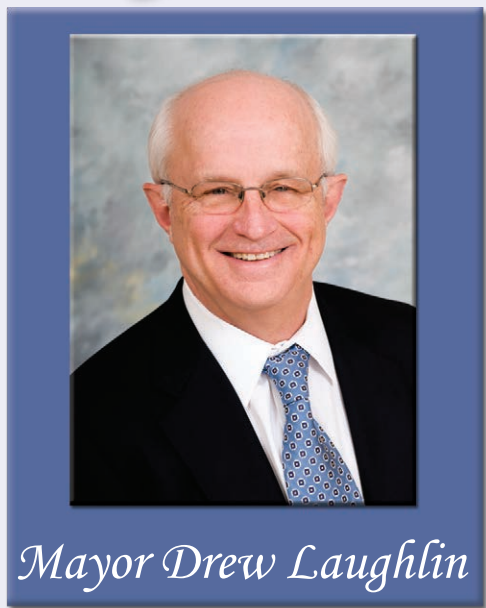


Our Town

A Newsletter of the Town of Hilton Head Island
 Brought to you by the Town of Hilton Head Island, South Carolina
www.hiltonheadislandsc.gov (843)341-4600

Your Town By The Numbers

Mayor's Note



Mayor Drew Laughlin

I trust everyone's summer is going well and that you are looking forward to a beautiful fall in the lowcountry. We're mixing up the usual *Our Town* newsletter format this quarter. We wanted to express some of the services the town provides through numbers. We are members of the Municipal Association of South Carolina and that organization encourages its members to show to residents the value your town offers. The numbers (calendar and fiscal year) you will see are just a sample of those we have or could generate, but they will give residents an idea of some of the volume of work that

their tax dollars pay for. Remember, island visitors also share the cost of services through taxes they pay to play here and I am sure you will agree, that is fair. Media outlets, understandably, choose to cover stories that they find appealing to residents. The stories you read, however, represent only a small part of the services the town provides to residents and visitors. This *Our Town* edition should be interesting to you, and maybe even a bit surprising.

As I reviewed the numbers you will soon read about, I was impressed by several in particular. Our highly trained and skilled Communications Dispatchers (911) handled 41,267 incoming calls and made 18,171 outgoing calls in a year's time. The Bureau of Fire Prevention made 2,181 fire inspections and made 2,911 fire hydrant inspections. Our Fire Rescue Department responded to 6,301 emergency incidents and transported 3,445 patients. The Department dealt with 137 actual fires. It also has collected/recycled (by vendor) over 780,000 pounds of Hazardous and E-Waste since program inception. The Sheriff's Office experienced 78,558 calls for service in 2013. How about Shore Beach Services, Inc. (town franchisee)

providing first aid to 32,547 beachgoers! Did you know that Shore Beach handles 300 trash and recycling containers on the beach? Our Finance Department handled 6,090 business license renewals and processed close to 6,000 Hospitality/Local ATAX/Beach Preservation Fee receipts in a year. Our Legal Department handled 310 Freedom of Information Act requests, 70 contracts, 40 subpoenas and processed over 50 Special Event applications. Our Building Department made 12,486 inspections and issued 3,538 permits in a year. Our Public Projects and Facilities Department operates 23 traffic lights, 46 sets of pedestrian signals, is responsible for over 21,000 acres of stormwater management and completed 61 stormwater projects in a year. The Department also maintains 61 miles of various pathways, inspects/repairs 8 beach parks, 7 fire stations, and manages our all-important landscaping and litter contracts.

Please take a look inside for more interesting stats and if you like this issue, let us know and we can generate more in the future.

Land Acquisition Program

- 144 parcels purchased.
- 1,321.36 acres.
- Total expenditure of \$171.8 million.
- Reduction of potential 4.57 million sq. feet of commercial development; potential 1,365 motel rooms; potential 4,637 residential and timeshare units; and potential 43,228 PM peak-hour driving trips.



Our Town Newsletter (Fiscal Year 2013/2014)

Distributed approximately 36,000 copies of the quarterly town publication through the Island Packet for Hilton Head Island home deliveries. Additionally, approximately 1,200 copies were distributed through town hall and other town facilities.

www.hiltonheadislandsc.gov Website (FY 2013/2014)

- Total Page Views: 1,567,938.
- Average Page View per Day: 4,287.
- Total Visitors: 855,905.
- Average Visitors per Day: 2,180.

Page View – A page is one complete web page, most likely composed of a number of files. For instance, if your home page has five images and some text, there will be six hits that make up a single page.

Visitor – The number of visitors by the originating IP address. If a request from an IP address came 30 minutes after previous request from same IP address, it is considered to belong to a different visitor.

Parks

- 8 Beach parks.
- 12 town passive and active parks for soccer, baseball, roller hockey, skate park, dog park, basketball, playgrounds, events, tennis, rugby, and more.
- \$4.5 million 5-acre park planned along the Broad Creek behind Shelter Cove Towne Centre.
- Rowing and Sailing Center at Squire Pope Community Park under construction now.
- 235 security cameras located at many parks and properties.
- 13 miles of a family-oriented pristine beach.



