



SURFSIDE BEACH TOWN COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING
Civic Center, 829 Pine Drive, Surfside Beach, SC 29575
www.surfsidebeach.org - (843) 913-6111 (843) 238-5432

TOWN COUNCIL MEETING AGENDA
Tuesday, March 14, 2023, • 6:30 PM.

1. **CALL TO ORDER** – Mayor Hellyer called the Meeting to order at 6:30 pm. Councilmembers Drake, Holder, Kinken and Stamey attended. Councilmembers Kreklau and Mayor Pro Tempore Keating were absent. Others present were Interim Town Administrator Clemons and Town Clerk Medina.
2. **INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**
A. Invocation: Jeff Wood, Oasis of Hope Church, gave the invocation.
B. Pledge of Allegiance: Mayor Hellyer led in the Pledge of Allegiance
3. **MOTIONS RELATING TO THE AGENDA** - None
4. **MINUTES APPROVAL** – Councilmember Drake made a motion to approve the minutes from the February 28, 2023, meeting. Councilmember Holder second. All voted in favor. **Motion carried.**
5. **PUBLIC COMMENTS** – None
6. **COMMUNICATIONS**
A. ADMINISTRATORS REPORT – Interim Administrator Clemons gave the Administrator's report.

During this time, Tabitha Mull, Events and Social Media Coordinator played a video celebrating Surfside Beach's 59th Birthday.

Mrs. Mull stated it was the 59th Birthday of the town of Surfside Beach. We are some of the luckiest people to live here. I would also like to thank Dusty McCracken for producing this video and putting it together. Also, Food Lion store number 2039 supplied us all with cupcakes.

Director Adair spoke about the Beach Renourishment plans. Congress has appropriated 56 million dollars to help with the beach renourishment. The County has taken elevation shots to see how much sand we have lost. We have lost almost 300,000 cubic yards of sand. Almost 250,000 was due to hurricanes. Over the next six months, the Army Corps will engineer the repairs.

Tabitha Mull also reported on the Bar B Que Festival. There were over seventy vendors, most of whom were first-time vendors to Surfside Beach. Mrs. Mull thanked the Police and Public works for all their help.

Interim Administrator Clemons continued with his report. He explained that the finish date for the pier would change due to some extenuating circumstances. There have been some supply chain issues along with other minor issues. The State has approved the sprinkler system. The cameras are still being discussed. The parking lot is going out for bid this week. The new project timeline is the end of May or June.

B. OATHS OF OFFICE – FIRE DEPARTMENT - Deputy Chief Larry Carter stated thank you again for allowing me time on this busy Council evening to celebrate some accomplishments within the Surfside Beach Fire Department.

Tonight, I am honored to represent our Organization in recognizing some of the most dedicated career and volunteer members you will ever know. Their commitment to this community is shown every day in how they prepare and deliver fire and EMS (ALS & BLS) services and how they continue to grow as people and emergency responders.

This evening, all of us, together as a community, will recognize two new hirers, Career Captain/Paramedics and 1 Volunteer promoted to Career Engineer Firefighter II. There is no greater reward for me than presenting members of the Organization who have achieved higher ranks, obtained higher levels of certification, and who have aspired to become career and volunteer Firefighters. I am proud to be their Deputy Chief!

I would be remiss if I did not recognize and thank the families of our career and volunteer members. I know that all of them would agree that they would not be here tonight if it were not for the unwavering commitment of their family.

I can proudly tell the Council and the citizens of Surfside Beach that these individuals serve this community and treat our customers as outlined in our new Mission Statement, our motto, and our 4 Pillars of Culture. I am privileged to introduce and have sworn-in Surfside Beach Fire Department members.

Career New Hirers

Captain/Paramedic Josh Newton
Captain/Paramedic Chauncey Kelley

Volunteer for Career Promotions

Engineer/Firefighter II Zavier Chason

7. BUSINESS

A. AWARD OF CONTRACT FOR ROAD RESURFACING. Director Adair stated the bid for the project was publicly opened on 2/24/2023 in which two bids were received:

Coastal Asphalt -\$521,738.37
Palmetto Corp. - \$593,822.58

Director Adair explained that \$450,000 was placed in the annual budget for paving and that the Town will receive \$340,000 in CTC reimbursement funding for this project,

secured last year. Also, there is additional grant money to cover some of the Pier parking lot.

Mr. Adair stated this is the first time he will not recommend the lowest bidder. After speaking to surrounding municipalities, the low bidders did not seem to be a responsible contractor.

Councilmember Holder made a motion to award Palmetto Corp for the road resurfacing contract. Councilmember Drake second. All voted in favor. **Motion carried.**

B. 3RD PARTY EVENTS – Tabitha Mull, Social Media and Events Coordinator.
Mrs. Mull Spoke about Celebrate Surfside Beach on September 16, 2023, from 10 AM to 3 PM. There will be vendors, live music, and children's activities.

The First Baptist Church Easter Egg- Stravaganza, April 8, 2023, 9 AM to 11 AM. This will be a trunk or treat-style event.

The 23rd Annual Guy Daniels Surf Off, April 18, 2023 (5 PM-7 PM), April 19th & 20th, 2023 (8 AM-4 PM) 13th Ave South.

Mrs. Mull requested to suspend parking for the Sunrise service on April 9, 2023, and all Keep Surfside Beach Beautiful beach sweeps.

Councilmember Drake made a motion to approve the three special event applications. Councilmember Holder second. All voted in favor. **Motion carried.**

C. RESOLUTION 23-0158 -RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN OF SURFSIDE BEACH TEMPORARILY SUSPENDING ENFORCEMENT OF CERTAIN ORDINANCES OF CHAPTER 12 AND CHAPTER 8.- Tabitha Mull, Social Media and Events Coordinator.

Mrs. Mull stated this resolution is to suspend sections in Chapters 8 and 12 of the Code of Ordinances to allow the consumption of beer and wine.

Councilmember Drake made a motion to accept Resolution 23-0158 as presented. Councilmember Holder second. All voted in favor. **Motion carried.**

D. FREE PARKING FOR THE SUNRISE SERVICE and KSBB BEACH SWEEPS
Tabitha Mull

Councilmember Drake made a motion to suspend parking for the Sunrise service and all beach sweeps. Councilmember Holder second. All voted in favor. **Motion carried.**

E. COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS- Councilmember Stamey made a motion to re-appoint Yvette Hellyer to the Stormwater Committee. Councilmember Drake second. Mayor Hellyer abstained. **Motion carried.**

8. PUBLIC COMMENTS – Town Services or Business Conducted (5 minutes per speaker)

A. Harry Kohlmann, 10th Ave North. Mr. Kohlmann spoke about Bill H253. This bill would permit short-term rentals everywhere on the Grand Strand. We are doing our fair share; this could ruin this town. This is a family beach.

I don't know where these legislators are from, but I'll tell you what, our tax dollars from tourism pay for everything in this State. This would be a terrible thing for this town. I think everyone needs to get out to start writing their representatives. The State Senate representative is Steven Goldfinch.

B. Cindy Lane, 12 South Cedar Drive, There are some wonderful activities here in Surfside Beach. And then we have parking issues. My neighbor and I weren't here for this barbecue festival; people parked in our yards.

I have a question as to why that is allowed up closer to 17 business, yet we have signs down the beach. What can we do to prevent that?

I take pride in my property. We need to address this as you want to continue to grow. And I know parking is an issue that, somewhere along the line, will have to be addressed.

Would you consider a trolley system? This allows it to continue to expand your activities and not be a detriment to the homeowners.

9. TOWN COUNCIL DISCUSSION AND/OR COMMENTS

A. Councilmember Stamey, Happy Birthday to Surfside Beach, 59 years here. Glad to see everybody here. I am going to address the parking. The park committee is working it out. Maybe there's a need to look at some of this stuff happening. We need to address the parking because it is a big problem and will worsen. And they are going to have to make some decisions.

Other than that, there will be a delay again on the pier. I'll say that it's aggravating because we get promised one thing, and we get something else. I get tired of it. The longer it goes on, the more it will cost. I hope everybody's keeping up with it.

As for the other subject of the short-term rental, I don't like what they propose. I'm working on that too. Have a great night.

B. Councilmember Holder, Good evening; thank you to everyone who came out. Congratulations to the three firefighters. Its great to have paramedics here in town. This is something I felt strongly about that we need as a town. Also, thank you, John, for the paving project and for moving forward. Have a great night. I've been coming here since 1970; I've been coming here a long time. The barbecue contest was very successful. The barbecue is great. I liked the bands. I don't think I've ever been here when we had 1,000 people sit down there to listen to the music. If you weren't there, they did a great demonstration for the veterans at the end. There was not a dry eye. I want to thank everybody for coming, and I hope there are a lot of people turned in. Special thanks and congratulations to our medic and firefighters tonight.

C. Councilmember Kinken, I want to take a minute to thank Chief Clemons; he is doing a tremendous job for this town. We get reports that we never used to get. It just makes a huge difference. People know what's going on, and there's one other person I want to thank; I want to thank his wife for putting up with this cause. She didn't buy into this, and he's putting in long hours. He writes emails at night. I've had a few phone calls from him at night, so folks, we're getting more in our money's worth out of this gentleman, and he's doing a super job, and I want to thank you.

I want to thank Tabitha for the barbecue festival. She got in on it late and did a fantastic job. I loved the music and did not stay till the end, but I enjoyed both.

I spent my high school summers here, so I've been here a long time, and it just keeps growing on me. I think we're very fortunate to live in this town. With that said, thank you all, and have a good night.

D. Councilmember Drake I'd like to thank everybody for tuning in and coming out tonight. Thanks to the fire department for the new employees. What they're doing there is great. The barbecue festival was fantastic. Thank you, Director Adair, for moving forward with the road project.

Regarding parking, it is always a problem during the busy time of the year. That's one sacrifice we have to make when we live at the beach. The parking in your yard shouldn't be. We will have to do readjustments in some of the parking areas. I like the idea of a shuttle bringing people back and forth.

With the completion of the pier, a lot is going on. There are other people involved, Lindsey Graham and Russel Fry. They have done a lot for us. Every day, you see that pier come along, it's going to be done, and we need to be thankful that we've got it.

E. Mayor Hellyer, I'm impressed the Surfside is stepping it up a notch. If you look at what the Christmas tree lighting used to be, and now to look into what the Christmas tree lighting is today, if you look at the fire department, you never heard that much about the fire department and what they did. And now you see all the improvements going into a lot of improvements are lifesaving improvements for the residents of this town.

We have medical staff on all of our equipment now. To go out to be a first responder, your chances of survival are twice as good as before. These are services for the residents.

As far as the pier is not being finished, delayed again, I'm just as disappointed as everybody else. They keep kicking it down the road, but there are certain things that we don't have any control over. With the supply chain issues, inspections, and items regulated by the State, we have no control over these things. So, we'll see what happens.

I'm looking forward to it.

Thank you all for coming tonight, and now I want everybody to grab a cupcake on the way out. Food Lion donated for us. Happy Birthday, Surfside Beach.

10. **EXECUTIVE SESSION** Motion to adjourn Regular Meeting and enter Executive Session pursuant to the Freedom of Information Act Section 30-4-70(a)(2) Discussions of negotiations incident to proposed contractual arrangements, (Forensic Audit) Discussion for legal advice that relates to a pending, threatened, or potential claim. (Litigation)

Councilmember Holder made a motion to enter into executive session at 7:31 PM pursuant to the Freedom of Information Act Section 30-4-70(a)(2) Discussions of negotiations incident to proposed contractual arrangements, and discussion for legal advice that relates to a pending, threatened, or potential claim.

Councilmember Kinken made a motion to re-enter the regular session at 9:36 PM. Councilmember Drake second. All voted in favor. **Motion carried.**

11. **MOTIONS FROM THE EXECUTIVE SESSION**

A. Councilmember Holder made a motion to authorize the Administrator to hire an attorney regarding the matter discussed in the executive session if needed. Councilmember Stamey second. All voted in favor. **Motion carried.**

B. Councilmember Drake made a motion to approve the HTC camera system for the pier, excluding the 30-day delay. Councilmember Kinken second. Councilmembers Holder, Kinken, Drake and Mayor Hellyer voted in favor. Councilmember Stamey voted against. **Motion carried.**

12. **ADJOURNMENT-** Councilmember Kinken made a motion to adjourn at 9:41 PM. Councilmember Drake second. All voted in favor. **Motion carried.**

Surfside Beach Town Council

Robert Hellyer, Mayor

Cindy Keating, Mayor Pro Tempore

Chris Stamey, Town Council

LaVerne Kreklau, Town Council

Michael Drake, Town Council

William Kinken, Town Council

Paul Holder, Town Council

Attest: _____
Sheri L Medina, Town Clerk

Clerk's Note: This document constitutes a summary of minutes of the Meeting that was digitally recorded and is not intended to be a complete 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 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 media and

interested parties via the Town's email subscription list. The agenda was posted on the entry door at Council Chambers.