



**SURFSIDE BEACH TOWN COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES  
FEBRUARY 26, 2019 REGULAR MEETING AT 6:30 P.M.  
TOWN COUNCIL CHAMBERS**

**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 Pellegrino, and Councilmembers Dietrich, Ott, Scoles, and Stevens were in attendance. Councilmember Johnson was absent. A quorum was present. Others present: Town Attorney Crosby; Town Administrator Pieper; Town Clerk Herrmann; Finance Director King; Fire Chief Otte; Planning, Building & Zoning Director Morris; Police Chief Hofmann; Public Works Director Adair, and Events Supervisor Ellis.

**2. INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE. A. Invocation:** Reverend Jeff Wood from Oasis of Hope Church was unable to attend. Mayor Pro Tempore Pellegrino gave the invocation. **B. Pledge of Allegiance:** Mayor Childs led the Pledge.

**3. PUBLIC HEARING.** Mayor Childs opened the public hearing at 6:31 p.m. to hear comments on Ordinance #19-0887 to amend the oceanfront parking rate from \$1.75 to \$2.00 per hour. There were no comments by the public. Mayor Childs closed the public hearing at 6:31 p.m.

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

**5. MINUTES APPROVAL. February 12, 2019.** Mr. Stevens moved to adopt the February 12, 2019 meeting minutes as presented. Mr. Ott second. All voted in favor. **MOTION CARRIED.**

**5. PUBLIC COMMENTS. Agenda Items Only.**

Mr. Cad Holmes, Holmestown Road; Ms. Joyce Suliman, Cypress Drive ; Dr. Ben Burroughs, Coastal Carolina University, and Ms. Sherry Singleton, R. C. Sarvis Lane, all spoke in support of the placing the historical markers at the sites recommended by the State.

Ms. Carol Lucas, Cypress Drive, and Ms. Linda Tetteroe, Myrtle Drive South, opposed placing the historical markers in the neighborhood preferring that they be placed either on the Ark Plantation property or at the Passive Park.

Mr. Hope Petrie, North Myrtle Drive, suggested that Ordinance #19-0885 be amended to limit the number of accessory structures to prevent multiple structures on a property.

**6. COMMUNICATIONS.**

**A. Employee Recognition – Surfside Beach Police Department. i. 2018 Police Officer of the Year Rob Pinto; ii. 2018 Police Supervisor of the Year Julian Ziolkowski.** Mayor Childs and Chief Hofmann presented each recipient with their respective awards. Standing ovations were given as congratulations.

**B. Department Reports.**

**i. Events.** Supervisor Ellis presented the department's written report and the Surfside Beach Youth Association report, copies of which are attached hereto. Ms. Scoles reminded everyone that plaques to honor or memorialize veterans were for sale. Ms. Ellis said purchase forms at town hall. Existing bricks will be added to the wall with no additional fee and should be installed soon. New purchases are \$50 each. There is no deadline, but the engraver needs at least 25 orders before the plaques can be made. There is no end date as long as space is available on the wall.

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**ii. Finance.** Director King presented the written report, a copy of which is attached hereto. Horry County will do a reassessment next year that will impact the town. Mr. Ott asked for an accounting of the pier fund losses since it was destroyed. Ms. King would provide that information. Mr. Stevens asked Ms. King for her opinion about new businesses openings because of the pier and how that would affect revenue. Ms. King did not have an opinion, but explained that more taxes would be charged to residents if the business community did not grow.

**iii. Fire.** Chief Otte presented the written report, a copy of which is attached hereto. Ms. Scoles asked how long was given to correct violations. Chief Otte said depending on the violation, between 30 and 60 days.

**iv. Planning, Building & Zoning.** Director Morris presented the written report, a copy of which is attached hereto. Mr. Stevens asked what was being done to encourage new business. Ms. Morris said the department does not do economic development. There are no funds for marketing; but there is an "Open for Business" pamphlet given to those who inquire in her office.

**v. Police.** Chief Hofmann presented the written report, a copy of which is attached hereto.

**vi. Public Works.** Director Adair presented the written report, a copy of which is attached hereto.

**C. Administrator's Report.** Administrator Pieper reported:

- Staff continues working on the budget
- FEMA requests for hurricane reimbursement are complete; reimbursements should come soon
- There were a conference call about the pier; the process is moving well, and he believes the environmental assessment is ahead of schedule
- Use of golf carts on the beach was discussed with Chief Hofmann; that activity will be monitored
- A PARD (South Carolina Parks and Recreation Department) grant was submitted to resurface the tennis courts; staff is optimistic that funds will be awarded

## **7. BUSINESS.**

### **A. Second Reading Ordinances**

**i. #19-0883 Easement to Grand Strand Water & Sewer Authority, Director Adair.** Mr. moved to adopt second reading of #19-0883 as presented. Ms. Scoles second. Mr. Adair presented the decision paper and ordinance, copies of which are on file. After discussion, during which staff was asked to consider making that portion of Dogwood Drive one-way, Town Council **CONCURRED to the construction of a brick fence.** All voted in favor. **MOTION CARRIED.**

**ii. #19-0886 to Transfer Elections to Horry County, Attorney Crosby.** Mr. Stevens moved to adopt second reading of #19-0886 as presented. Ms. Scoles second. Ms. Crosby presented the decision paper and ordinance, copies of which are on file. All voted in favor. **MOTION CARRIED.**

**iii. #19-0887 to amend §9-9(a) increase Oceanfront Parking Rate, Director King.** Mr. Stevens moved to adopt second reading of #19-0887 as presented. Mr. Ott second. Ms. King presented the decision paper and ordinance, copies of which are on file. Ms. Scoles moved to amend to include the Yaupon Parking Lot for the \$2.00 per hour fee. Mr. Ott second. **Mayor Childs, and Councilmembers Dietrich, Ott, Scoles and Stevens voted in favor. Mayor Pro Tempore Pellegrino voted against. MOTION TO AMEND CARRIED.** All voted in favor of the primary motion as amended. **MOTION CARRIED AS AMENDED.**

**B. First Reading Ordinance #19-0885 to amend §14-52 Accessory Structures, Director Morris.** Mr. Stevens moved to adopt first reading of #19-0885 as presented. Mr. Ott second. Ms. Morris presented the decision paper and ordinance, copies of which are on file. After about a ten minute discussion,

109 during which Ms. Morris was asked to determine whether reducing the allowable building size, placement on  
110 piers, or increasing the setback would alleviate stormwater runoff, all voted in favor. **MOTION CARRIED.**  
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112 **C. Historical Markers Placement, Director Adair.** Mr. Stevens moved to place the historical  
113 markers where recommended by the State. Mr. Ott second. Mayor Childs and Councilmembers Dietrich, Ott,  
114 and Stevens voted in favor. Mayor Pro Tempore Pellegrino and Councilmember Scoles voted against. **MOTION**  
115 **CARRIED.**  
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117 **D. FY19-20 Letter of Intent to Amick Equipment Company for Sidearm Refuse Truck,**  
118 **Director Adair.** Mr. Stevens moved to authorize the administrator to execute the letter of intent. Mr. Ott  
119 second. Mr. Adair presented the request, a copy of which is on file. Ms. Crosby explained that the letter of  
120 intent constituted a contract, and if town council decided against the purchase at a later date, there may be  
121 consequences. Mr. Adair said steel prices are expected to increase at least 3 percent; this is a capital budget  
122 item; the current truck is neither functional nor safe to use, and the letter of intent locks the price at "\$299,000  
123 and change." All voted in favor. **MOTION CARRIED.**  
124

125 **E. Keep Surfside Beach Beautiful Committee Appointment (3 vacancies), Ms. Gail King.** Mr.  
126 Ott moved to appoint Ms. King to the Keep Surfside Beach Beautiful Committee. Ms. Scoles second. All voted in  
127 favor. **MOTION CARRIED.**  
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129 **9. TOWN COUNCIL DISCUSSION.** Any matters of concern or information to be discussed.  
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131 Mr. Ott said that planning commission and board of zoning appeals members are required to attend  
132 annual training and asked if that could be provided at town hall. Ms. Morris said training is provided at town  
133 hall.  
134

135 Ms. Scoles said currently there is a FEMA focus group that was formed in conjunction with the  
136 Community Rating Service (CRS) program. She asked that the formation of CRS Committee be added to the  
137 next agenda so it could be formally established by Town Council. Mr. Pieper said that would be on the next  
138 agenda.  
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140 **10. PUBLIC COMMENTS. General Comments.**  
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142 Ms. Delores Nicholson, Pine Drive, thanked Mayor Childs and Mr. Pieper for helping to alleviate the  
143 flooding problem at her house by having staff clean the town's pipe that opened up at the edge of her property.  
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145 Ms. Joyce Suliman, Cypress Drive, thanked council for its action on the historical markers. Two of the  
146 four markers to be completed will be revealed on Saturday, March 2<sup>nd</sup> at the Ark Plantation site at the corner of  
147 3<sup>rd</sup> Avenue South and Willow Drive at 11:00 a.m. The two remaining markers will be done later.  
148

149 Ms. Rosemarie Alacona, Oak Drive South, asked about the pedestrian crosswalk at Surfside Drive and  
150 Willow that was discussed in the June 25, 2018 meeting. Mayor Childs asked her to contact Mr. Adair after the  
151 meeting.  
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153 **11. TOWN COUNCIL COMMENTS.**  
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155 Mr. Ott thanked everyone for their comments. Having a cemetery in town is never easy. I wish that had  
156 been handled back in the 70s. I don't know what else we can do, but we need to move forward continuously  
157 looking at this and making it a better place to live. We can't move the graves, but we can acknowledge that this  
158 exists in our town. Thank you for coming out tonight. Enjoy this nice weather.  
159

160 Mr. Dietrich thanked everyone for coming out and making comments. Thank you to the Historical  
161 Society for its hard work. I've only been blessed to attend one of your meetings, and it was an education.

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162 There's a lot that goes on that folks aren't aware of. Thank you for your work. Thank you to the folks for  
163 coming. I wish you a safe trip home. Thanks, again, for coming out. We'll see you in two weeks.  
164

165 Mr. Pellegrino thanked everyone for coming. Thank you to staff. For days before each meeting I talk to  
166 multiple directors and the administrator to get information that helps me during meetings. Special thanks to Mr.  
167 Adair, who is successful getting a lot of grant funds and CTC (County Transportation Committee) money for the  
168 town. He has already gotten \$300 thousand for the next road project.  
169

170 Ms. Scoles thanked everyone for coming. Thank you to the town administrator, department directors,  
171 and employees; we appreciate everything you do to keep the town going and to keep the council on track.  
172 Have a good evening.  
173

174 Mr. Stevens thanked everyone for coming. Just remember that residents pay five times less in taxes  
175 than the second home owners. Businesses pay 85 percent of the property taxes. Make sure you support our  
176 businesses, because they provide hospitality, property, and accommodations taxes and also pay a business  
177 license fee that all go to paying our bills, and keeps our fine police, fire, and sanitation departments funded.  
178 Enjoy yourselves; have a good week.  
179

180 Mayor Childs said in response to Ms. Nicholson that staff worked to the best of their ability to correct  
181 the problems at her house, and we hope in the future the stormwater system will be even better. Thank  
182 everybody for coming to night.  
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184 **12. ADJOURNMENT.** Mr. Stevens moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:05 p.m. Mr. Ott second. All  
185 voted in favor. **MOTION CARRIED.**

Prepared and submitted by:

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188 Approved: March 12, 2019

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Debra E. Herrmann, CMC, Town Clerk

**Surfside Beach Town Council**

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Robert F. Childs, III, Mayor

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197 David L. Pellegrino, Mayor Pro Tempore

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Bruce H. Dietrich, Town Council

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200 Mark L. Johnson, Town Council

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Ron Ott, Town Council

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203 Debbie Scoles, Town Council

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Randle M. Stevens, Town Council

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205 Clerk's Note: This document constitutes summary minutes of the meeting that was digitally recorded, and is not intended to  
206 be a complete transcript. Appointments to hear recordings may be made with the town clerk; a free copy of the audio will  
207 be given to you provided you bring a new, unopened flash drive. In accordance with FOIA §30-4-80(A) and (E), meeting  
208 notice and the agenda were distributed to local media and interested parties via the town's email subscription list. The  
209 agenda was posted on the entry door at Town Council Chambers. Meeting notice was also posted on the town website at  
210 [www.surfsidebeach.org](http://www.surfsidebeach.org) and the town's LED marquee.