



**SURFSIDE BEACH TOWN COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
TUESDAY, JUNE 25, 2019 AT 6:00 P.M.
TOWN COUNCIL CHAMBERS**

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5 **1. CALL TO ORDER.** Mayor Childs called the regular meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. Mayor
6 Childs, Mayor Pro Tempore Pellegrino, and Councilmembers Johnson, Ott, Scoles, and Stevens were in
7 attendance. Councilmember Dietrich was absent. A quorum was present. Others present: Town Attorney
8 Crosby; Town Administrator Pieper; Town Clerk Herrmann, and Finance Director King.
9

10 **2. INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE. A. Invocation:** Pastor Matt Thompson,
11 Surfside Christian Church, gave the invocation. **B. Pledge of Allegiance:** Boy Scout Troop 819 led the
12 Pledge.
13

14 **Special Presentation.** Mayor Childs recognized Eagle Scout Candidate Tom Serviss, and fellow
15 Scouts Michael Howard, Peter Howard, Ian McFarland, Sean Bowker, Thomas Sparkes, and Austin
16 Gansmuller. Scout Serviss chose the Senior Center as his Eagle Scout Community Service Project. He
17 raised money to purchase supplies and a new sign and used his leadership skills to encourage fellow
18 scouts and others to help. Each Scout was given a certificate recognizing dedication and commitment to
19 community service along with a town logo pin. The Scouts received a standing ovation.
20

21 **3. EXECUTIVE SESSION.** Pursuant to the Freedom of Information Act §30-4-70(a)(1) to
22 discuss the appointment of a person or persons to a public body, and §30-4-70-(a)(2) discussion of
23 negotiations incident to proposed contractual arrangements. Mr. Stevens moved to enter executive
24 session at 6:06 p.m. Ms. Scoles second. All voted in favor. **MOTION CARRIED.** Mr. Stevens moved to
25 reconvene regular session at 6:53 p.m. Mr. Johnson second. All voted in favor. **MOTION CARRIED.**
26 Mayor Childs said for the record that no action was taken during executive session.
27

28 **4. MOTIONS RELATING TO AGENDA.** There were no motions; the agenda was approved by
29 acclamation.
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31 **5. MINUTES APPROVAL. May 28, 2019.** Mr. Stevens moved to adopt the May 28, 2019
32 minutes as presented. Mr. Ott second. All voted in favor. **MOTION CARRIED**
33

34 **6. PUBLIC COMMENTS. Agenda Items Only.**
35

36 Mr. Anousha Shifteh, North Ocean Boulevard, spoke in support of the ordinance to restrict holes
37 on the beach, because of his personal experience with a very large 12 foot hole dug near his house that
38 was there for two days.
39

40 Ms. Patricia Magliette, Harbor Lights Drive, spoke in support of the ordinance to restrict holes on
41 the beach, but was concerned that additional liability would be created without proper enforcement.
42

43 Mr. Larry McKeen, 6th Avenue South, said the 40 minute executive session was, in his opinion, a
44 waste of citizens' time. He asked that the executive sessions be moved back to before the meeting as
45 was done in the past.
46

47 **7. COMMUNICATIONS. Finance.** Director King presented the written report, a copy of which
48 is attached hereto.
49

50 **8. BUSINESS.**
51

52 **A. Second Reading Ordinance #19-0896 amend §2-187 Fund Balance (to defer beach**
53 **renourishment for two years and to establish the Stormwater Utility Fund), Director King. Mr.**

54 Stevens moved to adopt second reading of Ordinance #19-0896 as presented. Ms. Scoles second. Ms.
55 King presented the decision paper and ordinance, copies of which are on file. She explained that after
56 two years funds would again be transferred for beach renourishment, and that revenue in the
57 Stormwater Utility Fund were specifically for use in stormwater related projects. Mr. Pellegrino disagreed
58 with deferring beach renourishment funding. He believed funds could be expropriated from the reserve
59 fund, if cash was needed for pier reconstruction. Mayor Childs, and Members Johnson, Ott, Scoles and
60 Stevens voted in favor. Mayor Pro Tempore Pellegrino voted against. **MOTION CARRIED.**

61
62 **B. First Reading of Ordinances.**

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64 **i. #19-0897 to Grant Utility Easements to HTC, Inc., Administrator Pieper.** Mr. Stevens
65 moved to adopt first reading of Ordinance #19-0897 as presented. Mr. Johnson second. Mr. Pieper
66 presented the decision paper and ordinance, copies of which are on file. Mr. Ott asked if the new lines
67 would improve internet reception in chambers. Mr. Pieper said it could; HTC is installing a fiber
68 broadband network. All voted in favor. **MOTION CARRIED.**

69
70 **ii. #19-0898 amend §12-67 to add Holes on the Beach, Chief Hofmann.** Ms. Scoles
71 moved to table first reading of Ordinance #19-0898. Mr. Stevens second. The decision paper and
72 ordinance copies are on file. All voted in favor. **MOTION CARRIED TO TABLE.**

73
74 **iii. #19-0899 amend §2-61(b)(ii) Volunteer Applications, Administrator Pieper.** Mr.
75 Stevens moved to adopt first reading of Ordinance #19-0899 as presented. Mr. Johnson second. Mr.
76 Pieper presented the decision paper and ordinance, copies of which are on file. Mr. Ott and Mr. Johnson
77 said this was long overdue. All voted in favor. **MOTION CARRIED.**

78
79 **C. Committee Appointments. i. Accommodations Tax Committee (3 vacancies); ii.**
80 **Board of Zoning Appeals (2 vacancies), and iii. Planning Commission (1 vacancy).** Mr. Stevens
81 moved to appoint Mr. Mil Servant to the accommodations tax committee; Mr. Phil Murdock and Ms.
82 Cynthia Keating to the board of zoning appeals, and Mr. Scott von Busek to the planning and zoning
83 commission. Ms. Scoles second. All voted in favor. **MOTION CARRIED.**

84
85 **D. Motions and/or directions to Town Administrator from Executive Session.** There
86 were none.

87
88 **9. PUBLIC COMMENTS.** Town Services or Business Conducted.

89
90 Mr. Tom Dodge, 8th Avenue South, was in disbelief he arrived at 6:00 p.m. for a 15 minute
91 meeting. The council meetings were cut in half, and citizens hurried to arrive on time for the meeting
92 only to wait about 40 minutes for the executive session to end; he thanked the council for wasting the
93 public's time. He asked why a hole was allowed to stay on the beach for two days; who monitors that? In
94 the past police surveilled the beach at night as a deterrent to crime.

95
96 Ms. Patricia Magliette, Harbor Lights Drive, also was upset that citizens rushed to attend a six
97 o'clock meeting only to sit for 40 minutes while council was in executive session. Citizens pay council's
98 salary; perhaps citizens should charge council for their time wasted. Since there is only one meeting a
99 month, in her opinion, council is doing half the work, so pay should be cut in half.

100
101 Mr. Anousha Shifteh, North Ocean Boulevard, said the police department is doing a great job.
102 The beach service should be telling people about filling in the holes and other beach rules.

103
104 **10. TOWN COUNCIL DISCUSSION AND/OR COMMENTS.**

105

Town Council Regular Meeting
June 25, 2019

106 Mr. Pellegrino thanked everyone for attending. I agree with the comments made about executive
107 session. I voted no on that change, so it will be difficult for me to bring it back for consideration.
108 However, I will discuss it with the councilmembers to try to improve that process. We have had some
109 quick meetings, but I'm sure that there will be some hot topics coming in the future that will require
110 marathon meetings. Have a great night.

111
112 Mr. Johnson thanked everyone for attending. We appreciate you. The holes on the beach are a
113 constant problem that we're trying to figure out how to manage without adopting an ordinance. Please
114 ask the beach patrol to be aware of the problem and [educate the public.] God bless you. See you next
115 time.

116
117 Mr. Ott agreed with the executive session not being scheduled during the meeting. He is
118 available at 5:00 a.m. or any other time during the day. We have lifeguards that could help monitor holes
119 on the beach; do they have the correct information to share with the public? If the public doesn't comply,
120 then the police could be called. Thanks for attending.

121
122 Ms. Scoles thanked everyone for attending. She appreciated all the comments. Have a great
123 evening.

124
125 Mr. Stevens thanked everyone for attending. He encouraged everyone to shop and eat at town
126 businesses, because they pay 85% of the property taxes, business licenses fees, franchise fees, etc. Have
127 a good week.

128
129 Mayor Childs said regarding holes on the beach the town is very aware of the problem, and is
130 working with the police chief. There were some legal issues with adopting an ordinance, and we are
131 working on that. The chief will ask his staff to be more attentive to ensure they are filled. A backhoe was
132 called to fill in a 12 x 12 x 3 hole last week. It looked like a swimming pool.

133
134 **11. ADJOURNMENT.** Mr. Stevens moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:14 p.m. Mr. Johnson
135 second. All voted in favor. **MOTION CARRIED.**

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137 Prepared and submitted by:

138
139
140 Approved: July 23, 2019

Debra E. Herrmann, CMC, Town Clerk

141
142 **Surfside Beach Town Council**

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145 _____
Robert F. Childs, III, Mayor

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147 _____
David L. Pellegrino, Mayor Pro Tempore

148 _____
(Absent 6/25/2019)
Bruce H. Dietrich, Town Council

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150 _____
Mark L. Johnson, Town Council

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Ron Ott, Town Council

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Debbie Scoles, Town Council

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Randle M. Stevens, Town Council

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