



TOWN OF SURFSIDE BEACH ♦ TOWN COUNCIL CHAMBERS  
July 22, 2008 ♦ 6:30 P.M.

TOWN COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

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7 **1. CALL TO ORDER**

8 Mayor Deaton called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. and stated that this was a business  
9 meeting and asked if everyone in attendance could conduct himself or herself in that  
10 manner. Mayor Deaton and Councilmembers Blair, Johnson, Martin, Samples and  
11 Childs were present. Mayor Pro Tem Truett was absent. A quorum was present. Staff  
12 present: Administrator Booth; Clerk Pinnell; Director of Public Works, Taylor and Parks  
13 and Recreation Supervisor Ellis.

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

16 Benjy Simmons, Pastor at Glens Bay Baptist Church said the invocation and Mayor  
17 Deaton led the Pledge of Allegiance.

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19 **3. MINUTES APPROVAL**

20 Mr. Samples made a motion to approve the regular meeting minutes from July 8, 2008.  
21 Mr. Johnson seconded the motion. All voted in favor. MOTION CARRIED.

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23 **4. PUBLIC COMMENTS – Agenda Items only**

24 *P.L. Mabry, 15<sup>th</sup> Avenue North* : “The topic tonight is on the fire station issue paper.  
25 What I want to speak about is the fact that we’re talking about building a fire station here  
26 in Surfside, the one thing that is a valuable asset to this town is the volunteers that we  
27 have, and this station here that we’re going to have is going to be manned by volunteers,  
28 a great deal of them, that do not even live in Surfside Beach. We need to have a facility  
29 that we can handle, promote, educate and utilize these volunteers. There was talk about  
30 the miscellaneous storage, mezzanine, excellent idea, I’ve built a lot of buildings with  
31 mezzanines in them and they’re very cheap, inexpensive areas, workspaces and so forth  
32 that you can have in a building at a very minimal cost. The next item is, we’ve talked  
33 about who was going to pay for this building. One thing that I want to mention tonight  
34 is that the 7 million dollar budget that we have now, 82 cents out of every dollar that  
35 goes up to make that 7 million dollar budget comes from people that are not residents or  
36 say this, comes from 6 mill property owners, businesses, business licensed, franchise  
37 fees and different things of that type. You as a new council need to look and find where  
38 the money comes from and then be able to justify whether or not to build a functional  
39 building such as a fire station for this town; where that money comes from and how  
40 much is going to be paid from residents that live here, in this town. Now that doesn’t  
41 mean to cut it short, it means to spend it back and send it back where it came from, it’s  
42 going to be benefiting the residents of this town to have a nice fire station. Thank you.”

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44 **5. COMMUNICATIONS**

45 **A. *Public Works Report***

46 Mr. Booth reported that the beach is looking good with residents assisting to help  
47 clean the beach without being asked; he sees them every morning. Mr. Booth  
48 reported that once a month the town would select one of these individuals to  
49 recognize with a citizens award. There is a Dogwood retaining wall that has been  
50 designed; the County will pay for 75 percent of the project. The additional flow into  
51 this area over the years has caused some erosion. The town is concerned with one  
52 yard in particular located on 10<sup>th</sup> and Dogwood Lake. The wall will be built as

53 quickly as possible. Mr. Booth reported that many other residents are asking for  
54 retaining walls but in some cases the erosion is caused from their own yards and not  
55 from the lake itself. It is simple to determine these by the slope of their yards. The  
56 County would decide who gets a retaining wall since they are paying for the larger  
57 portion of the wall. Mr. Booth reported that the lakes project is going very well with  
58 Cherry Lake getting close to being finished. The dredging equipment will be moved  
59 over to Floral Lake next and at the same time Palmetto will be worked on. Some of  
60 the lakes have gotten so low that a dredger cannot be placed in them. Mr. Booth  
61 stated that he wants to present Myrtle Lake to the Stormwater Committee to add to  
62 the project; he would like to add this onto the contract at the same rate. Mr. Booth  
63 reported that many birds congregate on the low water in the lakes and the feces is  
64 then washed to the 5<sup>th</sup> Avenue swash where, after it rains, the State then runs it's  
65 testing. A second rain immediately following will not show the same results. The  
66 initial push of the bird feces effects our water testing. Mr. Booth stated that the  
67 dredging of this lake would push the birds to go somewhere else. If the Stormwater  
68 Committee approves this it will then come back to council. Mr. Booth reported that  
69 the price of gas is not going to come down and the town is looking into changing its  
70 fleet of pickups to include gators and golf carts. Many of the town vehicle use can  
71 be reduced.

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73 **B. Recreation Report**

74 This is a slow period for the Recreation Department there are two teams going to  
75 district and one is the Dixie Majors; they won their sub district tournament and they  
76 finished runner up in the district tournament; this is the 11 and 12 year olds. The  
77 Dixie Minors ages 9 to 10 won their subdivision tournament also and now they are  
78 heading for the State tournament in Hartsville. Mr. Booth stated that football  
79 registration would be for the 7<sup>th</sup> through 10<sup>th</sup> on Saturday, August 16<sup>th</sup> at the Civic  
80 Center. Mr. Booth stated that this year there would be no cheerleading; there was  
81 not enough participation.

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83 **C. Administrator's Report**

84 Mr. Booth reported that many people are recycling. The Town of Surfside Beach,  
85 percentage wise, recycles more than any other town in the area; of the 3,400 homes  
86 over 2,000 are recycling and because of that \$3,500 has been saved; this amount  
87 matches the increase in fuel use. Mr. Booth thanked the public for their recycling  
88 efforts. Mr. Booth reported that the underground utility was going great up until a  
89 couple of days ago, a few water lines were cut in error, and the town has been in  
90 contact with the foreman from Santee Cooper to resolve these issues. Mr. Booth  
91 reported that the next council meeting would include a workshop on vacant lots. Mr.  
92 Johnson asked how the town proposes replacing the pickup trucks with gators and  
93 carts. Mr. Booth answered that it would be on an as needed basis. Mr. Booth added  
94 that he will be pushing the use of golf carts in the Building Department and will be  
95 taking their pickups away. Mr. Samples asked how many people were currently on  
96 workers compensation. Mr. Booth answered that there were currently two that were  
97 on workmen's comp and on light duty.  
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6. **BUSINESS**

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A. ***First Reading Ordinance #08-0642- Moby Carts***

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Mr. Booth stated that two councilmembers had asked him to place this on the agenda. Currently there are 3,084 customers that include rental homes and full time residents and of those 2,039 have recycling moby carts which leaves a total of 1,045 that do not and the town currently has 1,080 carts in current inventory. Additional carts were received since the Waste Authority was giving a \$6 rebate on them. Mr. Martin made a motion to approve the amendment as presented. Mr. Booth stated that the carts currently state that there are locks on them but there are no locks so we need to amend the ordinance to exclude the locks. Mr. Martin made a motion to approve the amendment as presented with the change recommended by the Administrator. Mr. Samples seconded the motion. Mr. Johnson asked for confirmation that each town resident will receive a recycling cart whether they want one or not. Mr. Booth stated that this was correct. Mr. Martin stated that the town has been encouraging those with rental units to recycle and asked if this included the rental units. Mr. Booth confirmed that this does include rental units. Mr. Martin stated that he believes that most people who visit Surfside do recycle at their permanent homes and if they had a cart they would use it. Mr. Samples asked if there have been any complaints since the town removed the locks and Mr. Booth answered that he has received only one complaint. It was confirmed that they are currently available and in stock to deliver. Mayor Deaton asked if there would be any additional costs to the town involved. Mr. Booth answered that the town would just need to put them together which would involve just a little work. **All voted in favor. MOTION CARRIED.**

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B. ***First Reading Ordinance #08-0643 Smoking Ban Ordinance change to civil offense***

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Mayor Deaton explained that this is not a discussion regarding the smoking ban ordinance; it is just a correction to the ordinance that currently exists; changing it from criminal offense to civil offense. Mr. Booth stated that this is strictly an administrative change to meet the requirements of the Supreme Court of South Carolina that wanted to move it from a criminal to a civil penalty. Mr. Martin made a motion to approve the amendment as submitted. Mr. Samples seconded the motion. **All voted in favor. MOTION CARRIED.**

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C. ***Issue Paper: Fire Station Design Plan***

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Mayor Deaton stated that the choice is to select options presented at the workshop; either one of the one story options, to select the two-story option or request additional information or other plan concept. Mr. Booth stated that a lot of information was received; staff will visit the Carolina Forest Station and will take a hard look at all space. Mr. Booth added that he believes that space can be reduced to a workable number. Mr. Booth stated that he was surprised that there was little difference in the cost between a prefab and stick built building adding that he realizes that prices on materials have all inflated. Mr. Booth stated that he feels that a pre-engineered building could be designed to look more attractive than what was just presented; it is true that the stick built can be built more green than and

143 engineered building. Mr. Samples made a motion to request additional information.  
144 Mr. Johnson seconded the motion. Mr. Samples stated that he thought it was  
145 obvious from the workshop, which was put together very well and very well  
146 attended, that there is a great interest in town in support of a fire station and all of  
147 council also supports the replacement of the fire station, but several council members  
148 have spent time looking at alternatives and due to the fact that a council member is  
149 missing tonight it would be appropriate to get additional information. Mr. Martin  
150 stated that he is concerned; it is not just a building they are discussing but also the  
151 people that have to work in the building. He is concerned that if we cut costs too  
152 much the people we currently have will not want to work in that building; he added  
153 that minimizing square feet is one thing but making it a usable space for the people  
154 that have to work there is another and he added that he was referring to the  
155 volunteers as well as the full time employees. Mr. Johnson stated that he echoes  
156 those sentiments; there is an opportunity here to do some really good things for the  
157 town and make something that the town can be proud in addition to saving money  
158 and making it comfortable for those individuals who work there and volunteer there.  
159 Mr. Johnson added that we need to take all of these things into consideration during  
160 the planning process and perhaps in a month or two come up with a solution. Ms.  
161 Blair stated that she agrees and believes that we have a lot of goals that need to be  
162 reached when looking at the designs for this new building that is obviously needed.  
163 Ms. Blair stated that she has been at the Carolina Station and that we need to realize  
164 that it is quite a few miles inland and that it does not take the daily battering of the  
165 wind and sea salt that Surfside gets and added that she would like staff to look at  
166 other fire stations that have been designed and built for the coastline. **All voted in**  
167 **favor. MOTION CARRIED.**

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169 Mr. Booth stated that he would visit Greenville and review all of the plans with DP3  
170 and then bring back a proposal to council.

171 D. *Issue Paper: Reappoint Darrell Willm and Lynn Livesay to Zoning Board of*  
172 *Appeals*

173 Mr. Martin made a motion to reappoint Lynn Livesay and Darrell Willm to the  
174 Zoning Board of Appeals. Ms. Blair seconded the motion. **All voted in favor.**  
175 **MOTION CARRIED.**

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177 7. **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

178 *Tom Dodge, 1415 15<sup>th</sup> Avenue North:* "I appreciate the fact that it appears that most  
179 people up here agree, that we need to have a fire station. I hope that we don't cut down  
180 on the size of it to save a few dollars. I think most people, when they build a house,  
181 build it a whole lot bigger than they need and a whole lot more room than they need,  
182 looking at the plan from the outside, seeing it for the first time, I don't see that this is  
183 bigger than what we need. You need to plan for the future and any kind of growth. We  
184 seem to be concerned that the taxpayers are going to have to bear the brunt of this, yet  
185 we make laws to cut down on the amount of taxes we get into the town; the smoking  
186 ban, cutting down Sundown from serving. We talk one way and do another way, the  
187 bank and my wife own four houses here in town; we pay business tax on three of them.  
188 As I said in the last meeting, I don't ever get questioned about business when a vote on  
189 business things are done, they go to the businesses, well I'm a big business too, in my  
190 mind; I'm paying out business tax and I sure don't mind paying tax to get a fire station

191 that we need here in town. Four bays, to me, is like looking into the future; we want to  
192 keep the ambulance service for sure. I'm an old coot and I want that ambulance around  
193 and those four houses I own, I want that fire department around and we have a  
194 tremendous support in volunteer people. I think they need a big pat on the back. Butch  
195 does a great job as Chief and I think that we should try our best to give him pretty much  
196 what he wants. Thank you." There was some applause in the audience and Mayor  
197 Deaton asked individuals to please refrain from clapping during the business meeting.  
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199 *Ken Laukhuff, 411 7<sup>th</sup> Avenue North:* "My question is for Mr. Booth, I kind of went over  
200 the Palmetto Lake, there's a lot of green slime and everything on it and I think he  
201 mentioned something about possibly, going to be dredging that, since they put the weir  
202 in, that has stopped a big flow of the water; I have a stream beside be and it is virtually at  
203 a standstill and looking out from my porch, my front of my house, all I see is this lake  
204 with just green slime all over it and is that going to correct it? Do we need fountains in  
205 there?"  
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207 Mayor Deaton instructed Mr. Laukhuff to set up an appointment with Mr. Booth to  
208 discuss this in detail.  
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210 *Bill Black, 214 9<sup>th</sup> Avenue South:* " Obviously you can tell I do have some association  
211 with the fire department; I have since 1975, I'm a volunteer there and I appreciate  
212 Doug's concern and all of your concern about not spending too much money because  
213 I'm a taxpayer as well but the one thing I do want to ask of the council, please when  
214 you're looking at building this building and who knows how long it will be before we  
215 get another building, do take into account, growth and try to give us what we need to do  
216 our job because our job is to protect your property and protect lives and that's all that I  
217 ask."  
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219 *Rebecca Hiatt, 719 N. Myrtle Drive:* "During the previous administration, around  
220 November or December of '06, staff was instructed to get plans for a new station. Staff  
221 immediately started working on this, Mayor and council were advised in reference, the  
222 same. Murrells Inlet Fire was contacted for plans for station three, Tych & Walker  
223 Architects in Murrells Inlet was contacted in reference, the same and requested updates  
224 to the plans to meet the towns needs. Earthworks was also contacted for plans on  
225 construction and received same. All this was made available to council in early of '07;  
226 the scheduled meeting in Greenville this spring was delayed because the survey hadn't  
227 even been done yet, about 18 months later. Here we are approaching '08 Hurricane  
228 Season; in March of '07 the decision was made that if the DP3 didn't work out then we  
229 would go with the SPN Company. I think it would be a shock for how much more it's  
230 going to cost us just from dragging our feet. The cost of everything's going up; building  
231 supplies, everything. Nowadays time is money. We have a lot of talk and survey and I  
232 hope that some decisions are made as soon as possible. The longer we wait the more it's  
233 going to cost us and I hope that you consider the future needs for the town and if we  
234 don't have certain things in this new building it's going to start cutting the ISO, so many  
235 people in this town have worked so hard to get the ISO ratings from, I think it's a 4, to a  
236 3 and it can go the other way if we don't meet compliance. Let's talk about the training;  
237 the training room is not only just for the firemen that's in this department, this  
238 department goes to other towns for training so they come to our department too, so when  
239 you count numbers it's not only numbers in that particular town. When County agreed

240 to let us have this ambulance in town, they also told us that there would be a possibility  
241 that we would have a second ambulance put here if we wanted it. This past month we  
242 had, I think it was, 84 calls; this ambulance, sometimes is already on a call and I know  
243 one day in particular an ambulance from Loris had to come so that's time waiting when  
244 there's a dire emergency so I hope you do plan in consideration that there's a possibility  
245 that we can get the other ambulance here. Being this close to the ocean, I think that we  
246 need to, at least, build as much as we can conventional and that we build something  
247 that's going to last as long as this building over here has lasted. There was some talk  
248 about didn't want to go a long distance from out of town on these calls; it was brought  
249 up not over ten miles but we are mutual aid and there is no mileage limit. If they call us  
250 and need us on commercial fires in Conway then we're expected to be there. If we can't  
251 give them what they need then we can't expect them to come to this town when we have  
252 a fire down here on the Boulevard, at one of our motels, and there's no way that this  
253 town fire department can handle something like that and the space is not only for the fire  
254 department, a lot of the police equipment is being stored in there and we have most of  
255 the volunteers that's in this station is out of town. I, for one, appreciate them very much  
256 that they will come to our town to help us out. They live just as close to some of the  
257 other departments; they can very easily leave us and if we can't have a building to  
258 accommodate the need for them to do their duty then we can very well lose them. We  
259 had a workshop and it was to gather information; I thought it was for public information  
260 also but they didn't want any public information; they didn't care about any input from  
261 the residents and I feel like that any input no matter where it comes from is a benefit for  
262 this council. Thank you."

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264 *Ron Ott, 7<sup>th</sup> Avenue North:* "We're going to build another fire department; we got one,  
265 right? Now what happened to that, whoever built that one was cutting corners, they  
266 wanted to save some money and now we're going to have to build another one? I'll  
267 make one suggestion, let's build our last fire department. Let's build one that will last  
268 for maybe our great grandchildren would have to replace it, but let's get one that will last  
269 for a long time. Build one right, that won't be obsolete in another 20 years don't cut  
270 corners on something like this, this is pretty important. I come from Philadelphia and in  
271 Philadelphia they use their firehouses for a lot more than we do here, they have teenage  
272 dances in them, they have bingo parties in them, they have everything in them. You  
273 could use them for that if you think about it and I think it would be a waste if we put a  
274 lot of money into something and cut some corners and then, in 20 years, we're back to  
275 the same thing, let's build another one. Thank you."

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277 *Randle Stevens, 412 1<sup>st</sup> Avenue North:* "On this fire department, there's two things that  
278 I know that every taxpayer hollers when they need it, it's police protection and fire  
279 protection and believe me, the people who serve on the fire departments are the heroes  
280 of this world. How many died in 911? Don't scrimp; I would rather pay more taxes to  
281 build a fire department that we can be proud of, that every fireman here can use and do a  
282 good job at. Believe me, when my 20 year old daughter, if she's up there in the 2<sup>nd</sup> or 3<sup>rd</sup>  
283 floor of my house and my house starts burning on the bottom floor, I want to know the  
284 fire truck can come by there with that ladder to get her safely down so to save a life.  
285 This is what fire departments and firemen do, they save lives. How many died at 911?  
286 Saving lives, these are our heroes and we need to take care of them and make sure they  
287 have the right equipment. It's like the old saying 'you don't go to a good fight with a  
288 knife', you don't send a fire department with inadequate equipment. Give them what

289 they need. I don't have any problem paying extra taxes for a good fire department and a  
290 good police department; they protect us. The police department protects us and the fire  
291 department protects us; they make sure that we don't die in our fire and if they save one  
292 life because you spent a little extra money of our taxes, I'm all for it. Believe me, this is  
293 something you need to think about; a little extra money ain't going to hurt us. Let's  
294 build something that we can be proud of here in Surfside, is a fire department that will  
295 last us for a long time. Think about how many people are down here on the oceanfront  
296 in 3 and 4 story houses. I don't know if any of you all remember a fire they had in  
297 Garden City a few years back, maybe 15 years ago, they had to call every fire  
298 department within 40, 50 miles and the place burnt down because we didn't have  
299 adequate fire department protection, so build something that Surfside can be proud of. It  
300 costs a little more taxes; I ain't got no problem with that because when a life is  
301 concerned, when saving a life, that's more important than anything. These are real  
302 American heroes, the fire department and the police department; they risk their life and  
303 I'm sure if your wife or your daughter or your grandmother is somebody's up there in  
304 the house and it's burning down and one of them goes in there, in that fire, to save their  
305 life, he's going to be your hero forever, so think about this long and hard because this is  
306 money that is well spent. There's a lot of stuff we waste our money on but a fire  
307 department is probably the best money you can spend; the best return on our investment  
308 we can ever get as well as the police department. Keep these two parts of government  
309 strong; they should be the strongest part of our government. Thank you for your time."

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311 *Susan Clark, Juniper Drive:* "A year ago my husband suffered cardiac arrest in our  
312 living room. I called 911 and if it was not for the efforts of the volunteers in Surfside  
313 Beach my husband would not be alive today. They were able to revive him. I can't tell  
314 you what it was like to see my husband down on the floor. Not only did they take care  
315 of him, they took the time to take care of me too while everything was going on. You  
316 can't put a price on that. I have a husband that maybe I wouldn't have under other  
317 circumstances. I don't mind raising the taxes; I don't mind paying more. I suggest we  
318 give them everything they need and to also consider doing different things in the fire  
319 station like bingo or dances or we could have fundraisers and I would be happy to  
320 volunteer if any of those things are considered to help out and raise as much money as  
321 we can for additional funds. Thank you."

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323 *P.L. Mabry, 15<sup>th</sup> Avenue North:* "I've sat here many nights and said 'only your needs,  
324 not your wants'. Well, I certainly believe that there is a lot of need when it comes to our  
325 fire department. The one thing that I want us to think about and to consider and if you  
326 could bring back that information to the public and that is the amount of money the  
327 residents in town has saved every year since there ISO went down from a 4 to a 3. Now  
328 that little bit of information there, once you receive it, I think you'll understand where  
329 I'm coming from, that it's paying for itself. The residents in this town have already  
330 received payment for any tax increase they would have but I don't think we're going to  
331 be working on a tax increase for the fire department improvements. Again, I always said  
332 'only your needs and not your wants', I'm still saying that but give our fire department  
333 everything that it needs. I don't think it's asking for anything more than what it needs  
334 but do look at how much money the residents in this town have already saved in their  
335 ISO rating they saved from going from a 4 to a 3. When you look at the over 2,000  
336 homes in Surfside and then the amount of condos and townhouses I think you'll find that  
337 that's a great deal of money that you've saved; much more than what this building is

338 actually going to cost itself and that's in a year that they have saved that. Thank you for  
339 your time, I appreciate it. I know that you have a hard decision and I want to thank Mr.  
340 Childs for looking and seeking out information. I think that's part of, and I know that all  
341 of you do, but that's very important to go out and find information' it's not a matter of  
342 being nose-y but it is a matter of being a good steward of this town. Thank you, I  
343 appreciate it."  
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345 *Tom Richards, Lieutenant Surfside Beach Fire Department:* "Whatever you give me I'll  
346 be happy. That being said, when you're out doing your looking around at stations,  
347 Station 45 in Carolina Forest is a beautiful station, but remember that it's a substation  
348 and at any one day of the week there's only 3 to 6 people staying in that station at any  
349 one time. If you're going to go out and look at fire stations make sure you look at  
350 stations that are either headquarter stations or they're what we call combination stations.  
351 You don't even have to go out, all you have to do is go on the Internet; there are  
352 thousands of towns out there, our size, with our needs that are building new stations that  
353 will meet our criteria. Murrells Inlet/Garden City fire headquarters is a good station to  
354 look at. I've been calling it the Taj Mahal for years, I've been a volunteer down there,  
355 maybe a little more beautiful than it needs to be but it's a very functional station for a  
356 combination fire department, we do training down there, I train every Thursday night  
357 down there but at the same time their paid guys, the guys that live in that building are  
358 comfortable in that building. Your training areas are separated from you sleeping areas,  
359 your office areas and see, that was one of the things when they were looking at the  
360 design there, keep in mind here with our building, it is our headquarters building, it's our  
361 administration building. He talked about building administration separate from the fire  
362 building, we can't do that here, I mean, where are you going to put the administration  
363 building, down on Melody Lane? That means I can take a fire truck down to see the  
364 Chief every time I got an issue? We're all in this location here let's keep it all in the  
365 same place but let's just really have a hard look at other stations. If you want to go out  
366 and look at other stations look at other stations that are going to meet the need of what  
367 we want here and at the same time do what you got to do and I hope you do a good job  
368 because I live there a third of my life."  
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370 *Cecil Chandler, 611 A Surfside Drive:* "I served on council in Darlington for 12 years  
371 and in the 12 years I was on there we expanded the fire department twice. It was built 8  
372 years before I got on council and they said it was big enough for 30 years and we  
373 expanded 15 years later, I mean, it's something you got to look at, I know it takes a lot  
374 of money to build, believe me and we argued over the one fire truck so it takes a lot of  
375 time to do what you need to do and some people might think that you're dragging your  
376 feet but when you do build it, I just want to echo what these people have said, you got to  
377 make sure you do it because it costs us more to build on than it would almost to move  
378 the fire department to a different place. It's just important. When I moved to Surfside,  
379 things you look at is the school, church and your municipalities, what they look like, and  
380 if we had a nice fire department, they gave everything, the people smile, they work  
381 harder and I think people look at that and that's a good reason for us to expand and  
382 become a bigger town, which some people don't want to do, but I think it's great to  
383 move on. Thank you."  
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8. **COUNCIL COMMENTS**

*Mr. Samples:* “You know, back in the 90’s we built a police station, the past council built a police station, you know and it looks real nice, it’s all brick but the fact of the matter is, is that police station that was built by that past council doesn’t house what the current police department has so we’re cognizant of the need, to meet the needs. What this council has asked, though, and I’m going to sum it up in my view, is that we look for ways to be efficient, we get double duty out of spaces, that’s not irresponsible, that’s being a good steward of the taxpayers money. Are we going to build a Cadillac, no, we’re not going to build a Cadillac in the Town of Surfside Beach, can’t afford it, that isn’t what the people want. Now I appreciate the fact that up until 3 months ago Ms. Hiatt had the opportunity to state her position publicly . . .

Mayor Deaton asked that Mr. Samples not to single out an individual.

*Mr. Samples:* “I understand, I apologize for that. We haven’t been dragging our feet, we’ve been having meetings and discussing what the needs are of that layout. We’re going to continue to do it until we think we get it right but I do appreciate everybody coming out. It’s always more fun to have a great big audience so that we can perform our function which is to try to balance the community, the environment and the money; the business that we have, because rest assured, one big storm, and we’ll shut down and the money train, all these reserves that we have, we won’t have reserves. Thanks for coming out.”

*Ms. Blair:* “On a positive note I’d like to personally thank Mr. Willm and Ms. Livesay for continuing to want to serve on our Zoning Board of Appeals; it’s great that we have residents who want to step up to the plate and serve on those committees. It takes a lot of time and preparation to do that and I applaud them for that. Also I’d like to applaud the residents for the recycling efforts to save the town \$3,500 is no small feat and you owe yourself a round of applause and a pat on the back for your efforts there and I would like to encourage the Administrator to please initiate the Citizen’s award. We have folks out there who are doing that, I think it’s wonderful that we should recognize them and let them know how much we appreciate the effort on their behalf to keep Surfside green and pleasant and esthetically pleasing to everyone as possible. Thank you.”


*Mayor Deaton:* “In my comment period I’d just like to say that we have hired a new PIO which is an acronym for Public Information Officer/Webmaster/Administrative Assistant and that’s a move in the right direction, to make information available to the residents. She will be posting the department head reports on our website and also she will be getting out information to the media so we can keep you better informed, so we’re making changes and I do appreciate every one of you coming out here and we do appreciate your input and we’re going to do the best we can for this community because we all love it just as much as you do. Thank you for coming”


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9. ADJOURNMENT


Mr. Johnson made a motion to adjourn. Mr. Childs seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned at 7:26 PM. **All voted in favor. MOTION CARRIED.**

Approved: August 12, 2008

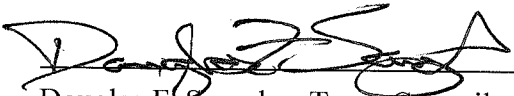
  
Sharon Pinnell, Town Clerk

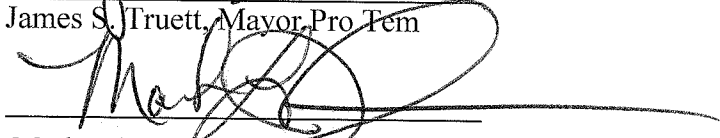
  
K. Allen Deaton, Mayor


  
Joseph P. Martin, Town Council

  
Vicki Blair, Town Council

  
James S. Truett, Mayor Pro Tem

  
Douglas F. Samples, Town Council

  
Mark Johnson, Town Council

  
Robert F. Childs, III, Town Council

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