

TOWN OF HILTON HEAD ISLAND PUBLIC FACILITIES COMMITTEE

Date: January 4, 2011

Time: 2:00 P.M.

Members Present: Kim Likins, George Williams, Bill Harkins

Members Absent: None

Staff Present: Greg DeLoach, Scott Liggett, Nicole Dixon, Jill Foster, Heather Colin, Susan Simmons, Steven Markiw

Others Present: Bill Ferguson, *Councilman*, Frank Soule, *Island Recreation Association*, Tom Parker, *Lee & Parker Architects*, Barry Taylor, *The FWA Group Architects*, Paul Gibson, Paul Jacobson, Joe Buckingham, *Mission Resources Group*

Media Present: Tom Barton, *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:

Chairman Likins advised there is only one person on the Committee that was present at the October 4, 2010 Meeting due to the recent turnover and asked Councilman Harkins to verify that the Minutes reflect what actually happened at the Meeting. Councilman Harkins stated he was in attendance at the Meeting and has read the Minutes thoroughly and they do reflect accurately what took place. Councilman Williams stated there was a typo on page 4 and asked that it be corrected. Councilman Harkins moved to approve the Minutes of October 4, 2010. Councilman Williams seconded. The Minutes of October 4, 2010 were unanimously approved.

4. Unfinished Business:

5. New Business

• **Wildhorse Road Right-of-Way Conveyance/Acceptance**

Scott Liggett advised staff recommends the Public Facilities Committee endorse the right-of-way transfer and recommend approval to Town Council.

The construction of improvements to Wild Horse Road by the Town as approved by the South Carolina Department of Transportation (SCDOT), the road's owner necessitates the reciprocal transfer of ownership of portions of road right-of-way. The Town would be conveying land acquired for the purpose of establishing

right-of-way for the realigned road and accepting land from SCDOT that contained the road in its former alignment. The area to be conveyed to SCDOT is 1.390 acres; the area to be accepted by the Town is .604 acres.

Councilman Harkins motioned the Public Facilities Committee forward this to Town Council with recommendation for approval. Councilman Williams seconded. The motion unanimously passed.

• **Island Recreation Center Enhancements/Feasibility Study**

Nicole Dixon, Senior Planner advised staff recommends Town Council endorse the findings and recommendation provided in the Feasibility Study prepared by Lee & Parker Architects, in a joint-venture with The FWA Group and Mission Resources Group regarding the financial implications of the proposed aquatics center and enhancements to the Recreation Center.

Should Town Council adopt the recommendations provided in the feasibility study, staff is also asking for approval to proceed with Phase II of the project which would be to hire a consultant to prepare a Master Plan.

Tom Parker, Lee & Parker Architects gave an overview of what was reflected in the Feasibility Study.

After lengthy discussion, Councilman Harkins stated he does not have to be convinced about the value of this as I think this is a tremendous asset today and it could be a much improved asset tomorrow. Councilman Harkins moved that staff, through Susan Simmons, determine and share with us their comfort level in the volume and fee structure plus their comfort level that we are optimizing all revenue sources and we are also optimizing or exploring the possibility of alternative revenue sources that are out there that we may not have even thought of. Councilman Williams would not second the Motion. Councilman Williams stated he thought those questions need to be answered when we get to the point where we have a Master Plan and we are sitting at a point where we are looking at this particular project and the other half dozen projects we are going to have to be looking at. I am not really sure that we are at the point here where we need to go into that much detail until we actually have a Master Plan and a funding decision to make. If we don't get this to Council with a concept of let's make a recommendation that we go forward with the money we have to get the Master Plan where we can take the Master Plan to Council answering your questions and then at that point we can decide on how does this stack up with all our other priorities and should we start looking forward with going forward with the design and spending the money on the design.

Councilman Harkins stated he doesn't take issue with Councilman Williams' comments, but he is concerned about how much we are going to spend to get to that point.

Councilman Harkins withdrew his Motion. Councilman Harkins moved that we proceed and request staff in conjunction with the consultants develop an outline of the feasibility process to be undertaken in the future. The end product of that is to create a higher level of confidence. Councilman Williams seconded the Motion. Scott Liggett asked if it was the recommendation of the Committee that we

proceed with the Master Plan or not. Councilman Harkins said he was not saying Master Plan. Staff is telling us this is a feasible project; the consultants are saying these projections are conservative. I would just like some confidence that the community is going to be behind us on this one. Over the next several months we are going to be doing things that a lot of people like, we are going to be doing things that a lot of people don't like and I think we have to have a cogent reason or platform for moving ahead. Councilman Williams withdrew his second.

Councilman Williams motioned the Public Facilities Committee get this to Council for a full review with staff having an outline or something of what the Master Plan will include which should address some of Mr. Harkins issues. Your concerns can be answered as we go forward as all we are doing is saying we will go forward with the Master Plan. We are not saying we are going forward with the project, we are not saying the public is behind the project and we are not saying we are funding anything else besides what we have already funded. It is not new money; it is money that has already been funded to move this project forward. Councilman Harkins seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

6. Adjournment:

Councilman Williams moved to adjourn. Councilman Harkins seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned at 3:45 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Karen D. Knox
Senior Administrative Assistant

Approved: March 1, 2011