Executive Session - 6:00 p.m.

Mayor Childs called Town Council to order at 6:00 p.m. Tuesday, June 13, 2017 for the purpose of entering executive session pursuant to FOIA §30-4-70(a)(2) to discuss proposed contractual arrangements for the sale or purchase of real property. Mayor Childs, Mayor Pro Tempore Ott, and Councilmembers Courtney, Johnson, Pellegrino, Samples, and Stevens were in attendance. A quorum was present. Ms. Samples moved to enter executive session at 6:00 p.m. Mr. Johnson second. All voted in favor. MOTION CARRIED. Mr. Johnson moved to reconvene regular session at 6:14 p.m. Mr. Pellegrino second. All voted in favor. MOTION CARRIED. Mayor Childs said for the record that no action was taken during executive session. Any motions and/or directions to the town administrator will be made during the regular meeting that begins at 6:30 p.m. as noted on the agenda under Business Item 7.G. Mayor Childs declared the session adjourned at 6:14 p.m.

Town Council Meeting - 6:30 p.m.

1. CALL TO ORDER. Mayor Childs called the regular meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. Mayor Childs, Mayor Pro Tempore Ott, and Councilmembers Courtney, Johnson, Pellegrino, Samples, and Stevens were in attendance. A quorum was present. Others present: Administrator Fellner; Town Clerk Hermann; Finance Director King; Planning, Building & Zoning Director Morris, and Interim Police Chief Hofmann.

Mayor Childs announced that Town Council will hold a special meeting on Tuesday, June 20, 2017 at 5:15 p.m. for the purpose of holding second reading of Ordinance #17-0846 to amend §16-67(c)(iv) Exception, to define allowed shading devices, and the next regular council meeting will be on Monday, June 26th. A workshop will be held on Monday, June 26, 2017 at 5:00 p.m. to hear a presentation from Dr. Mary G. Padua, ASLA, Clemson University Department of Landscape Architecture.

2. INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE. A. Invocation: Pastor Oakie Landers, Pine Drive Gospel Church gave the invocation. B. Pledge of Allegiance: Mayor Childs led the Pledge.

3. AGENDA APPROVAL. Mr. Ott moved to adopt the agenda as presented. Mr. Stevens second. All voted in favor. MOTION CARRIED.

4. MINUTES APPROVAL. A. Pier Workshop May 13, 2017, and May 23, 2017 Executive Session and Regular Meeting. Mr. Ott moved to adopt the May 13, 2017 pier workshop minutes and the May 23, 2017 executive session and regular meeting minutes as presented. Mr. Courtney second. All voted in favor. MOTION CARRIED

5. PUBLIC COMMENTS - Agenda Items Only. (3-minutes per speaker)

Mr. Steve Shore, 1st Avenue, North: I noticed on the agenda item under discussion you have under discussion that Mr. Courtney is going to discuss about spending money on pedestrian signage and crossovers. Until decisions are made about the pier, this town should not be spending money on anything except town services. That’s just the way I feel. Mr. Ott wants to discuss decks on town retention ponds, when he knows it was discussed a few years back, and every expert available coming before council to discuss why that should not be a good idea for the town. Mr. Ott should do his homework before throwing something out for discussion. Mr. Ott called point of order, and said that Mr. Shore was not
supposed to be calling out my name. Mr. Shore: It just puts more work on staff. Let’s look at existing
issues and problems creating new ones. It seems like some councilmembers want to create distractions
and are not interested in the real issue like the pier, and the lost money of this town. This council went
through a tent ban so quickly that the ordinance cannot be enforced, because it is inconsistent. When I’m
on the beach, I witness smoking, and other infractions not being enforced. Yet our code enforcement
people in this town single out and selectively enforce town ordinances as they choose. The tree ordinance
was brought up last October for the purpose of simplifying it. It is still in committee and review. This
council now in place does not seem to know what you’re doing, which gives many of us little confidence
of the town’s leadership, and you know, these are just things that I recognize on my own. (***) it says it’s
under discussion.

Ms. Carol Cook, 7th Avenue South: I’d like to comment about the infrastructure
recommendations. I’ve lived here for over 22 years, and if there was a line-up, I could not pick the light
poles that we have currently have out of a police line-up. I don’t understand when we cannot afford to
insure the pier, why we are going to increase the monthly rental from $1,000 to $2,500 for decorative
lamp posts. I’m sorry, but we have better ways of spending our money.

6. COMMUNICATIONS. Administrator’s Report. Ms. Fellner presented the written report, a
copy of which is attached hereto.

Ms. Samples said Ms. Fellner you gave a great report. Who are the three councilmembers serving
on the infrastructure committee? Ms. Fellner said Mayor Childs, Mayor Pro Tempore Ott and
Councilmember Courtney. Ms. Samples asked who serves on the tree ordinance subcommittee. Ms.
Fellner said Mayor Pro Tempore Ott and Councilmembers Johnson and Stevens. However, Mr. Stevens
was not able to attend the recent meeting. Mayor Childs explained that Mr. Johnson could not attend and
he attended in his place. Ms. Samples suggested that council contact Congressman Rice and other
legislators to push FEMA to expedite the pier project.

Mayor Childs asked how the proclamation for the Home Consortium came to be on the council
agenda. Ms. Fellner said the agreement came to us from Horry County, and it was a decision that only
the council could make. She reminded council that staff’s recommendation was to deny the resolution.
Mr. Ott asked if the agreement was developed by Horry County. Ms. Fellner said Horry County is heading
the project now. Mr. Ott asked if the town was represented on the consortium. Ms. Fellner said not that
she was aware.

Mr. Stevens said the privately owned Garden City pier is already repaired and is open for
business. In my opinion, we are bogged down with FEMA. Councilmembers have not had the opportunity
to talk to FEMA, and in my personal opinion, council should be included in those discussions. I like to
hear information first hand, and need to know more than what is being reported during meetings. Ms.
Fellner said my reports have been very clear about the process. We are working with the experts that
council authorized that we hire, the FEMA consultants for structures in water. We have to wait for Collins
Engineering to perform the damage assessment, which will be in 8 to 10 weeks from now. Mr. Stevens
said it is simple thing to do, if you’re engineer and you know what you’re doing. It should take no more
than two or three days. What is the hold up? Ms. Fellner said there’s more to it than just walking around
and looking at the pier and taking pictures. They have a number of tests they want to perform, and they
also want to look at scour. The engineers will consider many things, and then I’ve asked the experts,
engineers and FEMA, to come and interface with council when the inspections are completed so they can
speak to council. As far as not keeping council informed, I think council has been well informed every
step of the way. You know every single thing that I know. There is nothing else to tell that I haven’t
already reported. Mr. Stevens said in his opinion, council was informed very vaguely. He wants at least
two or three councilmembers to meet with engineers when they are on site. Ms. Fellner said until the
damage assessment is completed, the engineers cannot make a report. She reiterated as stated in her
report that this should happen within the next 8 to 10 weeks, depending on FEMA timelines. Mr. Stevens
said I just basically want to get things sped up.

Mr. Ott volunteered to explain to Mr. Stevens as he had been reading about pier construction. This engineering team will inspect structures under the water and in the sand, not just what's above the surface. Garden City pier did not have even 10-percent of the damage the town's pier had. I'd like to put the pier there correctly; it's already been built four times. I'm trying to educate myself so I see what they're doing, and I would share that information gladly. Mr. Stevens said he sent all of council and staff a study done by the State of Florida on piers. Mr. Ott said I read what you sent. The last time the State of Florida, according to the report you sent, built a wooden pier was in 1964, which no longer exists. Every pier built since then has been made of concrete, with different types of superstructure on each pier. The report also explains how long it takes to engineer the piers. Ms. Fellner said I am doing everything I can to keep things moving as quickly as possible.

Mr. Pellegrino said I talked to Ms. Fellner yesterday in detail about this. I don't think our staff is the issue. We're working with the US Government; unfortunately, they don't do anything quickly. We're lucky to get anything done. So I'm very concerned about the timeline, because if we stick with FEMA and go through this process so we can get money from them, we're at their mercy. We just changed the point person on this project, and they had to debrief them and get them up to speed. That's can happen over and over, because the federal government is totally inefficient and incapable to move a project through quickly. It would be a miracle if we had a pier by 2019 with FEMA doing it. The question I have is should we work with FEMA, or should we do like to Garden City on a bigger scale, and go through private consultants. That's the question that needs to be asked. The US government doesn't really care about our problem.

Mr. Ott said Ms. Samples had a great idea about speaking with Congressman Rice to see if he can help us. Ms. Fellner said that FEMA must have an answer for the town within in one year, which is October. Mr. Adair and I met yet again with the new FEMA person just yesterday. FEMA showed an active interest in moving this forward, because they don't want this to go out to October, which is the drop dead date. I think the time to contact our legislators if we have an issue with FEMA is when we're not making progress. Right now, FEMA is waiting for our damage assessment. Our consultants have communicated with FEMA with further information and pictures saying additional items that need to be addressed. After the damage assessment, everybody will meet and then the scope of work will then be determined by council. We will probably have more than one meeting, and one with all the experts present.

Ms. Samples said I have full confidence in what you have been doing and what I know you will continue to do. When I met with you yesterday to express my concerns about the delay, your responses were quite effective and appropriate. I appreciate it. I do, however, want this council to discuss sending a letter with the mayor's signature and all of our signatures in due time to Congressman Rice. It is his responsibility to help us and to provide some assistance, if we cannot get FEMA to move as quickly as we think they should. So please keep us informed. Ms. Fellner said I will and there's one other area that a letter could be of great help. If everyone has been looking at the funding in the state budget. They only put $68 million in there, so they are not fully funded. Since we are one of the big projects, we're probably towards the end, so ensuring that that 12.5-percent from the state would be there and the town would get it would be most helpful. Ms. Samples said I think the more proactive we are reaching out to those people that are there to assist us, the quicker will be able to make things happen.

Mayor Childs said I have invited Congressman Rice to come to the pier on July 3rd along with a distinguished general who is retiring from the Corp of Engineers. Ms. Samples said as long as we can discuss real specifics, because Mr. Rice's time is limited. Mr. Stevens said he was attending an economic function in Florence on June 19th that Congressman Rice was attending. He planned to speak with him there. Mr. Ott said he would attend on June 19th, and agreed that “the squeaky wheel gets the grease.” We need to be proactive to ensure the pier project moves along.
Mr. Courtney said I think that council decided to get involved with this and go with FEMA. At this point, we have to see what we’re offered before we can move forward. I hope the administrator can try to put a little pressure on this and try to move up to date. Ms. Fellner said I will do everything I can. Mr. Courtney said I hate to see us exhaust the money from FEMA without getting an answer and bailing out of this. Council made a decision to see what FEMA was going to return on this damage and we need to follow up to see where it comes through. Sooner would be better.

Mayor Childs agreed with Ms. Samples. He said I’ve talked to the administrator many times and she’s doing everything she can as fast as she can. When you talk about the amount of money that FEMA might give up, it’s not with a handshake. They want a lot of facts to substantiate that.

7. BUSINESS

A. Second Reading Ordinance #17-0844 to amend Section 2-187, Funds Established and Purposes, Director King. Ms. Samples moved to adopt second reading of Ordinance #17-0844 as presented. Mr. Johnson second. Ms. King presented the decision paper and ordinance, copies of which are on file. All voted in favor. MOTION CARRIED.

B. Second Reading Ordinance #17-0845 to adopt FY2017-2018 Municipal Budget, Director King. Ms. Samples moved to adopt second reading of Ordinance #17-0845 as presented. Mr. Johnson second. Ms. King presented the decision paper and ordinance, copies of which are on file. Mayor Childs, Mayor Pro Tempore Ott, and Councilmembers Courtney, Johnson, Pellegrino and Samples voted in favor. Councilmember Stevens voted against. MOTION CARRIED.

C. First Reading of Ordinance #17-0846 to amend Ordinance #17-0842 §12-67(c)(iv) “Exception” and (d) to clarify shading devices allowed. Administrator Fellner. Mr. Ott moved to adopt first reading of Ordinance #17-0846 as presented. Mr. Courtney second. Ms. Fellner presented the decision paper and ordinance, copies of which are on file.

Mr. Stevens expressed concern that a recently adopted ordinance was being amended, because the dictionary definition of tent includes a canopy. Mr. Ott asked if the ordinance would be amended again if the public calls the shading device another name. Ms. Fellner explained that is why the ordinance is being changed to specifically state what is allowed, which are baby tents that are defined as approximately 3-foot by 3-foot by 3-foot size, and umbrellas up to nine feet in diameter, instead of what is prohibited. It’s in the best interest of the town to have a user friendly ordinance that does not cause controversy. There is a special meeting on June 20th at 5:15 for second reading so enforcement can begin immediately after that.

Mayor Childs, Mayor Pro Tempore Ott and Councilmembers Courtney, and Stevens voted in favor. Councilmembers Johnson, Pellegrino and Samples voted against. MOTION CARRIED.

D. First Reading Ordinance #17-0847 to amend Chapter 17 Sale of Personal Property at Residence, Director Morris. Mr. Johnson moved to adopt first reading of Ordinance #17-0847 as presented. Mr. Ott second.

Mr. Stevens moved to amend the ordinance to state that four (4) yard sales per year are allowed. MOTION FAILED – NO SECOND.

Ms. Morris presented the decision paper and ordinance, copies of which are on file. All voted in favor. MOTION CARRIED.

Mr. Johnson asked if staff works on weekends. Ms. Morris said we do. Staff rotates weekends
during the summer with a day off during the week. Mr. Johnson believed the spring and fall should also be included. Ms. Morris said he was right. When we feel the need, we work.

Mr. Pellegrino asked how residents would know a new ordinance is in effect. Ms. Morris said staff will educate before we enforce. We will carry copies of the ordinance that's been approved and give it to everyone holding a yard sale to let them know they will need a free permit from now on, and that there is a limit of three per year.

Mr. Stevens asked what the process is to have a yard sale. Ms. Morris said the resident can either come to the building and planning department up to 5 o'clock on any day Monday through Friday, or they can submit a permit request by using the online form. The permit technician will issue the permit as long as the request is received by 5:00 p.m. on Friday. Mr. Stevens asked if the permit had to be displayed. Ms. Morris said no, and explained a spreadsheet would be prepared for the code enforcement officer to use when doing inspections. Once three yard sales have been held, the resident will be denied any future permits for that calendar year.

Mayor Childs said Town Council wrestled with this issue years ago, because there were a lot of complaints. I think we came to conclusion that three sales is really about all anybody wants. Once people have more their neighbors start complaining. There has been an issue the last month or so with a resident selling products from his junk shop at his house on Saturdays.

Mr. Courtney asked if this includes sales at storage containers. Ms. Morris said that would be a commercial district and are required to have an open display permit.

Ms. Samples said I like the ordinance and I think we need it, because it has created a public safety problem with people stopping abruptly and haphazardly parking to visit yard sales. It appears commercial property is being sold at yard sales. So I support the ordinance, except I was disappointed when I saw that there is a permitting requirement. You know how I feel about permits. I think we're overregulated as it is. I’m very conflicted about this ordinance, I want to support it, but it's just more overregulation that I hate. Even though I think we need to have it; I want to have it, the fact that our residents have to come in to the office or send an email to get permission to hold a yard sale is just bothersome to me. That is my position. I do appreciate the effort. Thank you.

Mr. Pellegrino I agree with Ms. Samples. It is overregulation, and I don't support it. It's gonna cause more complaints. Every time we pass an ordinance like this it ends up in more complaints, because now the people who were having yard sales the way they were supposed to are going to be totally inconvenienced, and they're not going to know to get a permit, then they’ll be frustrated because they didn't know. During public comments, someone mentioned selective enforcement. Well, guess what? More selective enforcement, because we don't have the resources to enforce all the thousands of ordinances we have. So this is just one more to pile on top. It’s gonna cause more problems.

Mayor Childs said I think if you have more than three yard sales a year, are probably selling commercial items. I think anybody would agree that three sales a year is certainly an adequate number.

Mr. Stevens asked if sale items had to be cleaned up before sundown even when a two day sale was being held. Ms. Morris said that was exactly right. Everything has to be put away by sundown. Mr. Stevens said I agree with Mr. Pellegrino that it’s overregulation. I understand why this is came about, because I’ve personally seen the individual who has been selling commercial products at his house. Many people use yards to sales to socialize and enjoy themselves. Ms. Morris explained that the department had complaints about continuous yard sales, and about merchandise left out overnight that blew into neighbor's yards.

Ms. Samples said I agree. It's unfortunate because of a few we have to burden the majority. As I
said before, and I will go on the record, “I support the ordinance with the exception of the permits, and therefore, I am not going to support the ordinance. If the permit requirement was gone, was removed, and this is was complaint based, since we have people working over the weekend anyway, and if a neighbor was concerned, and can make a call and issue a complaint against someone who is not following the rules, great. If it’s complaint based, I can support it. But, having to get permission to have yard sale is too much.” Ms. Morris said if it was complaint based it would be selective enforcement.

Mr. Ott said we don’t need to call it a permit. The purpose is to [track] three sales per year. I would not like to see this ordinance strictly enforced. A lot of people like to cover the merchandise so they don’t have to put it back out again the next morning. Can we look at doing something like? We need something on the books to stop abuse. Maybe one person every five years causes a problem.

Mayor Childs agreed with Mr. Ott and said I don’t think this is going to become an issue. This is the first time it’s really come up and it was because of one or two individuals that took advantage of system and there wasn’t any code that required them to stop.

Mr. Courtney said we are a legislative body. What is the solution? We don’t want to overregulate, but I’ve seen these yard sales with a go on for weeks at both ends of town. This ordinance will give staff authority to enforce it. If you can’t sell all your personal items in three sales, it becomes a commercial enterprise.

Mr. Johnson called for the vote. Mayor Childs, Mayor Pro Tempore Ott, and Councilmembers Courtney, Johnson, and Stevens voted in favor. Councilmembers Pellegrino and Samples voted against. 

MOTION CARRIED.

E. First Reading Ordinance #17-0848 to add Chapter 9, Article 1, Section 9-19 Temporary Standing in Roadways, Administrator Fellner. Ms. Samples moved to adopt first reading of Ordinance #17-0848 as presented. Mr. Ott second. Ms. Fellner presented the decision paper and ordinance, copies of which are on file.

Mr. Pellegrino asked if this ordinance would include Fed-Ex and UPS trucks. Ms. Fellner said yes. Mr. Pellegrino asked if they have town business licenses. Ms. Fellner said no. (Clerk’s Note: Fed-ex and UPS are exempt from town business licenses under Federal Code 49 USC Sec. 40116(b) and Sec. 40102.) Mr. Pellegrino said I’m still confused on the motivation for this ordinance. Ms. Fellner said there are many narrow streets in the town. The police department was enforcing parking when contractors had nowhere to park. There is one contractor on the south end that cuts five lawns in one neighborhood. His vehicle would stick out into the roadway two or three feet. This is a legal way for these service contractors to comply where they won’t have to worry about getting a ticket. Mr. Pellegrino said I understand that. I don’t understand why we just don’t tell the police department not to enforce that for those contractors. Thank you for answering that.

Mr. Stevens asked how the 21 foot number was determined. Ms. Fellner said that was the fire chief’s recommendation. We sent the draft to the police chief, fire chief, and the director of public works for their input. Mr. Stevens asked what happens when the street is less than 21 feet wide. Ms. Fellner said usually there is enough right-of-way if they’re parked somewhat into the right-of-way. There is still right-of-way on the other side, plus at least 19 feet of street. Mr. Stevens asked if Chief Hofmann would be out there with a tape measure (laughter.) Ms. Fellner said no, but having said that the concern here is that we want to allow this for these contractors that provide services to our residents, but at the same time ensure safe passage for emergency vehicles.

Mr. Johnson said I assume this is only for commercial vehicles. Ms. Fellner said yes, any contractor or delivery service. Mr. Johnson said thank you.
Mr. Courtney said this problem that occurs in many areas in town where we have ditches on the side, and you have a landscaping truck trying to do service. When you have one side with a ditch and a driveway on the other side, it makes it very difficult to park. This gives a little bit of room for the commercial people to come in and do businesses in Surfside Beach, and allow passage around those parked vehicles. I think it's a good move on council's part.

All voted in favor. MOTION CARRIED.

F. Infrastructure Recommendations to Town Council, Administrator Fellner. Ms. Fellner presented the decision paper, a copy of which is on file. Ms. Fellner noted that the decorative mast arms for the lighted intersections are not eligible for franchise funding, for which the town's share of cost is $91,700; the balance is paid by SCDOT (South Carolina Department of Transportation.) The rest of the items could be funded through the Santee Cooper franchise fee. Having said that we would delay one course on Ocean Boulevard in order to fund that. Instead of finishing Ocean Boulevard in the year 2027, we would finish it in the year 2030. The total estimated one time cost is between $1,273,000 and $1,473,000 depending on how much it cost to buy the feeders. Council needs to consider a recurring cost for the rental fees paid by the town for the 25 median poles. We currently have plain poles that cost $12,000 a year. Decorative poles to match the mast arms are approximately $30,000 a year. The infrastructure subcommittee unanimously recommended these projects after meeting with Santee Cooper.

Mr. Stevens asked what the actual cost is to the town. Ms. Fellner explained Santee Cooper and the town have a 50:50 match for franchise fee funds, which is how we finance our underground wiring projects on Ocean Boulevard and 14th Avenue South. We can fund the Highway 17 improvements, except the $91,700 for mast arms, using the franchise fee program. The money has to be budgeted, because it is an expenditure, but the town gets reimbursed 85-percent. Mr. Stevens said the town would pay 15-percent more or less. Ms. Fellner said yes, more or less.

Mayor Childs said keep in mind SCDOT is going to repave and landscape Highway 17. Many places will have center islands eliminated; there will be acceleration and deceleration lanes. We will probably never have an opportunity to do this again in our lifetime. We are trying to make it functional and decorative to make the aesthetics really nice to tie in to Highway 17 improvements. The only thing I have a problem with is burying those lines for the Deerfield substation. Ms. Fellner would be in touch with County Council Chairman Lazarus to ask the county to cost share burying the tap lines for the Caropines Substation and the Deerfield Substation. There will probably be more than one meeting and it is likely council’s help is needed with the legislature and our local delegation.

Mr. Ott said to explain to the audience, we don't have any new revenue sources coming into town. When you visit Garden City and Murrells Inlet, you're going to see a whole lot of new businesses. The last new business that I see is the Sunset Massage Parlor. Nobody wants to put in a business here right now, because many of our structures are run down. The recommended light poles can be seen in North Myrtle Beach. We need to look seriously at attracting businesses. We have an increase in medical insurance for employees. We want to keep the police, we gotta give them more money; fire we have to get more money, because everything goes higher. The only way to get more revenue is from [the taxpayers] or new businesses. You have to put some lipstick on this highway out here and make it look better so people want to invest money and come here. We have to change, in my opinion, because what we're doing is not working.

Mr. Courtney said this is government. Projects have to move forward. We know the pier is hanging off on the ocean. We're dealing with that. But you know what? The town has to move forward. Improvements have to be done. We have these projects sitting. We have the US 17 that's being resurfaced. It will look nice with new roads and new medians. One thing that might have been overlooked was lighting. The lighting that we have now is aluminum 14 foot poles. They sit below the
road surface. They should be up on a monument on a block, but they're sitting 4 feet in the ditch and
underwater when it rains. They don't illuminate Highway 17. As Mr. Ott said, we have to bring businesses
in. We need the revenue. We have to make it a little bit more attractive. Every municipality is improving
their lighting. Myrtle Beach is now doing it now. It is really attractive and does bring people into town.
You see it in Myrtle Beach; Mount Pleasant; North Myrtle Beach even stepped it up a notch and used a
more expensive pole. This is a one-time opportunity. We will not get the opportunity to do this again.
Santee Cooper said they will meet us with this, after this you can do it. As far as the tap fees, that's to
bury the wiring going across on the top of Highway 17. Santee Cooper will bury those taps, and that
would be paid by us. Ms. Fellner said that is correct. The cost would be between $500,000 and $600,000
for the approximately 25 taps, but remember it's a 50:50 partnership with Santee Cooper. For every
dollar we put, Santee Cooper would put in a dollar; it would be run through the franchise fee. It is a
three year cycle: the first year is the engineering; second year is a do 'X' amount in the project, and the
third year is the cleanup. This is just like the underground wiring anywhere else in town. Mr. Courtney
said this project is a one-time shot, correct? Ms. Fellner said yes, and the important thing is that portions
could be done later, but because they're gonna resurface Highway 17, the cost will be a lot cheaper right
now, and if we do it all at one time. When we sat down, one thing Santee Cooper told the subcommittee
members that if we were to come back and want to do this five years from now, the cost would be more
than doubled.

Mr. Johnson said so basically what we're doing is diverting the underground wiring project on
Ocean Boulevard to Highway 17 Business. Ms. Fellner said yes, for one three year course. Mr. Johnson
said I have no problem supporting this as long as we can get some help funding the cost to bury the taps
for the Caropines and Deerfield substations. Get with our legislators and County Councilmembers to work
something out, so the town doesn't bear the full cost. Mayor Childs said Mr. Johnson, you're exactly right.
The infrastructure committee made that clear to the administrator.

Mr. Pellegrino said basically the initial project cost would be 15-percent of the $1.27 million,
which is $190,000, plus the $91,700. Ms. Fellner said no; that would not all be in the first year. That
would be over three years. Mr. Pellegrino said we were looking out-of-pocket somewhere around $300,000,
and then the recurring charge of $18,000 more. Ms. Fellner said I don't have my calculator with me, but
it sounds correct. Mr. Pellegrino said just to comment on bringing businesses into town, I'm all for that,
but I don't think the look of Highway 17 is a major contributor for that. We have business license issues,
which were trying to fix. That's a much bigger contributor than the actual appearance of Highway 17.

Mr. Stevens said if the taps are buried, there will not be any overhead wires going across
Highway 17. Ms. Fellner said that's correct, but wires will run on either side of the highway.

Ms. Samples asked which fund would pay the cost that Mr. Pellegrino discussed. Ms. Fellner said
she would have to check. Ms. Samples asked if accommodations tax (a-tax) or hospitality tax could be
used. Ms. Fellner said hospitality funds certainly; a-tax really requires a major corridor to a tourism venue
like a civic center. I would argue that Surfside Drive to our fishing pier qualifies, and I would argue that
with the Tourism Expenditure Review Committee (TERC). I don't think anyone has been successful
arguing that Highway 17 Business is a tourism corridor; that is not to say I wouldn't try. Ms. Samples said
the hospitality fund is a very good option. Ms. Fellner said yes, hospitality would be fine, and that's
probably where we would take it, but I don't want to misspeak. Ms. Samples said I support the
infrastructure subcommittee's recommendation. I do have an issue as I agree with Mr. Johnson that the
County has to participate in the burying of tap wires for the Caropines and Deerfield substations. Ms.
Fellner said I will have a meeting with Mr. Gosnell about that very issue, and it may require council to get
involved. Ms. Samples said absolutely.

Mr. Pellegrino said Ms. Samples brought up the hospitality fund. If we were to use around
$300,000 for this project, would that be money that we could use for the pier instead? Ms. Fellner said
whatever money you have that is unallocated can be used; the simple answer is yes, but that's over
three years, and again the scope of the pier project could be very small or sizable. If we're going to have
to float a bond, then as Mr. Courtney said before, the town needs to move forward. This is an
opportunity. We're not get this again two years from now. Council has to make this decision now, and if
they want to do it, we need to seize the opportunity. Unfortunately, timing is always 'when it rains it
pours.' We have many large projects coming, but that's the reality of it. Mr. Pellegrino said thank you.
That the conundrum, but considering we are just paying for beach renourishment, and we have the pier
looming, that is $300,000 more dollars we have on the table for the pier. We need to consider that. Ms.
Fellner said since you brought up beach renourishment, I forgot to add in my updates that we will be
sitting down with the contractor in the next week, because the Army Corps had a successful bid. We will
be moving forward. We still don't know which end they intend to start, but that should be determined at
the pre-con meeting.

Mr. Courtney moved to approve the upgrades as presented by the Infrastructure Subcommittee.
Mr. Ott second. Mayor Childs, Mayor Pro Tempore Ott, and Councilmembers Courtney, Johnson, Samples
and Stevens voted in favor. Councilmember Pellegrino voted against. MOTION CARRIED.

G. Motions and/or directions to the Town Administrator from Executive Session. There
were no motions or directions to the town administrator.

8. TOWN COUNCIL DISCUSSION.

A. Cantilevered Decks, Mayor Pro Tempore Ott. Mr. Ott presented his discussion on
allowing town residents to have cantilevered decks when their property abutted the town's stormwater
retention ponds. Mr. Ott said in response to the derogatory remark made during the agenda public
comments, I did do my homework. I'm not putting docks in. One of the things that need to be done right
away with this, and I'm here asking for consensus from council to proceed with this is to consider
cantilevered decks that would extend at the end of people's property with no post or anything in the
water; no access into the water. Just a deck at the end of their property if they live on these retention
ponds. I know some people are interested. Myself, I am not. With all the discussion that went on forever
with the docks, we don't want anything that can get into the water. We don't want anything that would
inhibit any type of work being done by the town in the retention ponds. When we need to go in there and
dredge them we don't want to ask people to move anything. If you have a standard vertical type of post
put in it, it cannot be in the water. Anything that would support the deck would be a truss. That's what a
cantilever basically is. It is a truss that would be on an angle. You can see one on Dogwood around 4th
Avenue North. I believe that people who own property bordering the town's retention ponds have the
right to utilize their property by the water. We are not going to encroach into the water ways at all. I
would never approve that. Mr. Johnson asked Ms. Fellner if cantilevered decks were allowed now. Ms.
Fellner said no, anything that encroaches over the water is considered a dock. Mayor Childs asked if it
was correct that FEMA was opposed to this, as well as the CRS committee. I was told today that the
town's liability insurance was against this, and should something happen, the town will be responsible for
any damage that occurred. Ms. Fellner said that is correct. Those are the statements that we received the
last time this was brought up, however, I think Mr. Ott is raising a different type construction than we've
asked or posed before, because we didn't pose a cantilevered type deck, which would involve changing
the definition of dock that is in the zoning ordinance. COUNCIL CONCURRED to have staff meet
with Mayor Pro Tempore Ott and Councilmember Stevens and to bring additional information
for discussion.

B. Ocean Boulevard Pedestrian Signage and Crossovers, Councilmember Courtney. Mr.
Courtney presented his discussion on the need for improved pedestrian signage and crossover repainting
along Ocean Boulevard. Mr. Courtney said crosswalks have been complained about all year. I also heard
a couple of complaints as I walked into this meeting. This is not a distraction or an added project: it is
maintenance. It's unfortunate, but the crossovers have not been maintained. On Ocean Boulevard from
16th Avenue North to Melody Lane there is a straight run with no traffic calming devices; no stop signs,
no yield signs. All you have is a crosswalk at Surfside Drive, and multiple crosswalks between the town 
limits. The lines on those crosswalks and the signage all used to have on them ‘State Law Yield to 
Pedestrians in the right-of-way.’ The cost of those signs is $7.00 each. The white lines need to be painted 
again. We had Hurricane Matthew; salt water came on the boulevard. Many of these lines have been 
taken off the roadway. We have tourists and residents that crosswalks again. That are going down on a two mile stretch with no crosswalks. They need to be repainted or resurfaced. 
They used paint back in the day; now they use thermoplastic that last about 20 years. Ms. Fellner said on 
the boulevard thermoplastic lasts about 10 years, because the sand is so abrasive. Mr. Courtney said this 
should have been part of a maintenance plan and shouldn't have to come before council. I know we got 
c caught up with other issues like the pier this year, but in the last 10 years, we have 24 crosswalks that 
need to be redone. With that, there are tourists trying to cross Ocean Boulevard for whom cars will not 
yield the right-of-way. We've been asking Mr. Adair to work on his project since the winter with little or 
no progress. Ms. Fellner and Mr. Adair looked at the areas and she recommended that we do on the 
crosswalks again. The cost of the thermoplastic is the issue, correct? Ms. Fellner said the cost about 
$18,000 just for the thermoplastic striping and there are 33 crosswalks on Ocean Boulevard that would 
have to be done. This is not budgeted and would require a budget amendment. Having said that, there is 
no reason why we couldn't do it. Before council makes a decision on this, I'd like to determine the 
balance in the road funds; maybe we could do a little less of some other project to maybe pay for this 
out of road funds. We have to be very careful in how we use our road funds, and there are different road 
By CTC (County Transportation Committee) monies can only be used for certain things. I'd like to look 
into this and bring a funding strategy for consideration that would make all council happy with this. Mr. 
Courtney said I would like to see a maintenance record from Mr. Adair detailing scheduled projects. If the 
crosswalks had been repaired over the years, we wouldn't have all 33 of them to do now. Mr. Fellner said 
the company that installs the thermoplastic don't come here to do just a few things. There is usually one 
fairly sizable project when they come; but we could have certainly have done half. Mr. Courtney said I do 
not want to see any problems on that roadway. Mayor Childs asked if the price included signage. Ms. 
Fellner said no. Mr. Pellegrino said I do agree we need to have crosswalks. In the past they were painted, 
why can't we paint them now? Ms. Fellner said the problem on Ocean Boulevard is that if you use regular 
paint, it won't last a season. It takes a while to paint them, so you're talking about a lot of labor to 
expend to then have to do it again next year. Thermoplastic lasts a lot longer, and we've got a really 
environmentally challenged condition on Ocean Boulevard, because it's not just the saltwater, it's the 
sand that grates against that crossovers, and the tires and everything. Paint just doesn't hold up. Mayor 
Childs said he saw SCDOT spray painting Highway 17 towards Charleston and asked what type paint the 
state uses when they paint street lines. Ms. Fellner said I don't know, but the road is not a beach front 
road. Sand on the road is the issue we have. Mr. Courtney said I spoke with Mr. Adair today. SCDOT uses 
a liquid thermoplastic, and that is what would need to be done on the crosswalks. Ms. Samples agreed 
with Mr. Courtney that it needs to be done. I wish it would've been done before the tourist season began. 
Having said that, I do not support spinning $18,000 for 33 crosswalks. When you come back with your 
information, if you would also come back with a plan of action from Mr. Adair for what he thinks could be 
the best solution to hold up for this season and future seasons. I would just like some options, before we 
agree. I get the sand. I get as soon as we have a storm the sand comes up on the boulevard. At this 
point, $18,000 when we have many other things to address, I would just like some options of having it 
done in-house. Ms. Fellner said staff cannot use thermoplastic. Ms. Samples said to be clear, I would like 
to know options for what can be done using our staff in the interim. Mayor Childs said I agree with Ms. 
Samples. Mr. Ott said this is a critical safety item. If you look at what Myrtle Beach and North Myrtle 
Beach have done to their crosswalks, and I know we can also do that. We look like cave people. Those 
cities value their tourists who visit from worldwide. Tourism is where we get much of our revenue. We 
need to make the town look inviting, and welcome them. Ms. Fellner said that is why I would like to see 
what it would qualify for in the different road funds. That would be a painless way to fund the project. 
RIDE III funds will be about $400,000, so I need to research this and bring back the information to 
council. Mayor Childs asked if were discussing just painting; not the signage. Mr. Ott said right. The signs 
are $7.00 each, and I would the public to ride along Ocean Boulevard in Myrtle Beach. They've got oases 
in the middle the road for people to wait when they are crossing that protects them. Myrtle Beach is
C. Any matter of concern or information to be discussed by Town Council. There was no other discussion.

9. PUBLIC COMMENTS – General Comments. (5-minutes per speaker)

Mr. Harry Kohlmann, South Ocean Boulevard: I want to talk about South Ocean Boulevard. I looked at it and I’m one of the people who actually wanted lines and wanted signs and fought for it. But, honestly, I think most of the lines are there. I don’t think most of them are gone. Now the problem with doing it now for $18,000; when are we paving Ocean Boulevard? I think we paved it about seven years ago. I think the state paved it seven years ago. So in a couple years, we might have to pave it and we just wasted $18,000 with the lines that stayed with us for 10 years. I think touching ‘em up a little bit might be the way to go. Now with the signs, like Mr. Childs said, the Council at the time didn’t want all these signs. I think just about every sign, maybe one or two of ‘em were missing. There wasn’t a sign on every single block. I looked up those signs. I think they’re like three feet high, and I’m not sure how wide, maybe six or eight inches wide. I think they were like $62 a sign. I could be wrong, but I think they’re more like $62. But some you got it. It’s that long stretch that no one has to stop. Now the problem is the price; but, we need to look at something like that for the long-term. Mayor Childs said we have to be careful with signage. We are spending millions of dollars down on Ocean Boulevard to take poles down and remove wires. We have Dr. Padua coming from Clemson University to present a landscape design for Ocean Boulevard. We’re hoping to remove a lot of these no parking signs eventually, and eliminate many signs. I hope we wouldn’t put any signs on the crosswalks all the way down Ocean Boulevard. It would look like pink and yellow dominoes. I would think one sign at the beginning of town, one in the middle of town, and one of the other side. I think people would certainly get the message without having a sign at every block. We should move slowly on more signage. We just have too many signs now. Mr. Ott recommended that Mayor Childs visit Ocean Boulevard in Myrtle Beach. Their signs are very small, safety items and are also traffic calming devices that tell you that the pedestrians have the right-of-way. Mr. Courtney reiterated that this was basic maintenance. The signs already exist; some of them came down, but the poles are still there; markings are still there, they are faded out. This item should be included in the budget, it should be something that’s done on a regular basis. It’s not something that council has to go into discussion over. I urge the public to ride down Ocean Boulevard. The worst crossover is at Surfside Drive and Ocean Boulevard where our tourists park. Mr. Stevens asked if the signs are required by state law; if yes, we have to use them. As Mr. Courtney said, this is just maintenance. I think we need to bring this back. The work should be done as a maintenance program over time, to minimize expenditures in one year. It is definitely something we need to consider, if it is state law. We need to make sure that our residents and guests are safe crossing Ocean Boulevard. I realize that we don’t have the traffic that Myrtle Beach does, but we still need to make sure that the public safety is taken care. Mayor Childs said I agree with Mr. Stevens on the lines part. I think it’s something that could be done on a regular maintenance; eventually they would all be done. I have no objection to the lines. I think they’re very useful. I just object to too much signage. Ms. Fellner would look into this and bring information back to Town Council.
safety, believe me. So my suggestion to you all is to look at putting stop signs in high density areas on
Ocean Boulevard. Surfside Drive, high density; 6th North has a big parking lot there, that area; maybe 3rd
North; 5th South; 13th South, you have a parking lot on ocean side and you have a parking lot on the
street side. [There is] a lot of traffic. Also on Melody Lane. Just let people know that they’re not gonna
blow right through our town. That’s what people are crossing. If you every go down to Melody Lane,
because the state would not allow us to have no parking on Melody Lane, there is almost 100 cars parked
on Melody Lane along the right-of-way. People are crossing; people come out of those cares. Four, six
people each car. That’s a lot of people. So, let’s think safety. I understand; I love the idea of painting
those, but let’s repair ’em, let’s touch ’em up a little bit, and then have a plan. We’re gonna pave Ocean
Boulevard three years, four years, and then throw that great stuff on it and make it last. Also, I’m
chairman of the parking committee. We made recommendations about three months ago. Some of ’em
were about taking down signs; housekeeping things, I don’t even know why it hasn’t come to you. But,
there were several recommendations we made for Surfside Drive for the businesses on Surfside Drive;
important stuff. I mean really important stuff. Now, you might disagree with me, but I’ve got store
owners who came to me, or asking me, hey, why? I shoot from the hip. Put
it all on you that you didn’t do anything about it. It’s important. So, I hope before the season is over, you
guys do something about it. With the sand, I hope you’re gonna start with the south side. That’s where
there’s no beach. You go to the north end there’s plenty of beach. You start on the north by the time you
get to the south, there ain’t got no money [sic.] I don’t want to see that. I have a question about
occupancy on rental houses. Is there a total occupancy. Can you have a three bedroom house and have
60 people in it? It’s getting there. It used to be in these rental homes one or two families would rent
them. Now there are five or six, seven. There’s cars all over the place. There are kids coming down, ten
cars, 11 cars (time ended) for one single rental house. I don’t know who’s responsible for this. Who
checks it? Who monitors it? This is a safety; this is a catastrophe waiting to happen. God forbid one of
these houses catch on fire. We’ll lose a lot of people. Am I done? Mayor Childs said your time ended. Mr.
Kohlmann said thank you.

Mr. Tom Dodge, 8th Avenue South. Quite a few meetings ago, a young man came in here and
told us he would be happy to pick up our e-waste. No charge. It would save the town roughly $16,000,
you people said, Mr. Adair said. What has happened to that suggestion? I’m all for saving money, people,
not spending it. I think this man had a great idea to come in here at no charge to the town and pick up
our e-waste. I would like to know why it hasn’t been done. Second thing is the fastest way to fix the pier,
sell it. A private individual will have that fixed up pretty quick. Thank you.

Ms. Kathy Goddard, 15th Avenue South. I just want to sort of, maybe mention what I’ve noticed
on Highway 17, [which you said] was being paved. I’ve noticed that on side roads that are coming onto
Highway 17, that where they turn onto the main highway going north and south that it would be
advisable if someone would mentioned when it’s being paved that you really mark those turn lanes, if
you’re turning on and going heading south, or you’re going across to head north, or you’re going across
just come into Surfside that those turn lanes be marked, also, because I saw a car a few times come
across and they turned into a car coming around to turn to go south and they almost hit head on where
the car was coming across from Surfside, and they didn’t see a car over there, and the car came up on
that side road and came in and the cars almost hit head on because there’s no lane marked. Another
thing, it would hold up the side road traffic. There’s enough room on those side roads where they come
out if you would mark this lane to turn south, the middle lane to go over, and the lane coming north or
south to turn this way with markers. I’m just saying that’s what I’ve observed. Living here 30 years now.
It would really save someone’s life. Also, when traffic is coming down and they go off those exits, the
first thing they do is go clear across those three lanes. They don’t even look to see if a car is coming to
turn. They just shoot straight across, which could be another accident. So I think those lanes ought to be
[marked] turn and straight across. There’s enough room to put turn and straight across on those lanes
going in, out and across; just an observation. I agree with Mr. Kohlmann on the speed limits on the
Ocean Boulevard and the signage. Thank you.
Ms. Carrie Johnson, Harbor Lights Drive: We seem to have a little problem in Harbor Lights. It is a
planned developed community and there are few others in town. We have sidewalks on the sides of our
streets. So we have no road easements. Most driveways you can get max usually four vehicles in them. If
they are large vehicles, maybe not even that many. We had one of our people pass away a couple of
weeks ago. People came to their house to pay respects, and they were parked on the side of the road,
because there's no place else to park. We have no road easement, and they were ticketed for that. So,
I'm just wondering if some kind of exception can be made for the planned developed communities in
town, because there are no through ways; there's no thru streets. You come into the community, you go
out of the community. There is no through street to go to 17 or to go to the beach, or anywhere else.

About this parking issue, I mean if you want to have a few people over, they have no place to park. Then
you've got a 15 foot rule from the driveway. Well, if I'm 15 feet from my driveway, then I'm within 15 of
my neighbor's driveway. There's just no way to do it. Something needs to be done other than people
given tickets. We usually, if somebody has to park on the road, we don't have somebody that will park
directly across. They're very good about that. They will stagger the cars, so there's no problem with any
kind of vehicles getting through; the fire department, if they need to get through, nothing like that.
There's usually no problem like that. So just wondering if somehow the exception can be made for that.

Ms. Sherry Wardle, 1st Avenue North: Well, it seems to me that there is some debate amongst
council regarding what is responsible expenditures and discretionary expenditures. To me a responsible
expenditure is to properly insure your assets. I understand that $106,000 would have insured our pier. I
don't know for how much. That wasn't disclosed. But I would like to get that information, and I would
like to find out the information on the other insurance companies that provided us with quotes. I'd also
like to find out who was responsible for making the decision not to insure the pier. Had we been insured,
we probably would've been able to move forward, at least with some of the preliminary things that need
to be done on the pier. To me, I certainly wouldn't decide not to insure my property, and I don't think
anyone here would make that decision as well. Now everyone here knows the expression, I've got good
news and I've got bad news. So the article I read in the Myrtle Beach Herald, the headline was Surfside
pier may rise later than expected. Okay, that's the bad news. We've gotta accept it. Can't change the
clock; can't go back. The good news, possibly, the town can replace the entire pier rather than repair it.

All right, more bad news. After FEMA reimbursement it'll probably cost the taxpayers, not the town.
Remember every time you read an article and it says the town that is the taxpayers. We're the ones who
find all these expenses. We're the ones who elected every one of you to make the decision to hire
appropriate administrative leadership, and frankly, I'm really let down. I really am. That was our greatest
asset. Probably one of the biggest draws to this town. And yes, let's fix, let's put the lighting out and 17
so that people driving to Myrtle Beach or to Garden City can how dilapidated some of the buildings are.

Well, as you know, I asked for that before, and I really think that at this point it needs to be discussed.
We need to find out what's been going on. Was there even any money budgeted last year for the
insurance? Was council even aware that we didn't have it? How long have we not had it? We're saving
what? We saved $106,000 last year, but now we're in the hole for how much? We don't even know.
Probably well over $2 million. And then you act like you're doing us a favor, oh, we don't want to raise
taxes. Well, I would've thought it was a little bit more prudent to maybe raise taxes or cut some of these
expenditures that seem frivolous or probably unnecessary like the $7,500 to the farmers market to do
their advertising. They're not advertising for us. Are they bringing any money into this town? Have we
even tracked that? Do we have statistics on that? Everything here has been so opinionated. Do me a
favor, go home, go on the Internet and research the International Property Maintenance Code. That will
tell you what responsible property owners need to do. That is standard; the national standard for what
needs to be done to ensure safety in this town, and I agree, lighting is a very important issue and we
should consider lighting. We should consider signage. We should consider everything that the other
successful towns are considering. Thank you for listening.

Mr. Bill Kinken, Dogwood Drive North: Talking about crossing the street, I cross it six to eight
times a day walking the dog. I'd be nuts, if I depended on the crosswalk and the signage for cars to stop.
I wouldn't be here to talk to you today. It doesn't matter if the drivers aren't educated. You're taking
Ms. Carol Cook, 7th Avenue South: I have a question for the administrator that you can answer next week. There’s a rumor going around town that the town is planning on buying some property and bringing in Section 8 housing. I just want to hear from council that is just a rumor. Ms. Fellner said there is no truth to that.

10. TOWN COUNCIL COMMENTS

Mr. Pellegrino: Thank you very much for coming. There was a public comment on insurance for the pier. We don't carry insurance for the pier, if we did, we would've paid over $2.5 million since the last time we lost the pier. It's kind of hit or miss, if get into a storm cycle, we lose the pier quite often, certainly insurance be a great investment. But if you lose it every 20 or 30 years, not so much. I talked about that before, but I'm not sure about the rest of council. As far as Harbor Lights and the traffic tickets when people are visiting, that's pretty frustrating. I don't know, Ms. Fellner, it would be nice if we could kind of do some common sense training, or something, because we get tickets for some really dumb things, and there's no other place for them to park. I don't know where else in that situation; they could have pulled on to someone's yard, jumped the curb and pulled on someone's yard. At some point we need to assess the situation, and make some kind of good decision. So that's a tough one. That's expectations, and I know we have ordinances, and everything is not black and white in life. So that's certainly something we need to follow up on. I'll finish with a little story here. I had one of my stores I had a customer complaint, and yes it does happen. One of my employees didn't treat a customer well. So I called this person and started talking to him and he said they're staying in Surfside. So, when I get a customer complaint I give them a gift card, so I said I'll just drop the gift card off, because they're in the middle of their vacation and maybe he could use it before the end of the trip. So, I go over there and it was on the corner of Ocean Boulevard and 12th South. I start talking to them, and say how do you like Surfside Beach, and they love it. How long you been coming here; two years. And I said I'm on the Town Council that's why I asked these questions. I didn't get a negative look, so that was positive there. But they did say well, since you're on Town Council, there is one thing I'm frustrated about. They said you guys banned tents. The reason we started coming here two years ago was because we could use a tent, and now next years, we don't know if we're gonna come back. I hear it all the time. That's one person; that's this and that, but were going to feel that. That's frustrating, because I normally when a vote goes bad, I don't bring it up. This one really upsets me, because that's a big slap in the face of a lot of tourists, so you can say what you want about that, but that one is going to hurt and it's unfortunate.
Thank you very much for coming. Have a great night.

Ms. Samples: Mr. Pellegrino, I agree with your comments about the tents. I guess you and I are going to have a hard time letting that one go. Thank you all for your comments tonight, and sticking with us. We passed our budget tonight. That's a big deal, and most importantly, we do not have a tax increase on that new budget, and our staff was remarkable in pulling together that budget. I cannot say that enough. Thank you, and please, I wish Ms. King was here so I could thank her personally for all of her hard work on that budget. I appreciate it so, so very much. Ms. Carol Cook, thank you for coming up before council and asking a direct question about a rumor that is out there, because they are in an abundance in our small town. I don't know if it's because we are a small town, and therefore, everything gets a little more personal, but the rumors out there are just rampant, and 99-percent of them are just not true or either they're half-truths. So I appreciate the fact that you came up and asked that question direct. The gentleman who came up and asked about the gentleman who came before us regarding e-waste, and how why would we not go with that gentleman, because he is offering us such a service at no cost practically; why would we not go with that gentleman? You know it's true what they say, you get, you're not going to get something for nothing. That gentlemen has not been accredited by DHEC (South Carolina Department of Housing and Urban Development.) We told him that as soon as he gets his accreditation, he's welcome to come back before us, but until that time, no, were not interested. Ms. Johnson, she left as well. There are a few communities actually in town that have the parking problem. There are some on the south end. Actually, it is kind of ridiculous that we do ticket someone for visiting a homeowner and staying for short time. It's just; I don't have anything further to say about that, except that Chief, it's just kind a ridiculous. (Chief Hofmann said he would like to respond, if given the opportunity. There are two sides to the story.) Ms. Samples said thank you, and certainly there are two sides to every story, and I do want you to have an opportunity to respond; and hopefully the Mayor will give you that time before we finish tonight. That's all I have. Thank you all so much for your time and attention. I appreciate it.

Mr. Stevens: Thank you everybody for coming out here tonight. The guy in reference to the person about e-waste, the guy that didn't have the certification, but he's working on get it. He is going to come back and talk to us. Ms. Cook mentioned about the government housing. That came up before us back when Councilmember Ralph Magliette was living in May 2015. We didn't want it then. It came back, and me [sic] and Mr. Pellegrino talked about it. We still don't want it. As far as I'm concerned, we're a 1.5 to 2 square mile town. We don't need any government housing ever. Believe me, I'll fight against this. I never want it here. It doesn't belong here. Take it to the big cities. That's where it belongs. As far as some of the other things we talked about, when we have these people out here like an elderly couple that can't mow their grass, we've got a landscaper who contracted with them, they need to be able to do the job. But at that same time, one fella mentioned something that I agree with; he talked about the guys working on a house all day long. They don't need to be parking out on the street and blocking our sidewalks and our streets, because they're there all day long, but the person who is there a couple hours cutting the grass, doing the landscaping, there's nothing wrong with that. I agree with you. Sometimes we give more tickets than we do; as a matter of fact, Chief Hoffman is, I respect him, because he wrote me a ticket one time when I was disobeying the law. I didn't mean to you. But I parked on 5th Avenue North and Hollywood and I was parked next to the stop sign. I deserved the ticket and I paid it. I commend him for giving me a ticket. (Laughter.) He wasn't chief, then, either. He was just a regular guy, you know. The pier, I think we really need council to get involved more on the pier. We need to find out what exactly what FEMA is saying. There's a lot of things going on right now that we need to know about. We need to be able to be educated on that and know everything that possibly can happen. Believe me, one guy said give it investors, you know, I can tell you what, a couple of good investors that have deep pockets would probably build it bigger and better and everything as long as we kept the pier. That's the only way I'd want it. But that's something we have to think about. We're either gonna have a pier or we're not gonna have a pier. I want to see it come back because it produces a lot of money. We were talking about 17 and the infrastructure; these three fellows are on infrastructure committee, and I asked some questions. I wasn't against it, but the thing is, think about this when I state what I say, name a
Mr. Ott: I gather it’s the fire department that looks for excessive occupancy in homes. If there is such a thing going on, we need to check that out as soon as possible. The only restriction on that I wanted on cutting the large trees was that whoever was cutting them down has insurance and bonding in case that thing hit’s their neighbor’s house and that’s it. Because if you’re gonna be; I couldn’t cut down [an] 80-foot tree. I don’t know how many people can. I’m not qualified to do that. I know a lot of people who would try to do it. That’s the only thing that I wanted to make sure that happened to protect your neighbors. You never know if Mr. Stevens would have a chainsaw. He might try to cut down a great big tree, right? Mr. Stevens replied, “Not in my yard.” Mr. Ott: And in Harbor Lights, I didn’t know that you could, that you weren’t allowed to park. I used to go to Councilmember Magliette’s house a couple times a week and I used to park in front of his house. I guess I just got away with it. The reason for the tents, and this is my part on that tent ban list, there is no beach down on the south end. At high tide we only had; we measured 12 feet from the surf to the dune and you put in a 10 foot tent, you had two feet to walk around it. That’s the only thing I asked for is to have no tents in this restricted area from 8th Avenue South down to Melody Lane cause there is room for ‘em. People need to be conscious of that fact that we need to really look at putting more beach at the south end. It’s a bad condition, and it’s getting worse all the time. And I was glad to hear from Ms. Fellner today saying we’re on board now. It’s going to happen for us. No, it’ll never happen, section, I don’t ever see Section 8 in this little town. They’ve got lot area out there on the other side of Conway. They can put them out there because that brings you in rehab, step down units and step down housing for people coming from rehabs and prison. This a little tiny beach town. We don’t need to have that here, ever. I really appreciate everybody coming out and contributing to us. Thank you very much.

Mr. Courtney: Good evening. Thank you very much for coming out, I appreciate it. I just want to be clear on a couple of things. You know, we do know that the pier is hanging off. We are aware of it. We are trying to move forward on it. But we are a government. We are a town. We have to move forward with the projects we have. If every disaster, we stopped doing our maintenance or our regular duties in town, we would not function. I went through Hurricane Sandy. Yes, the infrastructure was wiped out. But you know what, projects go on, the police at the police [sic]; the fire, we need the fire. We need the grounds crew, and we need our roads maintained, and the stuff that we have out there. So, you know, as far as lining and painting and stuff like that, this is all maintenance, house maintenance that has to be done. As far as US 17, this project was coming. It has been in the works for a long time, a long time before I even got on council. We got on the infrastructure committee, we saw a couple things that may not have been noticed before. We sat down with Santee Cooper again. This was one shot; that was it. It’s the cover of the book. It’s the front of Surfside Beach. It’s our appearance that brings people in. We do need our tourism, we need attractions here. I knew the tent thing wouldn’t lie out [sic], so again I’m glad that Ms. Fellner said that we should be seeing beach renourishment. I heard about this tent issue and unfortunately, you know, it’s like anything else. When they banned New York City, smoking in New York City, people said they’ll never go back to New York City. That didn’t happen. They got used to the ban. Just like Myrtle Beach, North Myrtle Beach, all these other municipalities that had the ban on tents, there was a reason, alright. The reason was we had our chief of lifeguards come up and said there was a problem with it. So again, we got to take action. It’s the right thing to do. I
Mr. Johnson: I think everything that, almost everything that needs to be said has been said, except well, I just want to say that it is really not up to us to determine where the beach renourishment begins and ends. You know, if it were up to me, it would start in Garden City and go north, because the whole entire Grand Strand is going to be involved in the beach renourishment. I just want to say that I am still against the banning tents and canopies on the beach. I thank you all for coming out. God bless you and have a great evening.

Mayor Childs: To answer your question on Highway 17, the state picked an engineering firm. Their primary concern is safety. Everything, everything they've done and planned for 17 is done with safety at the highest [level] it can get. It wasn't just putting a road in. That's all they concentrated on; safety. That's why they're doing away with a lot of these turnarounds. That's why they're making deceleration lanes, acceleration lanes so they don't stop and you know. But I can assure you that you'll be very, very pleased when the state finishes with what they're doing. I'd like to, on account of so many rumors get started around here that are not factual, I would like and your name has mentioned numerous times tonight. I'd like, if you'd like to say something [Chief Hofmann], but I ask the council let's not have a back and forth question and answer. Let the Chief maybe answer some of these questions that have been brought up.

Chief Hoffman: Thank you Mr. Mayor, council and community. I'm kind of between a rock and a hard place here. Nobody likes to get tickets and I'll tell you this that I have never seen anger before; you can get someone speeding ticket that's $200 and four points and they will tell you to have a nice day, but you write them a $25 parking ticket and they will burn the lobby up at the police department. So, thank you for giving me the opportunity, Mr. Mayor and Council, to respond a little bit, because there are sometimes three sides to every story. We received complaints about parking, and we go out and find; there have been several complaints from some people even in this room at this moment regarding police department doing no parking enforcement. And I took a look at that and there were some areas that we could improve on. There were some parking issues and at the same time, there were some things that could be fixed. So, in kind of response, Mr. Pellegrino, our officers have a lot of common sense, but the ordinance drives their actions. So that's why we came forth, and said, you said can the police department be told not to enforce certain things. Well, we can't [because] that is true selective enforcement if we say we can't do this, this, this, and this, but it's okay we're not gonna write tickets for this. If the community and Council wishes us to not do certain parking enforcement, I totally respect that. I just ask that we correct, amend the ordinance, which is what we're doing to address some issues that occurred. At the same time, please know that one of the biggest issues that I have with the proposed amendment is that, in fact, one resident came up and said exactly what Captain Miller and I were discussing today. Where are you going to draw the line on what is contract services and what is the reasonable amount of time someone to do that. The 14th North, is that gentleman still here that brought that up? You nailed it. At 14th North they were building houses there around Ocean Boulevard and on 14th North. What is contractual service, and how long does that take? If plumbers come in to plumb two beach houses that are right next to each other on Ocean Boulevard, can they park their plumbing trucks on your Ocean Boulevard in June or July? So we are trying to find the balance, but I get exactly what you meant, Mr. Pellegrino, by that. The folks who were in Harbor Lights, those tickets were rescinded. We did not; once we found out what was going on, we immediately pulled those tickets back and dismissed them. That was a totally different situation than someone just parking in the street long term. I agree with that a hundred percent. That was the right thing to do. You know, I just ask that everybody keep in mind that we get complaints about parking, and if we go out and write tickets, and then people are mad about parking tickets. So there's that; either we have an ordinance or we don't. We want to enforce fairly, evenly, and consistently. That is something that I feel very strongly about that we do things fairly. But at the same time, we do need to exercise some common sense. We've had some discussions down at the
police department about that too that a good community oriented policing strategy is to when you see something looks a little out of the ordinary like that the doors on police cars open up and we can get out of them, and we can walk up and knock on a door and say hey, can you guys move the car, it's in the street, it's in violation of the ordinance or something along those lines. But, keep in mind over time also that some contractors have completely abused when they can park and not park and things like that. So I thank you for giving me an opportunity respond. I hope that maybe that helps clarify some of it a little bit.

Mr. Stevens asked for the floor to comment. Mayor Childs said no; he would not be recognized.

11. ADJOURNMENT. Mr. Johnson moved to adjourn the meeting at 9:13 p.m. Ms. Samples second. All voted in favor. MOTION CARRIED.

Prepared and submitted by,

______________________________
Debra E. Herrmann, CMC, Town Clerk

Approved: June 26, 2017

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Robert F. Childs, III, Mayor

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Ron Ott, Mayor Pro Tempore

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Timothy T. Courtney, Town Council

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Mark L. Johnson, Town Council

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David L. Pellegrino, Town Council

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Julie M. Samples, Town Council

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Randle M. Stevens, Town Council

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