



TOWN OF SURFSIDE BEACH ♦ TOWN COUNCIL CHAMBERS
March 10, 2008 ♦ 6:30 P.M.

TOWN COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

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8 **1. CALL TO ORDER**

9 Mayor Hyman called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. Mayor Hyman, Mayor Pro Tem
10 Truett and Councilmembers Hiatt, Samples, Martin and Tuttle were present. A quorum
11 was present. Staff present: Administrator Booth; Clerk Pinnell & Director of Public
12 Safety, Christenson, Finance Treasurer Hursey and Building/Zoning Director Donevant.
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14 **2. INVOCATION and PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE.**

15 Councilwoman Hiatt said the invocation. Mayor Hyman led the Pledge of Allegiance.
16 Mayor Hyman stated that there was a public hearing scheduled at 6:00 P.M. for the
17 2008-2009 budget and there was not a quorum so the public hearing would be
18 postponed and held after the council meeting this evening with a five minute break in
19 between. Mayor Hyman welcomed everyone in attendance and added that it is an
20 exciting time for Surfside Beach with an election going on and asked all of the
21 candidates in the audience that were currently running for an office to please stand and
22 introduce themselves and state the position they were running for. Mark Johnson, Bill
23 Rempfer, Bob Childs and Randle Stevens stood and introduced themselves and stated
24 that they were running for town council. Mayor Hyman added that he and Sammy
25 Truett are currently running for Mayor. Judy Tuttle and Rebecca Hiatt stood from the
26 dais and stated that they are both running for re-election for council.
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28 **3. MINUTES APPROVAL**

29 Mayor Hyman asked for approval of the budget workshop meeting minutes from
30 February 25, 2008 and for the regular meeting held February 26, 2008 with changes
31 made. Mr. Martin made a motion to approve the budget workshop meeting minutes
32 from February 25, 2008 and the regular meeting held February 26, 2008 with changes
33 made. Mr. Samples seconded the motion. **All voted in favor. MOTION CARRIED.**
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35 **4. PUBLIC COMMENTS – Agenda Items only**

36 There were no public comments on the agenda items.
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38 **5. COMMUNICATIONS**

39 **A. Building, Planning & Zoning**

40 Ms. Donevant presented her report that is on file. Ms. Donevant reported that 82
41 permits were issued in February with 16 being for general repair. Valuation was
42 \$290,254 and permit fees were \$4,356.73. Contractors business licenses brought
43 in came to \$295.35. Ms. Donevant reported that she had attended a Coastal Code
44 Association meeting in February that was held in Charleston and added that it is a
45 meeting held every two months for all of the Building Officials. The discussion was
46 regarding the new 2006 codes, which will be adopted in July 2008.
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48 Mr. Martin asked if Ms. Donevant had an update to the restaurant in Jammin' Town.
49 Ms. Donevant stated that an architect from Greenville was working on some plans
50 for the restaurant and had called her but she had not heard anything further in the
51 last approximate 4 weeks and added that she does not recall the name of the
52 restaurant. Mr. Martin asked if the fines are still being paid to the town and Ms.
53 Donevant answered that they were.
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55 **B. Public Safety**

56 Mr. Christenson presented his report on file. Mr. Christenson reported that Chief
57 Packard did not have anything to add to his report, which was submitted to council.
58 Mr. Christenson reported that Sergeant Prisco is leaving Surfside Beach and
59 moving to New York to be closer to his family and added that he will be leaving law
60 enforcement all together and will be working in the family business and wished him
61 well. Mr. Christenson reported that the parking meters are being prepared for
62 installation and they should all be installed and ready to go by March 15th, 2008. Mr.
63 Christenson stated that his department has received training on the new Records
64 Management System which will replace "Police Pack" and should save the town
65 \$5,000 annually. Mr. Christenson asked Corporal Chris King to come up to the
66 podium where he presented him with a Law Enforcement Network plaque recently
67 received by his department. Corporal King is the representative of Surfside Beach
68 assigned to a multi-jurisdictional task force which was originally created by the
69 Surfside Beach Public Safety Department and has been in place for some time and
70 since its creation the City of Myrtle Beach has taken it over since it has grown
71 outside of Surfside Beach's realm of manpower. The plaque represents a
72 dedication to traffic safety and participation in the network with this network taking a
73 proactive role in enforcing driving related issues. Mr. Christenson reported some
74 statistics for 2007, which included that there had been 1073 traffic related deaths in
75 the State of South Carolina, 87 of which were in Horry County and 3 were in the
76 town limits of Surfside Beach. Corporal King added that the network is made up of
77 every agency from Horry and Georgetown County including the University Police of
78 the Coast of Carolina and thanked council for allowing the department to participate.
79 Mayor Hyman thanked Corporal King for his participation (there was applause in the
80 audience).

81 Mr. Christenson reported that the Voice Data Recording System, previously
82 discussed, has been ordered and added that they are currently waiting on HTC to
83 set up for this system to be installed. Mr. Christenson reported that his department
84 has been working on completing their annual training during the off-season. They
85 have been working on defense training and beach patrol training. Mr. Christenson
86 reported that he had previously presented to the Accommodations Tax Board to
87 fund a surveillance system and since the time of this request he has found it to be a
88 more expensive (three times the amount) venture than he originally anticipated and
89 has since recommended to hold off on this request since more officers could be
90 hired for the same amount, which would be his preference. Mr. Christenson
91 reported that it had been recently pointed out that a line item in the budget needed
92 to be reviewed and after it was reviewed it was found that it needed to be adjusted.
93 Mr. Christenson added that he appreciated that this was brought to their attention.
94 Mr. Christenson reported that the 2 new four-wheelers have been purchased and
95 received and are currently being undercoated. Mr. Christenson reported on an
96 upcoming American Red Cross fundraiser to be held at California Pizza. The local
97 Policemen, Firemen and Teachers will be waiting on the public. John Bessinger,
98 District Manager of California Pizza and Tim Higley, local Surfside Beach Rep, were
99 introduced. John Bessinger stated that 10% of sales would be donated to the
100 American Red Cross and that there will also be a large jar set up in California Pizza
101 for people to give donations. Mr. Martin asked what the time estimate was for HTC
102 to get the Voice Data Recording System set up. Mr. Christenson stated that they
103 are currently waiting on the switches and routers that they ordered and once they
104 come in, it should go quickly. Ms. Hiatt stated that the fireworks have already begun
105 to be a problem and Mr. Christenson stated that he has not heard of any complaints
106 coming in and they will look into it.
107

108 Mayor Hyman stated that years ago Horry County would use our jail facilities 5 or 6
109 times annually and South Carolina Highway Patrol and other agencies maybe 2 or 3
110 times and Surfside Beach has, in the past, used it 10 to 15 times and now with the
111 leadership of Mr. Christenson Horry County has used it 58 times and the town gets
112 paid each time they use it. The South Carolina Highway Patrol and other agencies
113 have used it 18 times and Surfside Beach Police Department has used it 49 times.
114 Mayor Hyman thanked Mr. Christenson (applause in audience).
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116 **D. Administrator's Report**

117 Mr. Booth reported on a few items not listed on the agenda, one being the dredging
118 project and added that it looks like the project is 30 days out and the Stormwater
119 Committee has recommended that Floral Lake be the first lake to be done and they
120 will continue to recommend the next lakes to be done and in what order based on
121 the population of tourists that come to town. Mr. Booth stated that the trees that
122 need to be trimmed for the dredging project have been identified. Mr. Booth
123 reported on the Special Meeting held the previous week adding that it was noted in
124 the newspaper that the meeting was illegal and was not properly advertised but
125 notice was sent to the media and a copy of verification was provided to council. Mr.
126 Booth stated that he received a call from the Municipal Association today and they
127 will make the initial response for Mr. McKown but have advised him that he needs to
128 get an attorney. Mr. Booth stated that council had directed the town's attorney to
129 make the response but the Municipal Association will now be doing this for Mr.
130 McKown. Mr. Samples questioned how the Municipal Association had become
131 involved since the last meeting and Mr. Booth stated that they have been involved
132 from the beginning when Mr. McKown first brought in the complaint. Mr. Samples
133 asked if Mr. McKown had signed a release as it relates to the town of Surfside
134 Beach and Mr. Booth answered that he had not.
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136 Mr. Booth reported that the beach renourishment for Surfside Beach has been
137 completed and the beach will be given 30 days to settle and then they will go out
138 and go over it with the beach rakes to get debris and shells. Mr. Booth stated that a
139 copy of the capital improvement plan was distributed to council. Mr. Booth stated
140 that he plans to go over every vehicle and large piece of equipment in the town with
141 the town mechanic and come up with a new capital improvement plan. Mr. Booth
142 added that the vehicles would be re-evaluated every year and the capital
143 improvement plan will be modified with all changes. Mr. Samples thanked Mr.
144 Booth for putting this together. Mr. Booth reported that he had an offer for a piece of
145 property being sold, which is located behind the Chambers and in front of the Dry
146 Cleaners. Mr. Booth stated that a decision paper, including an appraisal of the
147 property, will be presented to council in the next couple of weeks. Mr. Booth
148 reported that the final amended 2007-2008 budget would be presented at the April
149 meeting. Mr. Booth reported that DP3 is scheduled for a workshop on April 21st at
150 5:30 PM. Mr. Booth reported that the Beautification Committee met today and
151 discussed color schemes to be suggested to add some architectural standards for
152 the commercial area. Mr. Samples stated that he may agree with suggested color
153 schemes but not forced ones.
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155 **6. BUSINESS**

- 156 **A. Appointment of Valerie Riley to Ministerial Recorder:** Mr. Booth stated that Valerie
157 Riley was hired to work in the court system and needs to be appointed by council for
158 two years. Mr. Samples made a motion to appoint Valerie Riley as Ministerial
159 Recorder for two years. Mr. Martin seconded the motion. It was confirmed by Mr.
160 Booth that it was a mandate but it was not a contract. **All voted in favor. MOTION**
161 **CARRIED.**
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B. *i. Leaf vacuum:* Mr. Booth stated that this item was brought up at the last workshop meeting and is now being presented to council to consider. Mr. Booth stated that the total cost for the machine was \$105,000 but an attachment, which could be placed on a dump truck, could also be used to do a similar job and would cost \$51,000. Mr. Booth stated that residents would rake their leaves to the curbside and then, on a designated date, the truck comes by and vacuums them up. There was some additional discussion regarding the winds along the coast blowing the leaves around after they had been raked, the comparison of the machine to the attachment and raking leaves as opposed to bagging leaves and if residents would be given an option. It was determined that giving an option would be more costly but it would be council's decision. Ms. Tuttle had a question regarding damage to the equipment if something other than leaves were to be vacuumed up and Mr. Booth stated that an employee would check the piles prior to vacuuming and most twigs and small branches would not effect the machine and added that there could be issues with pine needles which are difficult to pick up. Mr. Samples stated that he did not agree with spending the money on this type of machine and asked if there was some way we could try it out or rent it prior to considering purchasing it. Mr. Booth stated that he could look into it. Mr. Truett stated that he has concerns about the leaves blowing all over prior to them getting picked up and also them getting wet from rain where they could not be picked up. Mr. Martin added that he is also concerned about the cost and suggested that maybe a survey could be put in the next newsletter to see how many people are interested in this system. Ms. Hiatt stated that she looks at it as being just another service to provide to the residents and believes that it would benefit many people and that she would like to see the dump truck used with an attachment for a lesser cost. Mr. Booth stated that a survey may be a good route to take. It was decided that this would be brought back to council at another time.

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B. *ii. Create a Facilities Department:* Mr. Booth stated that this department would be set up to best utilize the employees the town already has and no new employees would need to be hired. The two employees are currently listed under Non-Departmental and he would like to set up a department to do the various building maintenance that used to be contracted out. Mr. Grady would be a part of this department and Mayor Hyman stated that the town is lucky to have someone like Mr. Grady because he is capable of doing such a variety of maintenance items. Mr. Martin made a motion to create a Facilities Department. Mr. Samples seconded the motion. Mr. Martin added that Santee Cooper was raving about the meeting he had with Mr. Grady who showed them around the town's facilities and was very helpful. **All voted in favor. MOTION CARRIED.** Mayor Hyman asked Mr. Grady to stand and there was applause in the audience.

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C. *Issue Paper-Early Payoff for Property:* Mr. Booth stated that the meters bring in money to the town and currently the town has \$139,000 from this fund, which could be used to payoff the property that the town owes \$129,000 on. Once the property is paid off it could then be rezoned to a parking lot; it cannot be rezoned until the town owns it. Ms. Tuttle made a motion to approve paying off the property early. Mr. Martin seconded the motion. **All voted in favor. MOTION CARRIED.** Mr. Martin stated that all council has done was approve paying off the property early and he assumes that the plan for the parking lot would be brought back to council and Mr. Booth stated that it would. Mr. Samples asked for confirmation that the town is proposing to rezone it and Mr. Booth stated that this was correct but the town could not do anything until it is owned.

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D. *i. Ordinance to Adopt 2008-2009 Budget:* Mayor Hyman stated that if any changes need to be made they could be made between this reading and the second reading. Ms. Hursey presented the issue paper and first reading of ordinance #08-635, which is on file. Mr. Truett made a motion to adopt the 2008-2009 budget. Mr. Martin seconded the motion. Mr. Samples made a motion to amend the budget to move an additional \$100,000 from the surplus hospitality tax into the beautification project, which currently has \$50,000 budgeted so that it now includes \$150,000 to use towards beautification. Mr. Truett seconded the motion. **All voted in favor. MOTION CARRIED.** Mayor Hyman went back to the original motion. **All voted in favor. MOTION CARRIED.**

E. *ii. Continue 5 mils 5 Year Capital Fund Stormwater/Improvements/Maintenance #08-636:* Mayor Hyman stated that the 5 mils for stormwater has been in effect for five years and the overall mils for Surfside is 44 mils which includes the 5 mils for stormwater. The town has not yet completed the stormwater projects on the North end and there are still pockets of problems and ditches that need to be addressed. The request is to renew the 5 mils for five more years. Ms. Hursey read the issue paper on file. Mr. Samples made a motion to adopt the ordinance as written. Mr. Truett seconded the motion. Mr. Samples stated that he has had a previous correspondence with resident Joe Zoltak who pointed him to the federal legislation which Henry Brown secured for the area but it is possible that the locals and the State will have to come up with a 25% match in order to access this money so the town will need to be prepared to get it's due which may cost the town something to get. Mr. Samples added that he wanted to make sure that the public was aware of what they were paying for. Ms. Tuttle asked for confirmation on a previous discussion and inquired as to whether the 50/50 program would be suspended if the leaf vacuum was purchased and Mr. Booth answered that it would not be suspended, it was just a labor issue. Mr. Martin stated that the ordinance is written for one year and asked if it needed to be changed to five years. Ms. Hursey stated that the millage would need to be adopted each year. **All voted in favor. MOTION CARRIED.**

7. **DISCUSSION**

A. *Town Paying Rotary Dues for Town Administrator:* Mayor Hyman stated that when Mr. Kovacs was Town Administrator he paid his own dues and somewhere along the line the town began paying the dues and it is now being brought up to council to clarify whether the town should continue to pay the dues or should it be the responsibility of the Town Administrator. Mr. Samples made a motion of personal privilege due to his wife being on the Board of Directors of the Rotary. Mr. Samples stated that Mr. Bill Blankenship, who is Vice President of the South Strand Republican Club, filed a complaint against him to the South Carolina Ethics Commission. Mr. Samples added that the complaint was in regards to the October 25th, 2007 budget workshop where it was filed that he improperly discussed the Surfside Area Rotary Club's Accommodation Tax request for \$3,500 to help support advertising for the 10K run because his wife, Julie, is a member of the Rotary Club's Board of Directors. Mr. Samples added that the minutes of that discussion are a part of the complaint which he has available for anyone to review if they so choose. Mr. Samples stated that he believes that everyone knows that the Rotary is a service organization made up of unpaid volunteers and he personally supports the 10k run which the Rotary initiated several years ago and added that the event helps bring people to town during the off season and this year the Rotary added a 5 K run to their event. Mr. Samples added that he considered this to be a new event and added that he is confident that the State Ethics Commission will be favorable to him

in their outcome and he feels that it is unfortunate that South Carolina tax dollars are going to be wasted in an investigation which he views as being purely political on the part of Mr. Blankenship. Mr. Samples added that he has responded to the Commission and has waived all of his rights of confidentiality and if anyone wants to know anything about this complaint the Commission could be contacted. Mayor Hyman asked for discussion from council on this item. Mr. Martin stated that it is a private organization and he feels that Mr. Kovacs handled it properly and it should be a personal decision to join. Ms. Tuttle stated that it is her understanding that the town has always paid for the Rotary memberships and she was unaware that Mr. Kovacs had paid for his own membership. Ms. Tuttle added that she has no problem with the town paying for the membership since the Town Administrator is representing the town rather than himself. It was clarified that the membership cost was \$339 per year. Ms. Hiatt stated that it should be up to the Town Administrator to decide if he wants to go or not. It was questioned whether Mr. Kovacs paid for his own membership or not. Mayor Hyman stated that he feels that the Town Administrator makes enough money to pay for his own membership and he should not be obligated to be a member if he does not want to be. Mr. Truett stated that he feels that the town's relationship with the Rotary is a good one and believes that the Town Administrator is representing the town when he goes to these meetings and it is not a personal gain. Mr. Truett added that he believes that \$339 is a good investment for the town. Ms. Hiatt stated that the Town Administrator is already busy with all of the other meetings he needs to attend that if he does not want to go then he should not have to go and she does not feel that the town needs to pay for the membership. Mayor Hyman stated that the town does have a good relationship with the Rotary and although, by consensus of council, the town will not continue to pay, he hopes that Mr. Booth will continue his membership.

- B. *Sunburn Trailer Request Surfside Baptist Church:* Mayor Hyman stated that the Baptist Church has been doing this the past few years and it has been a benefit to the tourists and they are making another request for a space at the Pier to provide suntan lotion and supplies. Mr. Samples made a motion to allow the Sunburn Trailer to be parked in the parking lot at the Pier. Ms. Tuttle seconded the motion. **All voted in favor. MOTION CARRIED.**

Mr. Booth stated that he wanted to let the public know that the current stormwater permit that the town has requires the town to have a funding source for stormwater so if the 5 mils is not charged then there would have to be a stormwater impact fee charged to residents which would amount to the same cost. Mr. Booth stated that the funding mentioned earlier is, in fact, 75 percent with a 25 percent match by the town. The engineering costs would be covered but the actual cost of the project is a 75/25 match. Mr. Booth confirmed that he was talking about the 11 million dollars coming in from the State and the grant for the 4th and 5th Avenue swash is something different.

8. PUBLIC COMMENTS – General. – 5 Minutes

Rosemary Purcell, 519 15th Ave North: "I've been a resident here for 28 years. I am the President of *Friends of the Surfside Library*. We have approximately 300 members in the Friends. We raise our money to help the library by our book sales once a month. We took it upon ourselves, first I want to thank you all for your support of the library, and we took it upon ourselves to get up a petition to keep our library and we have come up, so far, with over 3,100 names. Now there were some comments in the paper or something about it being from a small area but it's not. These are all people who come into the library and use it. There are a great many people here, voted here, that are from Surfside but they are also from surrounding areas that use our library and I would like to present this to you. Also, we have raised \$20,000 to put into the pot to help with

324 anything that the library needs, more computers or whatever it needs. I do thank you all
325 for your support and Roy thank you very much.” (Applause in audience).
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327 *Anthony Sheppard, presenting request pro-football team support:* “It’s been a long time
328 since I appeared before you. The last time I did I was with the Surfside Beach Fire
329 Department for two glorious years under Dan Thomas from ‘94 to ‘96. The reason that I
330 am here before you tonight is I have gone and spent many countless hours and
331 sleepless nights the last 4 months. I have been approached by several young
332 individuals, including myself, were looking for, how can I say it, somebody to help out
333 with a semi-pro football team. I spent 2 years in West Columbia playing my pro-football
334 for the Carolina Express. I have 2 National titles out of Homestead Florida. I have 2
335 Region Championships right here in South Carolina and Conway against Spartanburg.
336 At that time I played under the United Southern Comfort Football League. We went
337 both years, we went unbeaten, we went 16 and 0. Nobody could touch us. I have,
338 since that time, I have come back to Horry County and to the Myrtle Beach area at 2483
339 Peach Court in Myrtle Beach out by Emerald Lakes, out by the factory stores and I’ve
340 talked with the NAFL, North American Football League, I have approached the Horry
341 County council, I have spoke with the city council as of today, Danny Knight, the Horry
342 County Administrator is head over heels for this. I’ve talked with my County Chairman
343 Mr. Grabowski, Marion Foxworth, as a matter of fact, I received a phone call from Mr.
344 Grabowski last Wednesday, he said that the County council is on (sic) over this, they
345 said they loved the idea. I have spoken with the Carolina (sic) out of Conway, they’re
346 known as the, at one time it was the Carolina Bulldogs out of Conway. At one time I did
347 play with the great Andy Christenson over there at Socastee High School. I’ve got
348 some photos of him you all would not believe, it’s unreal. I’ve been friends with Andy
349 for the last 15 years, he’s a good man, he’s an excellent man. I was a resident of
350 Surfside Beach up until 1982 at one point, my father died here in Surfside as a massive
351 heart attack. I had to move out to Socastee where my mother was living at. It’s been a
352 long journey but I’m wanting to get back to the public what Horry County has given to
353 me. I’ve been a resident of the State of South Carolina and the County of Horry and the
354 area of Myrtle Beach, Surfside, Garden City, Murrells Inlet, Socastee, Conway since
355 1972 and the NAFL said if I could get two corporate sponsors they will let the league,
356 that I am proposing here, into their league, the team here and if you could all definitely
357 help us out with some kind of equipment, a football field, just any kind of donations
358 would help out if Surfside Town Council would do so. I thank you for your time and
359 Andy, thanks a lot, man.”
360

361 Mayor Hyman instructed Mr. Sheppard to present his plan to the Administrator so he
362 could review it to submit to council at another meeting.
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364 *Tom Dodge, 15th Avenue North:* “I attended the secret, semi-secret, council meeting
365 last Tuesday evening along with 5 or 6 other people that knew about it and it was a
366 circus. Everyone of you Councilmembers should be ashamed of yourselves. This is
367 nothing personal to Mr. McKown but our town attorney, Mr. Durant, told you several
368 times that the town insurance fund would not cover Mr. McKown’s legal expenses
369 because they felt it was not a town problem, that Surfside Beach had no legal
370 involvement. None of you had the town’s interest at heart. You had your own interest
371 in the forefront. If you are afraid of being sued don’t make unthought of decisions,
372 bonehead decisions. The town pays insurance to cover council members if they are
373 involved in a lawsuit against the town. Mr. McKown is involved in a lawsuit against him.
374 Mr. Martin warned candidates for council, they should rethink running. He said a
375 person would have to have deep pockets if they were on council. You shouldn’t have to
376 be concerned if you do things for the town that are thought out and if Mr. Martin feels
377 that way maybe he should just resign from council. You’re elected to serve the best

378 interest of Surfside Beach, not your own. During last Tuesdays meeting you made a
379 motion and voted for it then you amended the motion and then you amended the
380 amendment and so on. Some of you didn't know what you ultimately voted for. Shame
381 on all of you. Now for a little trash talk. The only time at a council meeting the situation
382 of Surfside Beach vehicles picking up trash in Caro Pines etc. was discussed was when
383 I brought it up several months ago. All of you looked dumbfounded that it was
384 happening. You apparently had no idea it was going on. Mr. Booth said it was a pilot
385 program. Well that pilot should have been shot down. None of you, except Mr.
386 Samples, had any comment. To my knowledge it still has not been discussed in a
387 council meeting. Are we still picking up garbage out of town? Are we also picking up
388 yard waste, trash, recycling materials out of town? How far out of town are we going?
389 We might even be to Aynor by now. The townspeople don't know. I used to live in the
390 nicest, prettiest town along the coast but not anymore, no, I didn't move but my
391 taxpayer-bought-garbage-vehicles did. In town, garbage and recyclables are picked up
392 on schedule. Yard waste and trash are not. This is not the fault of our employees but
393 the fault of Mr. Booth and his pilot project. I had yard waste and trash in front of my
394 house for twelve days recently, on Cherry Drive North, 5th Avenue North and all over
395 town this lack of pickup is evident. I feel servicing out of town customers is to blame.
396 These vehicles and employees are paid for out of our tax money. Out of towners don't
397 pay, didn't pay and don't pay these expenses but they are now reaping the benefits. Do
398 I think this is illegal? I don't know for sure, but it should be. Do I think it's wrong?
399 Absolutely. Do I think it should stop? Absolutely. Lastly I will, again, ask council to
400 require town department chairpersons to live in town. They spend our tax money like
401 it's water and they have no involvement in paying for it. Mr. Booth doesn't know the
402 street names, lake names, resident names and doesn't have a feel for the town or it's
403 residents. Thank you."

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405 *P.L. Mabry, 15th Avenue North:* "Amen. I think that's the way you say it. Gentlemen I
406 want to talk to you about a little different subject here tonight that I usually talk about. I
407 want to tell you about two cows that we had, two milk cows. One of them had grown old
408 and we still milked one. My dad said 'we'll turn the old cow dry and she won't have to
409 be milked anymore'. I said 'well, great' so when it came time to feed the cows dad said
410 'go ahead and give Bell her portion' the two cows were named Bell and Ruby and I says
411 'well, why are we going to feed Bell when she's not producing?' He said 'son we've had
412 that cow longer than we've had you, that cow has produced all those years. We're
413 going to keep on feeding that cow.' That's not really about what I'm wanting to talk
414 about tonight but I think you'll gather what I'm really trying to get at is a gentleman that
415 we have working for the town of Surfside Beach. His name is Willy and I doubt if many
416 of you can tell me what his last name is, but his last name is Willy Small. I don't know if
417 you know him or not but he's been working for this town for over 25 years because I
418 could remember when he started to work for this town back in '84, I think, if I'm not
419 mistaken, or '85. First time I ever met him it was a cold wintery day and the trash had
420 blew out of the trashcans that were lined up along the streets. That was before we had
421 the moby carts and I was out there picking up the trash to go back in the trash can and
422 as I'm down there picking up the trash and it's misted rain I looked down and there's a
423 big pair of flip flops in front of me, size 15, that was all he had on. Gentlemen, Willy
424 Smalls is going to be retiring. Not that he wants to but because, not to throw blame on
425 Mr. Booth here or the Public Works people over there in the supervisory capacity. They
426 don't know how long Willy Smalls has been working for this town, out there picking up
427 trash, throwing it on the back of a strait truck out of a trash can, not a moby cart.
428 Gentlemen, if we don't help this man we will hurt him. I don't want to see this man hurt,
429 I don't think there's anyone behind me who wants to see this man hurt. We need to go
430 out of our way to assist this man and help him as much as we possibly can. I know that
431 you all don't get into the day to day operation of this town or the employees of this town,

432 so I'm just bringing it to your attention so that you know and if there's any way possible
433 to help this man, we still have a lot of jobs here in town that he can do and he works
434 hard every day, harder than most of you, I know, but please take this into consideration
435 and look out for this man. Do not cut him loose, you will hurt him, you will not be
436 helping him, to retire him. I think many of you, I know Roy knows what I'm talking
437 about. This man needs help. He needs our help and he's put forth a full measure into
438 this town and worked hard for this town, please, whatever you can do to help this man,
439 to bring it to the staffs attention, please speak up and do so. He needs your assistance
440 if at all possible. I seen him the other day loading the recycling cans into the back of a
441 truck by hand and I said Willy I heard you were retiring, he says 'yes', I says 'do you
442 want to', he said 'no', I asked him 'why are you retiring then?' 'they said I had to', no
443 one has to retire because they have to, please look out for him, I can't do nothing more
444 than to put it as graciously as I possibly can, this man needs our help. He's been
445 working for us for 25 years or more. He's put forth an effort. He has shown his loyalty
446 and effort to this town. We should look out for him. Thank you." (applause in
447 audience).
448


449 **8. COUNCIL COMMENTS**

450 *Mr. Samples:* "P.L. the first time I ever met Willy Smalls I was delivering newspapers
451 for the Sun News down Homestown Road when it was dirt and he was walking to work
452 and I picked him up and didn't know he worked for the town of Surfside Beach and low
453 and behold turned out that's where Willy worked and I asked him why he wasn't riding a
454 bike and he told me he never learned how, you know, and I was just struck by that and
455 I'm glad you brought that to everybody's attention. It needs to be public because,
456 frankly, I went to a retirement seminar with Willy before I retired which brings me to
457 another subject. You can tell it's an election time in Surfside Beach because you're
458 beginning to see some of this come out (holding up a flyer to audience) and I have to, I
459 want to express my appreciation to councilman Martin for making sure that I was aware
460 that this sort of garbage was being circulated in the town. Joe e-mailed me a copy of it.
461 If you haven't seen it, you're likely to see it. What it says is that there's a deal, a secret
462 deal, between a certain councilmember and one of the candidates running for council
463 and I presume that this secret deal is between me and Mr. Truett because Mr. Truett is
464 one of the candidates running for Mayor and I know, I heard rumors in the past that
465 people thought I wanted to be Town Administrator and I appreciate the compliment, rest
466 assured, I never, ever want that job. I'm happily retired. The fact of the matter is I'm
467 really semi-retired and I'm making a pretty good living working for a nice hard working
468 gentleman who needs help, he's 82 years old and it's much easier working for one nice
469 82 year old gentleman, well, you know where that's going (laughter in audience), but the
470 other side that's in here, that I want to make clear, I know Sammy Truett, Sammy Truett
471 doesn't make backroom deals, if he did I would not be supporting him in this election
472 and Sammy has my full support. Sammy Truett doesn't make backroom deals."
473

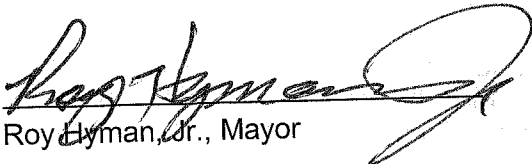
474 *Ms. Tuttle:* "I would just like to offer special thanks to the *Friends of the Library* and
475 they have provided a lot of extras of which all of us have benefited from and if you really
476 want to feel the pulse of the town, visit one of Maries monthly book sales. The 2nd
477 Wednesdays of every month. Thank you."
478

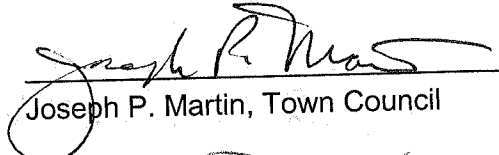
9. **ADJOURNMENT**

Mr. Truett made a motion to adjourn at 8:10 PM. Mr. Samples seconded the motion. All voted in favor. **MOTION CARRIED.**

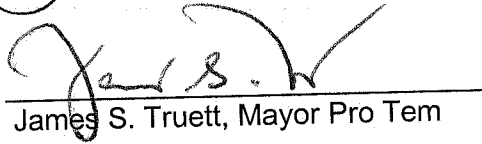

Sharon Pinnell, Town Clerk

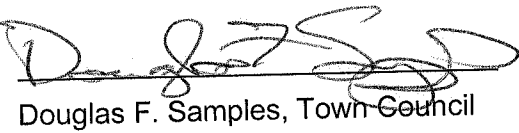
Approved: March 25, 2008

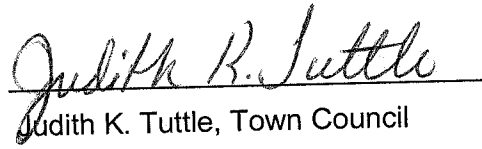

Roy Hyman, Jr., Mayor


Joseph P. Martin, Town Council


Rebecca J. Hiatt, Town Council


James S. Truett, Mayor Pro Tem


Douglas F. Samples, Town Council


Judith K. Tuttle, Town Council

Vacant

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.