



TOWN OF SURFSIDE BEACH ♦ TOWN COUNCIL CHAMBERS  
May 26, 2009 ♦ 6:30 P.M.

TOWN COUNCIL  
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

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1. **CALL TO ORDER**

Mayor Deaton called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. Mayor Deaton and Councilmembers Blair, Johnson, Martin, Samples and Childs were present. Mayor Pro Tem Truett was absent. A quorum was present. Staff present: Administrator Booth; Clerk Pinnell, Police Chief Christenson, Fire Chief Packard and Finance Treasurer Hursey. Attorney Mr. Smith was also present.

2. **INVOCATION and PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE.**

Dr. Paul W. Alverson Jr. of Southern Baptist Convention Transitional Team said the invocation and Mayor Deaton led the pledge of allegiance.

3. **AGENDA APPROVAL**

Mr. Samples made a motion to approve the agenda as submitted. Mr. Childs seconded the motion. **All voted in favor. MOTION CARRIED.**

4. **MINUTES APPROVAL**

Mr. Johnson made a motion to approve the minutes from the May 12, 2009 meeting as submitted. Ms. Blair seconded the motion. **All voted in favor. MOTION CARRIED.**

5. **PUBLIC COMMENTS – Agenda Items only – 3 minutes per speaker**

There were no public comments.

6. **COMMUNICATIONS**

A. ***New Fire Truck Dedication***

A dedication was presented prior to the start of the council meeting.

B. ***Present “Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting” Plaque***

Ms. Pinnell read the certificate to those in attendance. Finance Treasurer Ms. Hursey was acknowledged.

C. ***Public Works Report***

Mr. Booth reported that the Public Works Director is not at the meeting this evening; he had a small heart attack and may need a small procedure.

Mr. Booth reported the following: the town will slow down with projects and go into a planning phase, Yaupon parking lot has been completed, one bay at the fire station will be removed and the foundation on the lot at Surfside Drive and Poplar will also be taken up. The sign at the pier will be removed and the Beautification Committee has a plan for this area. A transportation plan will be part of the planning phase. Mr. Booth and staff will be evaluating the town and are looking at creating a five year plan. Some State streets will be turned over to the town and they will be paved prior to being turned over. If the State owns the right of way then the town must handle these the way the State desires the town to. The State also has standards

52 for sidewalk construction; the inside edge must be one inch above the crown of the  
53 road. The town would have more control over these and parking if they own the  
54 State roads. Projects going out for bid are stormwater enhancement projects. The  
55 town will be doing more projects like the gazebo on 14<sup>th</sup> street since it is being used  
56 often. The fountains will be bid out. Each lake is different and will possibly need a  
57 different system. The town is in the process of bidding out a walking trail in Passive  
58 Park which the town also received grant money for. There is also a grant the town  
59 received for fences for the dog park. The sidewalks are pending to be installed on 5<sup>th</sup>  
60 and Hollywood. It is currently sitting at the State and once a "proceed order" is  
61 received it will be continued. Bids will be going out to repair the pier; the engineers  
62 have indicated that it is still sound, the town will wait until after the season to repair.

63  
64 Mr. Booth reported that he had given DDC the parking plan and it should come back  
65 to council in 60 to 80 days. The transportation plan is being done in-house. Surfside  
66 Drive is part of the parking plan and part of a redevelopment plan. It was suggested  
67 by Mr. Samples that going forward that this information that was just presented be  
68 included in the Public Works report. Names are still being taken for the 50/50  
69 projects; the town staff is very busy and the town will need to pull back a little and  
70 finish current projects and then they can get back to other projects. The lakes were  
71 engineered by Earthworks and enhancement projects were budgeted. Mr. Booth  
72 stated he would distribute the plan to council which includes the deck over the weir,  
73 etc.

74  
75 **D. Recreation Report**

76 Mr. Booth reported that the car show was a success. This was the first and the town  
77 will plan on doing another and it will be enhanced. The next town event will be the  
78 Fireworks Display. Mr. Childs reported that there were 169 registered vehicles at the  
79 car show and more than \$5,000 was donated to St. Jude's Children's Hospital and  
80 thanked the Myrtle Beach Car Club, Winyah Cruisers, Chicora Antique Car Club  
81 and all of the sponsors that made the event a success and thanked Scott Gantzer from  
82 the Myrtle Beach Car Club, Debbie Ellis and MaryLynn Stalnaker and the entire  
83 staff of Surfside Beach for their help with this event.

84  
85 **E. Administrator's Report**

86 **i. Budget**

87 Mr. Booth reported that per ordinance and instruction from Court  
88 Administration the parking fees for the parking lots are being transferred to  
89 the General Fund. Mr. Booth stated that with more cuts coming down from  
90 the State he may need to use these funds to offset the deficit from the State.  
91 This is the only revenue source he can go to unless taxes are raised. Mayor  
92 Deaton thanked Mr. Samples for communicating via e-mail on many of these  
93 budget issues that were complicated so that they would not need to be  
94 addressed at this business meeting. Mr. Booth reported that parking  
95 collections are up 20 percent and he will be requesting two additional pay  
96 stations that accept currency at the next meeting for the town. The current  
97 pay stations would be moved to a less used lot and the new currency stations  
98 would be placed at the pier.  
99

100 The town has \$45,000 of grant funds that it will put against energy  
101 conservation and solar panels for the fire station. The town has a credit since  
102 generators will not be used. The station should cost less which will leave  
103 funds to purchase equipment for the interior. Mayor Deaton explained that  
104 the \$45,000 is from the County which is part of stimulus money from the  
105 federal government; it was based on per capita and it needs to be applied to  
106 energy saving materials. Mr. Booth stated that Santee Cooper is going out  
107 for other energy conservation funds for the town as well. It was reported that  
108 the County received 2.6 million dollars of stimulus money.  
109

110 Mr. Booth reported that he would be presenting a decision paper on a code  
111 enforcement officer at the next meeting. A revised nuisance ordinance will  
112 be brought forward regarding swimming pools. Foreclosed properties are  
113 leaving pools unattended and it becomes a health nuisance issue with  
114 mosquitoes. Mayor asked if this could go behind the signs and parking  
115 issues. Mr. Booth stated that the pool issue would just be a small change to  
116 the current ordinance. Regulatory issues regarding pools and DHEC was  
117 discussed. Ms. Blair stated that this is a public health issue and the problem  
118 is foreclosures where no one will take responsibility for the property and  
119 asked if the town would be authorized to put in mosquito dunks. Mr. Booth  
120 stated that the ordinance could give authorization. The International  
121 Maintenance Code adopted by the town was brought up and it was  
122 determined that it would be investigated to see if this code included pools.  
123 Vacant dwellings not being maintained were also addressed. The EPA will  
124 be giving a briefing at the next council meeting. The EPA is testing waters  
125 and paying individuals to take surveys; this is a national test. Mayor Deaton  
126 stated that the town will be getting a Blue Wave designation. Surfside Beach  
127 would be one of two designations in the State. This is similar to a Tree City  
128 designation where a criteria needs to be met.  
129

130 **ii. *Transportation Plan***

131 Mr. Booth reported on this earlier in the meeting.  
132

133 **iii. *Salt Water Fishing***

134 South Carolina has put in legislation beginning July 1<sup>st</sup>; anyone fishing out on  
135 beach, surf fishing, would require a license. Fishing on the pier does not  
136 require a license; piers are exempt. Department of Natural Resources (DNR)  
137 would enforce this. Mr. Johnson stated that the State was forced to do this  
138 based on the lack of survey information on the stock of salt water fishing they  
139 received.  
140

141 **iv. *Jamin' Leather Jamie Keats- Request for Dispensation***

142 Mr. Booth stated that he would like to turn this over to the attorney for him to  
143 negotiate his agreement with council. Mr. Johnson stated he has a concern  
144 with this. Mr. Booth stated that he would have the attorney come up with an  
145 agreement to present to council at a future time for their approval. Mr.  
146 Martin stated that council does not want to waste Mr. Smiths' time since  
147 there is already an agreement in place. Mr. Samples was concerned with the  
148 current economy and stated that he would not like to see an empty building

149 and would like to see the attorney negotiate a temporary compromise. Some  
150 options and compromises would be presented to council to consider. Mr.  
151 Childs and Ms. Blair agreed to have the attorney present options to council.  
152 Mr. Johnson had concerns regarding the attorneys time being billed and  
153 suggested to bill Mr. Keats for the attorneys time. **There was consensus of**  
154 **council to have the attorney work on negotiations and present back to**  
155 **council.**  
156

157 **7. BUSINESS**

158 **A. *First Reading #09-0673: Amend Fireworks Ordinance***

159 The amendment to the fireworks ordinance includes a penalty and a liability for fire  
160 damage. Mr. Childs made a motion to adopt first reading of 09-0673 amend  
161 fireworks ordinance. Mr. Martin seconded the motion. Mr. Samples questioned a  
162 section in the ordinance that needed to be addressed regarding a comma and  
163 semicolon placement which changes the meaning of the ordinance. Mr. Smith stated  
164 that this was an error and it would be changed to a comma. Ms. Blair questioned  
165 section C regarding businesses selling fireworks causing a fire. Mr. Smith stated that  
166 fireworks are not allowed to be sold in Surfside Beach. **All present voted in favor.**  
167 **MOTION CARRIED.**

168 **B. *First Reading #09-0674: 2008-2009 Budget Amendment***

169 This amendment is for the 2008-2009 expenditures, expenses and other financing  
170 uses as outlined and presented to council. Mr. Samples had a question regarding the  
171 fact that the purchase of the pier is not being shown. Ms. Hursey answered that the  
172 pier fund does not own the pier yet; they have a liability owed to the general fund,  
173 the general fund has a long term receivable and over time as the payments are made  
174 these payments will be recognized as debt payment and the receivable will be  
175 reduced in the general fund. The payment from the Atax was a straight transfer of a  
176 fund; one fund gave the other fund money as approved by the State. A land purchase  
177 would be accounted as an asset in whatever fund purchased the land. The pier  
178 enterprise fund has a capital asset, land. The Atax money is shown in the net asset of  
179 the fund. Mr. Samples stated that his question lies in the fact that the town paid  
180 \$2,500,000 for the pier and it is not recorded. Mr. Booth stated that the town must go  
181 along with the GASB financial reporting. The revenue from the parking tickets needs  
182 to be recognized in the General Fund and once they are recognized as revenue it will  
183 then be transferred back to the Hospitality Funds. The budget impact rolls over into  
184 the current year. \$50,000 was transferred to satisfy GASB requirements. Mr. Childs  
185 made a motion to approve the 1<sup>st</sup> reading of 09-0674. Mr. Martin seconded the  
186 motion. **All present voted in favor. MOTION CARRIED.**

187 **C. *Second Reading #09-0668: Amend Animal Ordinance Infractions***

188 Mr. Samples made a motion to adopt 2<sup>nd</sup> reading. Mr. Johnson seconded the motion.  
189 **All present voted in favor. MOTION CARRIED.**

190 **D. *Second Reading #09-0669: Amend Littering Ordinance Infractions***

191 Mr. Samples made a motion to adopt 2<sup>nd</sup> reading. Mr. Johnson seconded the motion.  
192 **All present voted in favor. MOTION CARRIED.**

193 E. ***Second Reading #09-0670: Amend Smoking Ordinance Infractions***  
194 Mr. Samples made a motion to adopt 2<sup>nd</sup> reading. Mr. Childs seconded the motion.  
195 **All present voted in favor. MOTION CARRIED.**

196 F. ***Resolution #09-084: Litigation Brought by Surfside Beach Rescue Squad***  
197 Town Clerk, Ms. Pinnell, read the resolution that is on file. Attorney Mr. Smith  
198 confirmed that the town would provide representation but would not indemnify the  
199 named defendants. Mr. Samples made a motion to approve resolution. Mr. Johnson  
200 seconded the motion. **All present voted in favor. MOTION CARRIED.**

201 G. ***Decision Paper: Meeting Minutes***  
202 Mayor Deaton stated that meeting minutes were originally taken in detail due to  
203 previous meetings being held in disarray; there were many personal attacks and  
204 finger pointing at department heads and between council and being that the minutes  
205 did not reflect this council had voted to have minutes taken in more detail to  
206 document these situations and now with this council he no longer sees a need to take  
207 detailed minutes. Roberts Rules was adopted by ordinance and the minutes need  
208 only to reflect actions, proposed actions or any request to be placed on record. Mr.  
209 Booth stated that minutes are recorded and an individual can request a copy for a fee  
210 or they can come to town hall and listen to a taped meeting. There are many  
211 committees with hours of discussion and the town should minimize the minutes. Mr.  
212 Samples stated that Planning & Zoning at times needs various items recorded for the  
213 record to prevent future misunderstandings and agreed that general discussion does  
214 not need to be recorded. Mr. Martin made a motion to approve the staff  
215 recommendation to adhere to Roberts Rules of taking minutes and keep minutes as  
216 strictly record of actions taken with suggestion to continue to type public and council  
217 comments section verbatim to document public concerns. Mr. Samples seconded the  
218 motion. It was stressed to make sure committees are told what they need to say to  
219 get their comments on the record. The need for training for committees and board  
220 members was discussed. **All present voted in favor. MOTION CARRIED.**  
221

222 **8. PUBLIC COMMENTS**

223 ***Joe Zoltak, 414 Pine Drive:*** “I have some serious concern about this motion to  
224 eliminate the verbatim minutes. I can understand if it is an extensive workload but what  
225 you’re doing now is you’re taking away a service that’s been provided to the town  
226 already. I think there’s a lot of people in this community that go on the internet and do  
227 read those minutes. I, myself, do. I, myself, have gone to those minutes, found  
228 discrepancies, I’ve found misrepresentations. I urge you to reconsider this decision;  
229 however, I have a technical suggestion that may be implemented. If we could get a  
230 digitized recording of the meetings instead of clicking on that and get the typed written  
231 minutes, let us hear the audio clips. Can we do that and not charge the residents for it? I  
232 think you should seriously consider that because I think it’s very beneficial for the  
233 community and by doing this you’re taking away service to the community that they’ve  
234 already been receiving. Thank you.”  
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**Ron Ott, 7<sup>th</sup> Avenue North:** “For a few years now I’ve had the privilege to sit on the Zoning Board of Appeals which is actually the Board of Zoning Appeals. For years we didn’t even know what it was actually called and the reason of that is because we don’t meet that frequently. We meet maybe three, four times a year and what that board can do is they can change peoples’ lives. We can take your ordinances and we can, for one particular property, we can approve against your ordinance, we can change it and it doesn’t come back to the Mayor and council. It goes to the South Carolina Court System, now, if somebody, if people don’t do their homework, it’s not that they’re not doing their homework, they don’t know what we’re doing when we’re sitting there because we only meet a couple times a year. We asked, on the 26<sup>th</sup> of March we made a vote that we would meet on the last Thursday of every month which was for some reason then denied again. We need to be able to sit and hold meetings. What we do have is we have our meeting when we have a new hearing and then we have a hearing and these hearings are pretty serious, I mean the people that come and have testimony at this podium are sworn in and it’s the only board that does that. We have commissions, committees, boards and council but this board can actually change somebody’s life the way; we can approve something that you wouldn’t want to have next door to your house. We could change your ordinance for that one instance. What I ask to do is to have this board meeting. We don’t have to meet actually every month, we can meet every six weeks but every time we do meet there’s different people on this board. People we don’t know, we don’t know if they’ve been trained or what and when things like that can affect the legal aspects of peoples’ property, I think the people of Surfside Beach deserve for the people that sit there to be trained the best we can. Thank you. I have one other question about the firework amendment. I was just trying to think about this, you have 500 people out there shooting off fireworks, how are we going to get them? How are we going to know that yellow firework that caused that fire came from that person? It’s going to be tough, especially when there’s that many people out there and it’s dark. Well maybe it’s a little toothless but at least it will give them a warning.”

**Carrie Johnson, 617 9<sup>th</sup> Avenue South:** “I have a problem about all of our ordinances. We have this ordinance and that ordinance and this one and that one. The mention about the house. There is one particular house that has been sitting the same for about five years; never seen anybody in it. There’s no yard anymore, it’s all weeds; it’s been that way for five years. The house is really run down. There’s properties next to it; it devalues our properties in this town and I wonder if in the ordinance is written anything about storage sheds. I have one that’s right next door to me that the roof is falling in. It’s a real eyesore. Is there an ordinance for that? As for the smoking ordinance, on the beach, how is that going to get enforced when you got the policeman in uniform riding a four wheeler and the people can see him 100 yards away and put their cigarette out. You need to have somebody in plain clothes just walking up and down the beach just like anybody else with the badge in the pocket to enforce that smoking ordinance and that’s all I have to say.”

**Ken Harbin, 322 South Willow:** “I want to offer a perspective from a business standpoint and I’m not questioning your business background because I know all of you have it to a degree, but, Carolyn and I both had two thoughts when we were observing the beach music festival and the car show. They were both held in the parking lot of the pier that the town now owns, we the people now own, and both events brought people to that area, but to me there’s a big question, did it bring business to the people that were

286 affected by the crowd in a negative way, not so much a positive one. We walked into  
287 Jack's place at Nibil's to have lunch and he had like 20 percent occupancy at noon so  
288 obviously there was a traffic situation, where were people going to park to get to his  
289 restaurant and we thought from a perspective, if that were our business, what would we  
290 like to see, so some suggestions, and this is without any regard to budget and how many  
291 people go through the gate and who splits that and I know you guys and Mr. Booth have  
292 to take that into account, but if we were going to have something that directly effects  
293 those businesses let's partner with them. Let's let then be a vendor on site for food.  
294 Let's let then advertise on the grounds and not charging them to do that because, again,  
295 they're kind of paying a premium or a penalty in a way. We, right now, are at an era of  
296 both economically and with our sister beach to the north going through a bunch of  
297 negative stuff about, look what government is causing problems now, and we can avoid  
298 that if we just have that open dialogue and embrace those businesses, I would, I enjoy  
299 the hotdogs and hamburgers that we cook, I think if we did those only at the ballpark  
300 where we're not surrounded by other restaurants, but when we do have businesses that  
301 would be affected let's take that extra step and talk to them or bring them into the mix.  
302

303 The other thing, again, from a business standpoint, we, in this room, for these meetings,  
304 especially you and staff and a few select others know the plans that we're thinking of.  
305 We talked about Yaupon Drive parking lot. We're talking about the pier renovations.  
306 We're talking about the dog park. We've talked about the gazebos much before we even  
307 put it there. We're talking about the lake enhancement. From a marketing standpoint,  
308 we've got 90 percent of our potential residents and customers coming in the next three  
309 months but we don't have signage, good signage, saying 'look what we're fixing to do  
310 here on this corner and this corner and this corner' so rather than we the government  
311 suppressing business, it's like, look what we're doing to enhance our community so you  
312 as a business owner can not only come in and enjoy and reap some benefits but you and  
313 someone who may want to move here do the same. I don't know if we have budget  
314 money for that but it would certainly be beneficial, I think, down the road from a  
315 marketing standpoint again to put up signage for those things that we're talking about  
316 doing and doing some renderings and that type of thing. One final note, if I did hear and  
317 somebody here maybe can substantiate this, that the sign at the pier, I guess is a little  
318 historic in the way it's been there for a little while that one of the pier businessmen may  
319 have paid for it. If that be the case, hopefully, they're going to be consulted before we  
320 move a sign that they may have paid for or at least reposition it or encase it in a different  
321 way so that it's a little bit more attractive but still maintain its significance. Thank you."  
322

323 **Harry Kohlmann, 115 7<sup>th</sup> Avenue South:** "I wasn't going to say anything tonight but  
324 since Mr. Booth was so happy about his 20 percent increase in revenue from the parking  
325 lots I just couldn't let this little story I have which I witnessed tonight. I'm coming  
326 down Surfside Drive and I figured, well, let me look in the parking lot by the pier just to  
327 see if they put up the times which the Mayor promised me they were going to do and  
328 instructed Mr. Booth to do. As I'm pulling into the parking lot I see a woman with a  
329 young little boy, blonde hair, cute little kid, and they're putting money in the kiosk, well,  
330 it's 5:30 so I rush off to the woman and I said 'ma'am you don't have to put money in  
331 the kiosk now, it's 5:30 you don't have to pay after 5:00' and she said 'thank you very  
332 much but it's too late I already got my receipt'. I said 'well I've been telling the mayor  
333 and the council about this and nothing seems to be done' and she says 'well you know  
334 what? I'm going to speak to the Chief of Police and I said 'who, Andy Christenson?' and

335 the little boy said 'yeah, that's my dad'. So now you're one of a group of a larger group  
336 that's getting hoodwinked by the town."  
337

338 **Mayor Deaton:** "Sir, you can't make things personal. You can address the council as a  
339 body."  
340

341 **Mr. Kohlmann:** "I'm not making it personal."  
342

343 **Mayor Deaton:** "Well, you mentioned a name, that's okay but please address the  
344 council as a body. This is your comment period and please don't mention any names or  
345 anything of that nature, okay? That's our rules."  
346

347 **Mr. Kohlmann:** "I just hope you can all sleep tonight."  
348

## 349 **9. COUNCIL COMMENTS**

350 **Ms. Blair:** "I wanted to say that if you have taken any time to ride through town, or, it  
351 seems like every time that I ride through the neighborhood or ride through Surfside  
352 Drive I see a new area that's been refreshed, revitalized, colorful, cleaned up and it's a  
353 nice perk, it's a nice surprise to the day. I want to thank the Beautification Committee, I  
354 know Carolyn and Shelby, he's not here tonight, Ms. Kohlmann and all of those who  
355 have worked so hard and dug in the dirt and got it under their fingernails, it looks great  
356 and it you haven't seen the latest, if you haven't seen the crossover, the access at 7<sup>th</sup>  
357 South, it looks beautiful and of course Village Café and there are just so many of those  
358 places that have been touched up and you know sometimes we get busy and we're going  
359 about our business and we get so used to our town and the way it's been we don't notice  
360 those bright spots, so when you're going through with your walks or your golf carts or  
361 your bikes or going to work, take a minute and look around at how many changes have  
362 been made and then it's easier to visualize how many changes are on the horizon for us  
363 too.  
364

365 The car show was great and I enjoyed it and just wanted to give kudos to Mr. Childs,  
366 councilman Childs had a big hand in getting this idea going for us and he along with Mr.  
367 Booth and staff and Debbie spent a lot of time and effort into it and I think everyone  
368 probably had a chance to make it down there, but if you didn't, everyone looked like  
369 they were having a great time and we couldn't have special ordered any better weather  
370 for the weekend so I look forward to the next idea to pop out of Mr. Childs' head and I  
371 think it's a great addition to our calendar of events and last thing is, before our next  
372 council meeting, we will have entered the official hurricane season so I just wanted to  
373 urge everyone to just be aware and to be prepared and to, as we get closer to that 20 to  
374 30 year mark, since we've had a really hard hit, we begin to become complacent and  
375 think that it's not going to happen to us again and just when we get that feeling, Hugo's  
376 happen and so just to give us all a heightened sense of awareness that, from someone  
377 who can't leave, who can't evacuate, who has to work through the whole thing, take it  
378 seriously and we'll all be just fine. Thanks for being here and I hope you had a great  
379 Memorial Day."  
380

381 **Mr. Johnson:** "I will keep this brief. I would just like to thank you all for coming out  
382 again this evening. Mr. Kohlmann, I totally agree, we've got to get some times posted  
383 on these parking lots and I would also like to say that I was under the assumption that



384 when we did purchase those parking kiosks that they would accept cash and not credit  
385 cards only. Mr. Harbin I totally agree with you, we discussed this once before, the  
386 businesses in the area do suffer when we do have events, great events, but I think we  
387 need to incorporate the businesses in town and I think we need to invite them in some  
388 kind of cooperative way to get involved with booths and I guarantee you, I know that the  
389 car show was such a good event and a huge success that people will be eager to get  
390 involved next year. I think everybody was just sitting back and wondering what was  
391 going to happen and I think they saw what happened and the event it was and they will  
392 be interested in becoming involved and again, thank you for coming out.”

393  
394 **Mr. Martin:** “I’ll second the comments made by the two councilmembers to my right.”

395  
396 **Mr. Samples:** “I, too, want to thank everybody for coming out and I hope that the  
397 discussion of budget amendments did not bore too many people but I want to make a  
398 point. This council can delegate responsibility for the budget but ultimately we are  
399 responsible for the budget. We are responsible for what the taxes are and will become  
400 and so from my standpoint it is essential that we maintain a handle on the finances in this  
401 town. I agree on the problems that we’re having down at the parking meters. It’s not  
402 worth a few bucks and the short term to make people upset. We talked about that before.  
403 People don’t like feeling like they’ve been taken advantage and the fact of the matter is  
404 those machines, if you read English, they infer that you’re supposed to pay 24 hours  
405 because it says, in great big letters ‘24 hour max’ I mean, so, surely if you went to school  
406 you would believe that you’re supposed to pay 24 hours a day so we got to fix that.  
407 Thanks for coming out tonight to keep us on our toes and, yeah, we are making  
408 improvements in town but I’m one of those people I get too close to the trees and I  
409 always see the next improvement that needs to be made rather than enjoying the one’s  
410 that we have made. Thank you.”

411  
412 **Mr. Childs:** “I kind of liked it the way we did it before, I kind of ran out of anything to  
413 say. I want to thank the Beautification Committee. They’re really doing a great job.  
414 It’s all starting to come together, you can see it and as Ms. Blair said when you ride  
415 around town and there was one project that was brought up months ago right at the  
416 dunes crossover, we were going to do some planting at the bottom and I’ve organized  
417 my entire block and I bet every two weeks somebody says ‘what happened to our project  
418 of doing planting around the crossovers’. We have all this rich soil now it would be  
419 good to put some on each side of the rail in there so we’re ready to go, we got our  
420 shovels so if the Beautification would look into that I’d appreciate that.”

421  
422 **Mayor Deaton:** “Well I’m going to date myself here, 30 years experience in public  
423 service and what I’ve learned is nothing happens very quickly as far as the process goes.  
424 It’s like how do you eat an elephant, you eat it one bite at a time, and that’s what we’re  
425 doing here in Surfside. We’re putting pieces of the puzzle together and I’m excited  
426 about it. The reason I got involved in Surfside politics was a selfish reason, it was  
427 because of the lake behind my house and the lake system in Surfside. It was all messed  
428 up, the engineering was bad, there were a lot of mistakes made after Hugo and with my  
429 experience from downtown redevelopment in Myrtle Beach I had some ideas but I  
430 couldn’t get them across to anyone, so I got involved in Surfside politics and nine years  
431 later, the lake in my backyard looks great. Nine year, okay, nine years, but we achieved  
432 it, it got done but you have to be persistent, you can’t expect things to be done overnight,

433 things take time and you have to realize it is a very complex system, this little  
434 corporation of ours, this little 8 million dollar corporation that we run here yearly,  
435 budget is a very complex operation. It entails 80 employees, it entails a lot of things, a  
436 lot of priorities have to be set. There's a lot of things that have to be put in order so what  
437 seems very, very pertinent to one individual may not be as pertinent to another but they  
438 have to be prioritized and that's where good management comes in and I remember, I'll  
439 never forget the day I was running my business with 30 employees and I told my wife  
440 that I'm sick and tired of listening to these people, my employees come in here with their  
441 problems and so she calmly goes and gets '*Principals of Management*' book from our  
442 college days off the shelf, lays it out in front of me, opens it up to the first page and it  
443 says 'definition of management, problem solving'. I said 'okay I got you' so that's what  
444 we do here, I mean, we as a council, we as a body, we problem solve, that's what Mr.  
445 Booth does, that's what all of our management team does, so problems are important and  
446 communication is very important but we're going to prioritize those problems and we're  
447 going to look at them one at a time and and we're going to accomplish everything we  
448 can in a timely manner but we have to be patient. We have to be patient because things  
449 are not done overnight and I would just like to thank everybody for coming and I'm  
450 proud of this town. I'm excited, the car show was wonderful, that was truly a beach  
451 experience and I'm a beach kind of guy and that's why I chose the 1948 Woody which is  
452 a surfing machine, so thank you folks and if you have any ideas please share them with  
453 the staff and we have to go into an executive session now, so I have to have a motion.  
454 This is pursuant to FOIA 30-4-70 (a) (1) evaluation of town administrator and town  
455 clerk and to discuss two appointments to the Board of Zoning Appeals. Now we're not  
456 going to adjourn this meeting, we're going to move into that session and we'll be back.  
457 We don't have any idea how long we're going to be in there so you're welcome to stay if  
458 you'd like but at this point in time I need a motion to move into executive session."

459  
460 Mr. Samples made a motion to move into executive session. Mr. Martin seconded the  
461 motion. **All present voted in favor. MOTION CARRIED.**

462  
463 **10. EXECUTIVE SESSION**

464 FOIA 30-4-70(a) (1): Evaluation of Town Administrator and Town Clerk; Discuss Two  
465 Appointments to the Board of Zoning Appeals.

466  
467 The council returned from executive session. Mr. Martin made a motion to appoint Mr.  
468 Edgar Cornelius and Mr. Vincent Oliveti to the Board of Zoning Appeals. Mr. Samples  
469 seconded the motion. **All present voted in favor. MOTION CARRIED.**

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**11. ADJOURNMENT**

Mr. Samples made a motion to adjourn. Mr. Childs seconded the motion. **All present voted in favor. MOTION CARRIED.** The meeting was adjourned at 9:10 PM.

Approved: May 26, 2009

\_\_\_\_\_  
Sharon Pinnell, Town Clerk

\_\_\_\_\_  
K. Allen Deaton, Mayor

\_\_\_\_\_  
Joseph P. Martin, Town Council

ABSENT

\_\_\_\_\_  
Vicki W. Blair, Town Council

\_\_\_\_\_  
James S. Truett, Mayor Pro Tem

\_\_\_\_\_  
Douglas F. Samples, Town Council

\_\_\_\_\_  
Mark L Johnson, Town Council

\_\_\_\_\_  
Robert F. Childs, III, Town Council

Clerk's Note: This document constitutes minutes of the meeting, which was audio taped. In accordance with FOIA, meeting notice and the agenda were faxed and/or emailed to local media and interested parties. A complete list is on file in the clerk's office. The agenda was posted on bulletin boards outside Council chambers and in the town hall reception area. Meeting notice was also posted on the town marquee.