



**STORMWATER COMMITTEE MEETING
JANUARY 16, 2018 ♦ 1:00 o'clock p.m.
Surfside Beach Town Council Chambers**

1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25
26
27
28
29
30
31
32
33
34
35
36
37
38
39
40
41
42
43
44
45
46
47
48
49
50
51
52
53
54
55
56
57
58

1. CALL TO ORDER. Chairman Elliott called the meeting to order at 1:00 o'clock p.m. Chairman Elliott, Vice Chairman Mull, and Members Beck, Mabry, and Mask were present. 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. Mask moved to approve the agenda. Ms. Mull second. All voted in favor. **MOTION CARRIED.**

4. MINUTES APPROVAL. Mr. Beck moved to approve the minutes of the November 13, 2017 meeting as submitted. Mr. Mask second. All voted in favor. **MOTION CARRIED.**

5. OFFICER ELECTION.

A. Chairman. Mr. Mask moved to elect Ms. Elliott to serve as chairman. Ms. Mull second. All voted in favor. **MOTION CARRIED.**

B. Vice Chairman. Ms. Mull moved to elect Mr. Mask to serve as vice chairman. Mr. Beck second. All voted in favor. **MOTION CARRIED.**

6. PUBLIC COMMENTS – Agenda Items. There were no public comments.

7. COMMUNICATION & EDUCATION.

A. CWSEC COORDINATOR LISA SWANGER. No report.

B. DR. SUSAN LIBES, COASTAL CAROLINA UNIVERSITY. Dr. Libes said that on February 10 the Annual Waccamaw River Keeper Conference will be held at the Horry County Museum. The committee members were invited to attend. The town's water quality testers will attend. Because a water quality quarterly update was recently given, another report was not prepared for this meeting. We've had another method challenge with the bacteria media (plates) that I was able to resolve with the manufacturer. This is a family owned company that holds the patent and makes product. So, I'm on a first name basis with him, courtesy of all the method issues we have worked through in the past. He was very apologetic. All new plates will be checked at CCU before going out to the volunteers for field work. We've been using those products for 10 years, and never saw this before. There was a film on the plates that made them unusable. The manufacturer acknowledged the problem; apologized profusely, and promised free replacement. Therefore, unfortunately the data collected from the last sampling is not usable.

C. PUBLIC WORKS, DIRECTOR ADAIR. Mr. Adair reported that staff is performing winter cleaning of ditches and catch basins to ensure proper flow of stormwater capacity. The bathymetric study of our lakes to determine sediment levels and carrying capacity had to be rescheduled, because the contractor's equipment was down. The Myrtle Swash Bridge construction project was awarded to R. H. Moore at a special Town Council meeting on December 22nd. The Rural Infrastructure Authority granted the town \$500,000 for that project. That will be completed before the summer season. Bids will soon be let for 3rd Avenue South (the 'Promenade'), between Highway 17 and Poplar Drive, business district improvements to mirror Surfside Drive, and also upgraded drainage will be installed. The town was awarded a \$100,000 grant for the Promenade from Horry County, and \$225,000 was received from County Transportation Committee (CTC), which covers about two-thirds of the cost, and the remainder is in the current budget. I'm attending a class at the National Hurricane Center in Miami to learn about the Hurricane Evacuation System, which helps local decision-makers during hurricane evacuations and to more accurately time arrival of approaching storms. The Army Corps of Engineers has agreed to replenish the sand that was lost due to Hurricane Irma. The rerouting of drainage into the Garden City/Murrells Inlet basin is a very low budget priority and remains unfunded. We include that in our priority plan, because it would be beneficial to the town in the long run not to drain into the Murrells Inlet watershed, because they have some TDML (total daily

59 maximum load) issues and chronic pollution issues in the Murrells Inlet estuary. We only contribute about 20 acres
60 from Surfside Beach. It would nice send all the town's storm drainage to 13th Avenue South. The project will cost
61 around \$1 million. Chairman Elliott asked if the committee should present with another utility fee resolution to
62 Town Council after the election. Mr. Adair said the vision meeting is soon, and I will find out if council has any
63 interest in moving forward with a utility fee. Currently two mils of your property tax revenue go towards stormwater
64 maintenance, which is roughly \$120,000 a year. That barely covers the operating costs. There are several expensive
65 projects we anticipate over the next five to ten years. There is no guarantee that grants will be awarded. Mr. Mask
66 asked if the recyclable dog waste bags were under the committee's purview. Mr. Adair said the dog waste bags
67 being used are biodegradable. The problem is that a biodegradable product has to be exposed to the elements to
68 break down; it won't break down if it's buried in the landfill. Mr. Mask asked if they would break down in the
69 ocean. Mr. Adair said he believed so. New dispensers and bags will be installed for the bags on the beach, because
70 they are not biodegradable.

71
72 **6. BUSINESS.**

73
74 **A. March Festival (20 second hook to the booth), and work schedule.** The committee discussed festival
75 preparations for about 30 minutes and decided to hold a workshop on February 25th to make final preparations.
76

77 *Ms. Mull was excused from the meeting at 1:51 p.m. due to an emergency.*

78
79 **B. Educational Seminar for April 9, how to get the public involved.**

80
81 The committee discussed the seminar for about 15 minutes, during which they decided to use the same
82 presentation prepared for last fall's seminar, which was cancelled due to Hurricane Matthew, and change it to an
83 Easter theme; possible venues and times during which people might be more willing to attend.
84

85 *Dr. Libes was excused at 2:15 p.m., because she had a class at 3:00 p.m.*

86
87 **9. DISCUSSION. Any items of Interest or Concern to Committee Members.**

88
89 Mr. Mask asked if there are lists of all the things that we spend money on, and our objectives and activities
90 for the year. Mr. Adair said no, the Consortium has an annual schedule for educational programs, and as a part of the
91 Consortium, the town, as an MS4, gets credit in Categories 1 and 2, for all that they do all around the county. As far
92 as public works, there are operational events done like lake cleaning, and daily checks of the outfalls to ensure
93 nothing is blocked, and other maintenance actions. The committee's activities have revolved around the big festivals
94 for the past few years. That's the biggest opportunity to capture people.
95

96 A discussion was held about the 2017 Vision Meeting capital projects list that includes:

97
98

Priority	Description	Estimated Cost	Status
99 1	Myrtle Swash – Replace Ocean Boulevard Culvert Bridge	\$550,000	Starts this Spring
100 2	Phase II North Side Drainage Project	\$700,000	Deferred
101 3	Dogwood Swash – Replace Ocean Boulevard Culvert Bridge	\$550,000	Deferred
102 4	Floral Swash – New Northern Bulkhead	\$200,000	Deferred
103 5	Melody Basin – Eliminate Discharge into Garden City	\$1,000,000	Deferred

104

105 Mr. Adair is taking the new councilmembers on a field trip of the town's drainage system. The commission
106 discussed an annual field trip to keep all councilmembers and the members informed about projects. Ms. Swanger
107 and Dr. Libes would be invited.
108

109 Mr. Mask showed a handbook from another town, and asked if there is any type of stormwater handbook
110 for citizens. Mr. Adair said he would look into it; funding and staffing might be an issue. The town has several
111 pamphlets, and information is on the town's website. Mr. Mask said anytime an individual could get a list of
112 checkpoints, it helps.
113
114

115
116
117
118
119
120
121
122
123
124
125
126
127
128
129
130
131
132
133
134
135
136
137
138
139
140
141
142
143
144
145
146
147
148
149
150
151
152
153
154
155
156
157
158
159
160
161
162
163
164
165

10. PUBLIC COMMENTS.

Ms. Melanie Mask said when Mr. Mask was appointed to this committee, I asked him if he had a graphic of the system, so that I can just see where it is and what it does. Mr. Adair said there is a map of all the town lakes, but it doesn't show every stormwater connection. Ms. Mask suggested using the town street map and red lining the stormwater function; it would be beneficial and let homeowners know there are stormwater functions on their property. People still think lakes and swashes are polluted; there's much education that needs to be done. I'm an outsider who's just learning, and I need it simplified in layman's language. To see that stormwater systems are everywhere in our town is really helpful to me. Mr. Adair said it would be difficult to do on one map; it would be huge. The town is broken into 12 maps for stormwater maintenance purposes. The map used for the field trip is broken down by watershed.

11. COMMITTEE COMMENTS.

Mr. Mabry said he appreciated Ms. Mask's interest, because in his opinion, many councilmembers were unconcerned about these stormwater issues. Mr. Adair said there were varying opinions even when staff cleaned ditches; on the same block some residents thanked them, while others complained that a mess was being made.

Mr. Mask agreed with Mr. Mabry that educating Town Council was a priority in terms of getting these projects done.

Ms. Elliott said councilmembers were invited to attend the meetings many times, and the mayor came to the education seminar.

12. ADJOURNMENT. Mr. Mask moved to adjourn the meeting at 2:35 p.m. Mr. Beck second. All voted in favor. **MOTION CARRIED.**

Respectfully submitted,

Debra E. Herrmann, CMC, Town Clerk

Approved: August ____, 2018

Sandra Elliott, Chairman

Ron Mask, Vice Chairman

Alan Beck, Committee Member

P. L. Mabry, 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.