



TOWN OF SURFSIDE BEACH STORMWATER COMMITTEE MEETING
COUNCIL CHAMBERS, 115 US HIGHWAY 17 NORTH, SURFSIDE BEACH, SC 29575
JANUARY 17, 2017 • 2:00 P.M.
www.surfsidebeach.org
☎ (843) 913-6111 📠 (843) 238-5432

AGENDA

1. **CALL TO ORDER** – Chairman Elliott
2. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE** – Chairman Elliott
3. **OFFICER ELECTION**
 - A. Chairman
 - B. Vice Chairman
4. **AGENDA APPROVAL**
5. **MINUTES APPROVAL**
 - A. July 25, 2016 Regular Meeting
 - B. September 19, 2016 Workshop
6. **PUBLIC COMMENTS** – Agenda Items
7. **COMMUNICATION & EDUCATION**
 - A. CWSEC Coordinator Lisa Swanger
 - B. Dr. Susan Libes
8. **BUSINESS**
 - A. Resolution to Support Equivalent Residential Unit (ERU) Stormwater Fee
 - B. 2nd Avenue Ditch
 - C. BBQ Festival
9. **DISCUSSION** – Any items of Interest or Concern to Committee Members
10. **PUBLIC COMMENTS**
11. **COMMITTEE COMMENTS**
12. **ADJOURNMENT**



**STORMWATER COMMITTEE MEETING
JULY 25, 2016 ♦ 12:00 o'clock p.m.
Surfside Beach Town Council Chambers**

1. CALL TO ORDER.

Chairman Elliott called the meeting to order at 12:00 p.m. Members present: Chairman Elliott, Vice-Chairman Mabry, and members Beck, Crouch, and Mull. A quorum was present. Others present: Town Clerk Herrmann, Public Works Director Adair, and Dr. Susan Libes, Coastal Carolina University Director of the Waccamaw Watershed Academy.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE.

Chairman Elliott led the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. AGENDA APPROVAL.

Mr. Mabry moved to approve the agenda as presented. Mr. Crouch second. All voted in favor. **MOTION CARRIED.**

4. MINUTES APPROVAL.

Mr. Crouch moved to approve the minutes of the April 8, 2016 meeting as submitted. Mr. Mabry second. All voted in favor. **MOTION CARRIED.**

Mr. Mabry moved to approve the minutes of the June 6, 2016 workshop as submitted. Mr. Crouch second. All voted in favor. **MOTION CARRIED.**

5. PUBLIC COMMENTS – Agenda Items.

There were no public comments.

6. WATER MONITORING REPORT, Dr. Susan Libes.

Dr. Libes said there had not been much activity since June, and distributed a written report about beach monitoring. A detailed discussion ensued about the town's stormwater system and how it functions.

7. EDUCATION – Reducing Runoff Pollutants, Dr. Susan Libes.

Dr. Libes presented the committee with information about reducing runoff pollutants, after which a discussion ensued. Key points were:

- No dog waste in the catch basins; encourage dog owners to carry bags with their leashes
- Keep grass cuttings and leaves out of pipes and drainage ways
- Only stormwater should go into a stormwater system

The members **CONCURRED** to have an education information table at the annual family festival. Chairman Elliott would reserve the table. Dr. Libes offered to provide some bags that would attach to a dog leash, and she would find out if the spokes dog, Simon, could attend.

9. DIRECTOR'S REPORT, Director Adair.

Mr. Adair said the CRS PPI (Community Rating Service Program for Public Information) would be making recommendations to Town Council regarding the flood damage prevention ordinance. Any changes made by council will be reported to the stormwater committee. Enhanced maintenance of the

58 town's stormwater system may be a factor in better water quality readings. Town Council authorized the
59 study for the stormwater utility fee; once that is completed, he will present to the committee. There are no
60 capital projects for this fiscal year.

61
62 **10. BUSINESS – Meeting Times, Chairman Elliott.**

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64 Mr. Beck said either 5:00 p.m. or 12 noon were suitable for him. Mr. Adair said either time did not
65 affect his duties. Mr. Crouch moved to change the meeting time to 12 noon. Mr. Mabry second. All
66 voted in favor. **MOTION CARRIED.**

67
68 **11. DISCUSSION - Any items of Interest or Concern to Committee Members.**

69
70 There was no other discussion.

71
72 **10. PUBLIC COMMENTS.**

73
74 Mr. David Reed, Myrtle Drive North. Residents are allowed to fill in the swales by their homes,
75 which he supports. Some people use concrete pipes, and asked if perforated pipes should be used. Mr.
76 Adair replied that it depends on the situation. An infiltration pipe should be part of a system, not just for
77 one house. Mr. Reed asked whether the town swashes were safe places for tourists to play. He did not
78 believe the water was clean enough for humans to use, especially babies.

79
80 Mr. Dennis Davis, Cedar Drive North. I am so glad I came today. I certainly learned a lot and I
81 appreciate Dr. Libes' presentation. Daily he saw landscapers working in the neighborhood and asked
82 whether they know the rules about disposing of grass and leaves. Is there a fine if the landscapers
83 violate the rules? Mr. Adair said there is an ordinance against dumping. Landscapers are supposed to
84 carry off any debris for disposal, however, it is difficult to catch violators. But there is a penalty when they
85 are caught and issued a summons. Mr. Davis how the public and visitors could be informed about the
86 rules. Chairman Elliott said recently magnets and flyers were distributed to realtors. Mr. Adair said the
87 magnets focused on recycling; not feeding wildlife, and no kids driving golf carts. Between 3 and 4
88 thousand magnets were given away. A magnet is being designed for the CRS program. Some magnets
89 might be used during the "Poop Fairy" campaign.

90
91 Mr. Crouch asked if brochures were distributed. Mr. Adair said over the years there have many
92 different types of things distributed. Mr. Crouch asked if lawn maintenance companies were required to
93 be licensed. Mr. Adair said no license is required for a lawn service by the State Licensing and Labor
94 Board; however, a town business license is required. Dr. Libes said that a license is required to apply
95 pesticides, but she believed it was in the process of being repealed. Mr. Adair said he holds the license
96 for the town for its spraying purposes. A license is required to spray regulated restricted pesticide
97 products. Mr. Crouch said the lawn maintenance crews that work near his home always bag and remove
98 the grass clippings. Limbs are stacked somewhere and the public works crew ends up picking them up.
99 In his opinion, the individuals are the ones that need the best practice education. Mr. Adair agreed it was
100 the homeowner and the smaller lawn maintenance companies that should be targeted for education.

101
102 Dr. Libes said the consortium had given education programs for property managers. People were
103 invited from all over the county. There were only about ten attending the last session. The purpose was
104 for the property managers to understand the very same issues that was discussed today. No time was
105 spent on ways for them to explain the issues to their homeowners or tenants.

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107 **11. COMMITTEE COMMENTS.**

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109 Chairman Elliott called for a recess at 1:14 p.m. so the clerk could get the calendar to schedule
110 the next meeting. Chairman Elliott called the meeting back to order at 1:17 p.m. After reviewing the
111 calendar, Chairman Elliott announced that the next workshop would be held Monday, September 19th at
112 12:00 noon to discuss preparations for the Family Festival being held October 1st.

Stormwater Committee Meeting
July 25, 2016

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There were no other committee comments.

12. ADJOURNMENT.

Mr. Beck moved to adjourn the meeting at 1:19 p.m. Mr. Mabry second. All voted in favor.

MOTION CARRIED.

Prepared and submitted by,

Debra E. Herrmann, CMC, Town Clerk

Approved: October 18, 2016

Sandra Elliott, Chairman

P. L. Mabry, Vice Chairman

Alan Beck, Committee Member

Ron Crouch, Committee Member

Tabitha Mull, Committee Member

Clerk's Note: This document constitutes summary minutes of the meeting that was digitally recorded, and 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 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 Town Council Chambers. Meeting notice was also posted on the town website at www.surfsidebeach.org and the marquee.



**STORMWATER COMMITTEE MEETING
SEPTEMBER 19, 2016 ♦ 12:00 P.M.
SURFSIDE BEACH TOWN COUNCIL CHAMBERS**

CALL TO ORDER. Chairman Elliott called the workshop to order at 12:00 o'clock p.m. Members present: Chairman Elliott, Vice Chairman Mabry, and members Beck, and Crouch. Member Mull was absent. A quorum was present. Others present: Town Clerk Herrmann, Public Works Director Adair, Events Supervisor Debbie Ellis, and CWSEC Coordinator Lisa Swanger.

WORKSHOP. Chairman Elliott explained that the workshop was called to finalize the plans for the Family Festival on Saturday, October 1st. Details are:

- Committee members will staff the tent beginning at 9:30 a.m. until 4:00 p.m.
- A banner will be posted "FLOOD & STORMWATER"
- Public Works will provide various handouts for the public, including magnets and a magnetic board upon which to display the magnets
- Coastal Waccamaw Watershed Education Consortium (CWSEC) will have interns manning a booth next door so the two groups can work together
- CWSEC will have display panels, a hands on flood plain model, and various information for the public
- CWSEC will bring "Simon" to meet and greet the public and provide photo opportunities
- Mr. Crouch will provide water and snacks for Simon
- CWSEC will provide dog waste bags that can be attached to a leash

DISCUSSION. Any items of Interest or Concern to Committee Members

Chairman Elliott asked Ms. Swanger which fertilizer was not supposed to be used in this area. Ms. Swanger said low or no phosphorus is desired, because high phosphorus occurs naturally in this area.

Chairman Elliott asked the clerk to contact Dr. Libes to determine a date for a public education session using the presentation "Reducing Runoff Pollutants in Your Home" before the end of October or at least before Thanksgiving on a week night starting between 5:30 and 7:00 p.m. Mr. Adair suggested a brief presentation on the town's stormwater infrastructure and system. The entire presentation should not last more than 45 minutes or an hour. A discussion ensued about including county residents, meeting room sizes, etc. Mr. Crouch said originally the plan was to have a presentation for just town residents. Another presentation can be scheduled at a later date to include Horry County staff and area residents. Ms. Swanger suggested collecting names and email addresses at the Family Festival from those who were interested in attending future workshops. The committee **CONCURRED**.

Mr. Bob Benson asked if the presentation "Reducing Runoff Pollutants in Your Home" was specific to this area. Ms. Swanger said yes, this was a generalized program that applied to any homeowner. Mr. Benson was more interested in what was going on in town, including the maintenance program, and how our system relates to the community on the other side of Highway 17. He believes a generic presentation would fail, because people are looking for ways to solve problems. Mr. Crouch said the residents need some basic understanding of what their part is before hearing about the county stormwater plans.

Chairman Elliott asked if Mr. Adair planned to take the councilmembers on the stormwater tour to view the infrastructure and see how the system worked. Mr. Adair said yes; the full council is seated now and that would be scheduled. There are many misconceptions about our stormwater system. It might be helpful to add some information to the web. Chairman Elliott asked if the public could be given the tour. Mr. Adair believed it would be more beneficial for citizens to attend the stormwater committee meetings and workshops to learn about stormwater.

Stormwater Committee Workshop
September 19, 2016

56 Mr. Adair said that the town is authorized by the state to discharge water into the ocean. A
57 grant funded the "Poop Fairy" magnets; a Poop Fairy sign is also on the garbage truck. An additional 100
58 drain markers were ordered to mark the drains. Mr. Crouch said we have a responsibility that includes
59 making sure that fecal matter does not pollute the water. He believed that was the basic information
60 that most people do not have. Mr. Adair repeated for the benefit of those attending the meeting, all of
61 this comes from the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). It is mandated under the
62 Clean Water Act of 1972 and is administered by the South Carolina Department of Health and
63 Environmental Control (SCDHEC) in South Carolina. We have to do to the maximum extent practicable,
64 which is an MEP, a catch-phrase for the industry, to discharge clean water into the ocean. Other
65 challenges exist through the delivery system that conveys the water to the ocean.
66

67 Chairman Elliott asked if the screen at the water park was part of that. Mr. Adair said yes, it is a
68 BMP, best management practice that is part of the water quality. Mr. Crouch said this is exactly the kind
69 of information that should be in his presentation for the public. Mr. Adair said locally things could
70 improve greatly by citizens changing their practices just a little bit.
71

72 Mayor Childs said the "snow birds" (senior adults that visit during the off season) are some of the
73 biggest offenders of picking up pet waste. I walk a couple of miles every morning. During the winter the
74 amount of pet waste triples. Maybe the realtors could be involved so they could notify their renters to
75 help them understand what we're trying to do. The snow birds are leaving pet waste on the sidewalk,
76 and I don't see that in the summer time as much as I do in the winter.
77

78 Mr. Adair said during last year's visioning process the need for a dedicated funding source to
79 repair the town's aging stormwater infrastructure was discussed. Town Council authorized a proposal for
80 an interim stormwater utility fee, which is in the final stages of preparation. The rain event on
81 September 2nd caused the Myrtle swash bulkhead to fail. Council authorized an emergency repair and the
82 contractor has already been contacted.
83

84 Chairman Elliott said it was stated at the last council meeting that the road would be closed. Mr.
85 Adair said there is a 40 or 50 year old wooden pile bridge that was built by the South Carolina
86 Department of Transportation when the boulevard was a state road. That bridge and the one at
87 Dogwood Swash were added to the list of priority improvements to be replaced. Town Council
88 authorized the engineering to get bidding process started for the bridge at Myrtle swash.
89

90 Mr. Mabry asked if the town considered any cost of maintenance or repairs when it took over
91 Ocean Boulevard. Mr. Adair said the town has assumed all maintenance responsibility for Ocean
92 Boulevard. Mr. Mabry asked why the town took over the road. Mr. Adair did not know, that was done
93 before he was hired. Mr. Mabry remembered that it was so the state would not have to be contacted to
94 close the road so the Christmas parade could be on it. The town took on a lot of responsibility, because
95 of a little bit of inconvenience.
96

97 Mr. Beck said we are dealing with a major cultural change of getting people to think about
98 managing stormwater; how to deal with grass clippings; dog waste, and feeding the animals. Fifty years
99 ago, people would turn their dogs out and let them go. About 20 years ago, leashes began being used.
100 The town has had a leash law for a long time. Picking up waste requires people to do something that is
101 not so pleasant. It's tough teaching old dogs new tricks. We've got a cultural change where people are
102 more "me" centered; I don't want to inconvenience myself, than community centered to think I have to
103 do this for my town, my county, or my area. That's a challenge that sometimes is helped by public
104 embarrassment. I think that is why many people have started picking up waste, because it's expected.
105 The more signs that are up the better, because it is more embarrassing to feed geese in front of a sign
106 that says don't feed the geese. That has helped at the lake near my house. I no longer see the lady
107 come by with a bag of bird seed feeding the animals. When I got the "Poop Fairy" magnet, I wondered if
108 I dared put it on my neighbor's door, who says, "I've never picked up after my dog, and I don't ever

Stormwater Committee Workshop
September 19, 2016

109 intend to." Mr. Beck said I may put in on my mailbox, because I find waste right next to it many times.
110 Gradually, I think things are getting better in our culture and in our society. As we keep advertising,
111 doing little things in Surfside will help. But it is not going to happen overnight. He believed the sense of
112 community in town helped with participation as much as anything; it should continue to be promoted.
113

114 A discussion ensued about sign placement and verbiage; offenses that occur, and various tools
115 that are used, like signs on the garbage truck; habits of snow birds; educational opportunities; bio-
116 degradable dog waste bags, and stormwater management via treatment plants versus ocean discharge.
117

118 Mr. Mabry said about 25 years ago, Mr. John Tellet came to the podium during a meeting and
119 demonstrated how to use plastic bags to pick up dog waste. He made it very simple, and I for one, had
120 never thought of that.
121

122 **ADJOURNMENT.** Chairman Elliott declared the workshop adjourned at 1:03 .m.
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124 Prepared and submitted by,
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Debra E. Herrmann, CMC, Town Clerk

129 Approved: October 18, 2016
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Sandra Elliott, Chairman
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P. L. Mabry, Vice Chairman
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Alan Beck, Committee Member
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147 and the marquee.

State of South Carolina)
County of Horry)
Town of Surfside Beach)

*Resolution of the
Stormwater Committee
To Support Funding and ERU*

Whereas, the Surfside Beach Stormwater Committee met on January 17, 2017;
and

Whereas, the Town of Surfside Beach has six upcoming or on-going stormwater projects, the estimated costs for which is \$3,450,000, and will always have stormwater projects and/or repairs to be made. The projects are Phase II North Side Drainage Project \$900,000; Myrtle Swash Northern Bulkhead (underway now) \$200,000; Floral Swash Bulkheads \$350,000; Dogwood Swash Bridge Replacement \$450,000; Myrtle Swash, Bridge Replacement and west-side swash permitting and re-engineering, \$550,000; Elimination of discharge into Garden City in the Melody Basin, \$1,000,000;
and

Whereas, Town Council authorized a study to determine a Equivalent Residential Unit (ERU) as a means to fund stormwater projects and repairs; and

Whereas, The Committee supports an ERU to fund stormwater projects and repairs.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Surfside Beach Stormwater Committee hereby recommends to the Surfside Beach Town Council to adopt an Equivalent Residential Unit (ERU) at such amount that is fair and equitable to the town's citizens and businesses.

BE IT SO RESOLVED this 17th day of January 2017.

Sandra Elliott, Chairman

P. L. Mabry, Vice Chairman

Alan Beck, Committee Member

Ron Crouch, Committee Member

Tabitha Mull, Committee Member

Attest:

Debra E. Herrmann, CMC, Town Clerk