was accurate and he agreed it was not the right time for this change. After discussion, Mr. Harkins moved and Mr. Heitzke seconded to recommend to Town Council they support the South Carolina Homeowners Association on this matter and send a letter to the Building Code Council supporting the sub-committee’s recommendation to remove the mandatory sprinkler system requirement for one and two unit family homes. The motion was approved by a vote of 3-0.

## VI ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Heitzke moved to adjourn the meeting and Mr. Harkins seconded the motion. The meeting adjourned at 3:27 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

Approved:

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George Williams, Chairman

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Vicki Pfannenschmidt,  
Administrative Assistant