

PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE MEETING

Municipal Center Council Chambers

September 19, 2024; 11:00 AM

Minutes

I. Call to Order: Mr. Harris called the meeting to order at 10:00 am.

II. Roll Call:

Present: Craig Harris, Public Safety Director
Steve Rolando
Mark Ruppel
Bill Thomae

Absent: Russell Berner, Chairman
Yvonne Johnstone
Nancy Robison
Al Sines

Also Present: Fire Chief Kunitzer, St. Johns Fire District
Deputy Chief Henson, St. Johns Fire District
Assistant Chief Prouse, St. Johns Fire District
Assistant Chief Palawasta, Charleston County EMS
Rob Edgerton, Beach Patrol

III. Approval of Minutes:

- A.** Public Safety Committee Meeting Minutes of March 14, 2024
- B.** Special Call Public Safety Committee Meeting Minutes of April 16, 2024
- C.** Public Safety Committee Meeting Minutes of June 13, 2024
- D.** Public Safety Committee Meeting Minutes of July 11, 2024

Mr. Thomae noted a correction to the June 13th minutes, and Mr. Rolando noted corrections to the April 16th and June 13th minutes.

Mr. Ruppel made a motion to approve the Public Safety Committee minutes of March 14th, April 16th, June 13th, and July 11th as amended. Mr. Rolando seconded the motion, and it was unanimously approved.

IV. Agency Updates (as required)

A. Charleston County Sheriff's Department

Town of Kiawah Monthly Report	August	Year to Date
Number of all Written Report (excluding accident reports)	19	135
Accident Reports – Vehicle Mishaps	5	67
Number of Calls Handle Not Requiring a Report	98	522
Number of Traffic Stops	31	215
TOTAL NUMBER OF CALLS HANDLED (dispatched/self-generated)	153	939
Written Warnings Issued	23	182
Traffic Citations Issued	8	35
Total Warnings and Citations Issued	31	217
Alarms	47	254
Specific Patrols Requests	173	1733

Mr. Harris noted the Charleston County Sheriff's Department's absence, with Lt. Brokaw

improvements.

VI. New Business:

A. Discussion of Land Sail Carts

In discussing Sail Carts, Mr. Harris stated that a committee would be formed to gather facts about Sail Carts.

Mr. Edgerton shared details on the four Blokarts on the island, three at Surfsong and one at Flyway. These non-motorized vehicles have been observed on the beach since 2003, with two unfounded complaints and no unsafe activity. They are seasonal, not seen during busy summer months, and operate like sailboats, with wind controlling their speed, steering, and braking. Concerns include their speed and safety around beachgoers, as well as their lack of brakes.

Further discussion included Councilman Berner's initiating the discussion, and a subcommittee will be formed to explore the issue further, considering existing ordinances on vehicle speeds. The topic will be revisited in a future Council meeting, along with potential implications for beach emergency access issues, the prohibition of e-bikes on the beach, and the need for speed regulation due to wind conditions.

Mr. Thomae made a motion to establish a sub-committee to further investigate the issues with Sail Carts. Mr. Rolando seconded the motion.

VII. Chairman's Updates:

Mr. Harris commended EMS, Fire, and the Sheriff's Office for last week's incident response. Upcoming events are a triathlon on October 6th, the marathon in December, and the New Year's Eve celebration. Collaboration with department heads of Fire, EMS, and Law Enforcement is planned. The storm response practice was appreciated.

VIII. Committee Members' Comments:

None

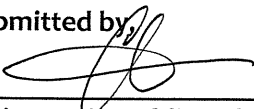
IX. Citizens Comments:

None

X. Adjournment:

Mr. Ruppel made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 11:28 pm. Mr. Thomae seconded the motion, and it was unanimously approved.

Submitted by



Craig Harris, Public Safety Director

1-21-25
Date

Beach Patrol

August 2024 Beach Patrol Activity					
Enforcement	Subcategory	Verbal Warning	Written Warning	Citation	Violation Total
	Alcohol 15-208				0
	Alligator 15-501				0
	Beach Boat 16-803				0
	Beach Fee 15-105				0
	Build Permit				0
	Business License				0
	Critical Habitat 16-804	9	1		10
	Disorderly 15-204			1	1
	Drone 7-302	1			1
	Dune 16-304	29			29
	Flammable 15-309				0
	Glass 16-818	15			15
	Harass Animal 16-810	4			4
	Leash 7-201	44	12	10	66
	Lights 16-187				0
	Littering 15-212				0
	Narcotics 15-213				0
	Noise 15-306				0
	Nudity 16-806				0
	Other	4			4
	Parking 13-103				0
	Personal Article Storage 9-119				0
	Plastic 14-402	2			2
	Shovel 16-409	13			13
	Storage 16-805		5		5
	STR Bikes / Beach Gear 14-506f				0
	STR Parking 14-506d				0
	STR Parking 14-506d(1)				0
	STR Parking 14-506d(2)				0
	STR Trash 14-506e(1)				0
	Swim Wade 15-314	15			15
	Trespass 15-119				0
	Vehicle 16-902b	11	3		14
	Total	147	21	11	179

August 2024 Evening Enforcement Activity					
Enforcement	Subcategory	Verbal Warning	Written Warning	Citation	Violation Total
	Alcohol 15-208				0
	Alligator 15-501				0
	Beach Boat 16-803				0
	Beach Fee 15-105				0
	Build Permit				0
	Business License				0
	Critical Habitat 16-804				0
	Disorderly 15-204				0
	Drone 7-302				0
	Dune 16-304	8		3	11
	Flammable 15-309	1			1
	Glass 16-818	1			1
	Harass Animal 16-810				0
	Leash 7-201	6	2	3	11
	Lights 16-187	31			31
	Littering 15-212		5		5
	Narcotics 15-213				0
	Noise 15-306	5			5
	Nudity 16-806	4	1		5
	Other				0
	Parking 13-103				0
	Personal Article Storage 9-119		43	1	44
	Plastic 14-402				0
	Shovel 16-409				0
	Storage 16-805	1			1
	STR Bikes / Beach Gear 14-506f		125	8	133
	STR Parking 14-506d		4		4
	STR Parking 14-506d(1)		4		4
	STR Parking 14-506d(2)		3	1	4
	STR Trash 14-506e(1)		2		2
	Swim Wade 15-314				0
	Trespass 15-119			3	3
	Vehicle 16-902b				0
	Total	56	189	19	264

Mr. Edgerton discussed replacing the sign at Captain Sam’s Inlet, seasonal down staffing, an increase in lease law violations, and enforcement of the new loose materials ordinance.

D. Kiawah Island Community Association

KICA Security Report Monthly Statistics: August 2024			
	2022	2023	2024
Deer Related Accidents (no personal injury)	0	0	1
False Residential Alarms	1	2	5
Vehicles passed through the Main Gate	207,381	206,389	201,039
Vehicles passed through the Vanderhorst Gate	118,233	115,371	102,028

Mr. Ruppel discussed the current paving project and said that all security department personnel are completing basic first-aid training and will hold 2-year certifications.

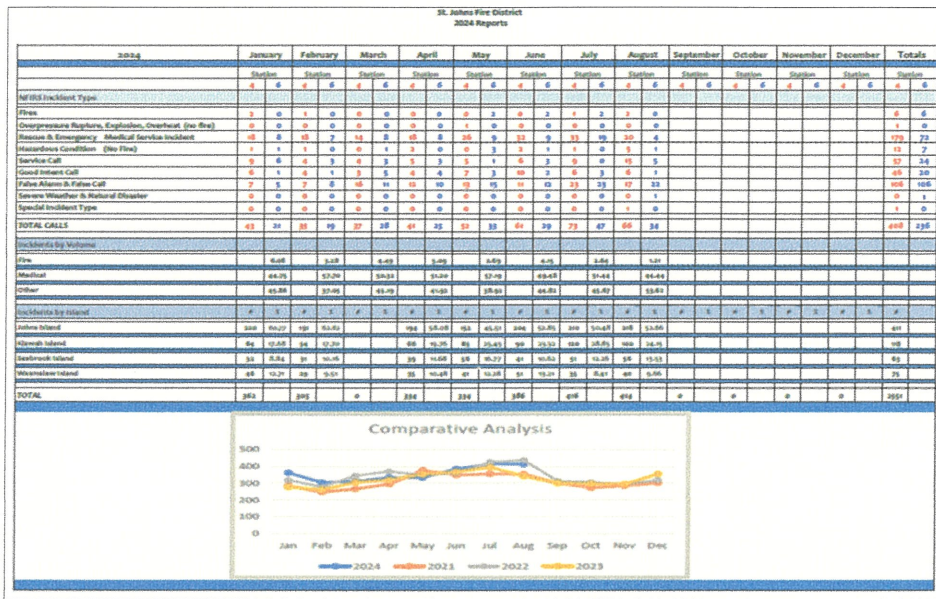
V. Old Business:

A. Update on the Comprehensive Public Safety Feasibility Study

Mr. Harris provided an update on the Public Safety Feasibility Study, stating that the consultants have been conducting interviews on-site and that a community drop-in meeting was held to obtain community feedback. He noted that the results are expected in the next week or two, stressing that the study was to look for any gaps in law enforcement services and to make recommendations on

unable to attend. There were no questions on the monthly report.

B. St. John's Fire District



The St. John's Fire Department reported a kitchen fire in Sunlit Bend, with apparatus arriving in under five minutes. Coordination with partners minimized damage, aided by a water line piercing. Despite substantial damage, efforts reduced it.

Interviews for paramedic specialists are starting, with the aim of obtaining advanced life support medical licensure by mid-October. A paramedic-staffed squad will be at Station 4, which will ease EMS burdens, enhance emergency response, and provide higher care levels while leaving ambulances on the road for true emergencies. The goal is to expand district-wide within the coming year.

Discussion included the hiring and training timeline for new personnel, focusing on the selection process and collaboration with DHEC for advanced life-support licensure approval.

C. Charleston County Emergency Medical Services

Charleston County EMS Incident Data - Town of Kiawah						
Number of Days in Report: 31		Month: July	Year: 2024			
Countywide Response Data	Overall	Alpha	Bravo	Charlie	Delta	Echo
Responses	49	13	17	6	13	0
% of All Responses	100.00%	26.53%	34.69%	12.24%	26.53%	0.00%
Average Responses Per Day	1.58	0.42	0.55	0.19	0.42	(Blank)
Average Response Time	00:14:38	00:14:34	00:16:04	00:15:30	00:12:24	
Fractile	42.86%	54%	41%	33%	38%	0%
% > 20 Minute Response	14.29%	15.38%	11.76%	16.67%	15.38%	(Blank)
% > 30 Minute Response	6.12%	7.69%	11.76%	0.00%	0.00%	(Blank)
Average Daily Total Staffing Hours	410	Average Daily Core Hours		9,960		
Average Daily Total ALS Hours	282	% Core BLS		39.41%		
Average Daily Total BLS Hours	127.61					

The July EMS report highlighted response times and transport rates, with an additional resource in Wadmalaw providing backup. Classes for advanced EMT training, the recruitment of new EMTs and paramedics, and a new class of 40 new hires with no certifications were discussed. Local hiring was emphasized due to a nationwide shortage.