A lot of exciting things are happening in our Town. First, the town Council voted to purchase the Surfside Beach Pier through an enterprise fund. This means that property tax revenue will NOT be used to purchase and operate the pier. Our annual “End of Summer” celebration, featuring “The Catalinas” on Labor Day weekend in the pier parking lot, will help us kick off our ownership transfer of the pier.

Another project that is on track is the new Surfside Beach Fire Station proposal. Staff has taken the architect’s recommendation and reworked the plan resulting in a less costly building. The Town will now be able to afford the fire station without raising taxes or bonding out the project. This will be the first building in the new town complex.

Lake dredging has started and as of the writing of this newsletter Cherry Lake is one week from being finished. The dredging com-

(Continued on page 5)

From the Clerk

We have had a busy year with many new and exciting things going on for our beautiful town.

On April 8th we had our Town Municipal Election which resulted in a run-off held April 22nd. We had a great turnout and a lot of dedicated residents who volunteered to help out at the polls. We thank each volunteer for their assistance in both of the elections. The Election resulted in some new members being added to our Council. Our newly elected officials are Mayor Allen Deaton and Council members Vicki Blair, Bob Childs and Mark Johnson. We congratulate each new member and look forward to continuing to move ahead in a positive direction.

The town has a newly established Beautification Committee which acts as an advisory board under the Planning & Zoning Commission. They have some wonderful ideas for the town which could include a new look for Surfside Drive with pavers and new trees and flowers, a beautified new landscape design for our median on Business 17 and possibly some new entrance features to our town. These and many more ideas are being discussed and will be presented to the public and Council at some point in the near future.
Business, citizens and local government need one another, but we do not always appreciate one another. When that is true, there is often a lack of communication. This information will help you understand when business licenses and permits are required and when you may need to call us for more information.

Any type of business that is opening or offering services within the town limits is required to have a business license issued by Surfside Beach Finance Department.

Q: When is a business license required?
A: Any type of business that is opening or offering services within the town limits is required to have a business license issued by Surfside Beach. For license rates and requirements, please contact the Finance Department at 843-913-6342. Contractors must also possess valid state of SC licenses for their trade.

Q: Under what circumstances is a building permit needed?
A: Before you can construct a new building, add on to an existing building, demolish, alter, make other than ordinary minor repairs or perform electrical, plumbing, heating or air conditioning work you will need to obtain a permit. Always check before proceeding with any construction or repair activity.

Q: Do I need to be concerned with flood plain management and high wind building requirements?
A: Yes, whether you build or alter, FEMA flood plain regulations and hurricane/wind construction requirements will have an impact on your construction. Obtaining and maintaining certain types of insurance is dependant on meeting these requirements. The town does have flood hazard areas and is in the National Flood Insurance Program.

Q: Do all new structures and additions to existing ones require storm-water runoff control measures?
A: Yes, all new commercial construction and additions, as well as residential construction in the R-1 (if you exceed 40% impervious coverage), R-2 and R-3 zoning districts, will require storm-water runoff control measures.

Q: Who handles water and sewer service within the town limits?
A: Water and sewer services are provided by Grand Strand Water and Sewer Authority. For water and sewer information call 843-443-8200 or 443-8202.

Q: Does Surfside Beach have restrictions for zoning with regard to parking, land use, setbacks, etc.?
A: Yes, make sure the type of business or type of structure you want to build is permitted in the area of town where you want to place it. Businesses or residences in different Zoning...
Districts are subject to different yard setbacks, parking requirements, density limits, height restrictions, landscaping and sign requirements.

Q: Do storage buildings, swimming pools, fences, etc. require permits and inspections?
A: No, all types of accessory uses are regulated by setbacks, location and size requirements. Permits and inspections are required for certain accessory uses and you should always check with the building department before proceeding.

Q: Are signs, outdoor displays and banners regulated by the town?
A: Yes, our sign ordinance regulates the type, size, number, height & location of all types of signs. Permit is required for permanent or temporary signs. The display of certain types of merchandise outside of any building is prohibited except with a permit for limited special events. Special permits are required for these and other types of conditional uses.

Q: Is landscaping required for all buildings and do I need a permit to cut down trees?
A: Yes, our tree protection ordinance requires that an inspection be done and a permit be obtained before cutting down a tree. Call 843-913-6341 to arrange for an inspection of any trees. In addition, minimum areas of landscaping are required around all businesses and residences.

Q: Can I keep old vehicles or “junk” in my yard?
A: In residentially zoned districts, storage of “junk” or unlicensed vehicles, in plain sight, and dereliction of property are prohibited. Commercial vehicles larger than a standard van are also prohibited from overnight parking.

Q: Can I construct or develop property on the beachfront?
A: Our Shore Protection Ordinance protects the beachfront sand dunes and limits development activity seaward of a shore protection line along the oceanfront. Permits are required for any development, construction or disturbing activities in this area.

Q: Are there public street right of ways in place?
A: Yes, encroachment of landscape shrubbery, fences or other hard structures into public easements is prohibited.

Q: Where can I obtain information on waste management and recycling?
A: For information on containerization, collection schedules, yard debris, old appliances & demolition debris, call the Sanitation Department at 843-913-6360.

The Building and Zoning Department is always available to assist Residents and Contractors. Call or visit our offices with any questions. Contractor permits are issued from 8:00 AM to 1:00 PM. Our Code of Ordinances is available online at: www.surfsidebeach.org.

Our tree protection ordinance requires that an inspection be done and a permit be obtained before cutting down a tree. Call 843-913-6341 to arrange for an inspection.

“Businesses or residences in different Zoning Districts are subject to different yard setbacks, parking requirements, density limits, height restrictions, landscaping and sign requirements.”
New Victim’s Advocate

I am excited and grateful to be given the opportunity to work as the Victim Advocate for Surfside Beach. I plan to continue to enhance the victim services we provide for the community and to grow as the town grows. I have had an interest in law enforcement for as long as I can remember. As a graduate from Kent State University in Criminal Justice Studies along with two years of experience in Social Services at the Harrison County Department of Job and Family Services in Ohio, I feel I am bringing an experienced outlook to this program and hope to be able to achieve my goal to take it even one step further. Also, as a wife and mother, I understand the necessity of living in a safe neighborhood where you can feel confident in knowing there is someone who cares.

I will do my best to serve the victims of Surfside Beach and let each and every one of them know I am here to help. I look forward to working as the Victim Advocate for Surfside and being part of a great town.

Volunteers Needed

Volunteers are needed for various committees and projects in town, if interested please contact the Town Clerk, Sharon Pinnell at 843-913-633.

Business License Renewals and Requirements

Under the Town of Surfside Beach Code of Ordinances every person engaged or intending to engage in any activity with the object of gain, benefit or advantage is required to pay an annual license fee and obtain a business license. According to the Ordinance any business or individual furnishing short or long-term rental space for a fee is considered a business and is therefore, required to obtain a license based upon the gross receipts from such rental.

A separate license is required for each location. License period runs from June 1st through May 31st.

Congratulations to Sharon Leahey, who was recently awarded the accreditation in business licensing (ABL). The requirement included completing a 3 year training program and passing the ABL exam.

For the fiscal year 3/31/2007 - 3/31/2008 3,242 business licenses were purchased which afforded us $817,444 in total revenue.
Although the town is only 4 months into this year’s budget, we are currently working on next year’s. To that end I am putting together for presentation a base budget which looks at the needs and necessary enhancements rather than just adding the inflation rate to the current one.

The Council has earmarked $150,000 for beautification projects in town. The new budget also includes increased provisions for the maintenance of our beach.

In April, the Town Council selected Mr. Ty Taylor as the new Director of Public Works. Mr. Taylor was formerly a Superintendent of Public Works for the Town of Ayden in North Carolina. In his former position, Mr. Taylor was in charge of the town streets, sanitation, mosquito control, cemeteries, storm-water, right of ways and paving and cutting contracts. He has been in construction since the age of 15 and holds a certified license in pesticide application. We welcome Mr. Taylor who is proving to be a great addition to the town staff.

Another addition to our staff is Valerie Riley who joined us on March 4. She serves our Town Court as Deputy Clerk of Court/Ministerial Recorder. Valerie Wentz, our Associate Judge and Clerk of Court, is especially delighted to have Ms. Riley working with her as she brings many years of valuable experience from both the Municipal and Magistrate Courts with her.

We also extend congratulations to Mike Lewis for his newly attained Adjunct Instructor status from the SC Fire Academy. Firefighter’s who have been granted this status are able to give instruction in fire departments throughout our region.

On a personal note, I have heard from a few of the Surfside residents that they feel the Administrator should live in town. I am a private individual but for the record, I do live in town. I have resided on Lake View Drive for some time now.

As always, if you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Phone: 843-913-6111
Email: ebooth@surfsidebeach.org

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Public Works: Recycling Update

The new MRF (Material Recycling Facility) is now fully operational. Director Ty Taylor and Executive Assistant Joan Saleem attended the Grand Opening ceremonies and were treated to a tour of the new facility on April 29. This new state of the art recycling center is very impressive. Crews have delivered over 2100 of the new blue recycle carts throughout town. We have seen an increase in our recycling collection to more than double the amount collected in the blue bags. On the average we were collecting about 25.5 tons of recycling materials per month. In April of this year we collected 31.48 tons, compared to 24.41 tons in April 2007. In May of this year we collected 38.26 tons of recyclable materials compared to 28.70 tons in May of 2007. All of this results in not only reduced tipping fees for us at the landfill but more importantly less tonnage that goes into the landfill as well as more materials available for recycling.

Summer Sanitation

Our summer sanitation collections begin at 6 a.m. Please make certain that your moby and/or recycle carts are curbside by 6:00 a.m. on your scheduled day of collection. The three times a week collection continues until Sunday, September 7.

There will be trash collection on Monday, September 1.

Public Works: Streets and Drainage

50/50 Program: During the fall and winter months crews completed thirty-two 50/50 projects throughout town. The program has been suspended during the summer months but will resume in the fall. Applications are still being accepted and will be considered based on the date received when the project resumes. Applications are available at Town Hall or at Public Works.

Lakes: Cooper Sand & Gravel continues dredging Cherry Lake. They are on schedule and will move to Floral Lake next. Environmental Testing Services is testing and monitoring the lakes so that we can document the water quality before, during, and after dredging. Estate Management continues to treat the other lakes every other week.

14th Avenue South Underground Utilities: Project is underway. Bids are going out for an electrician.

Landscape/Maintenance: Crews have been busy mowing, weeding, and cleaning town properties and parking areas. Flowers have been planted along several of the islands. Ditch cleaning and maintenance is ongoing. Town signs and street signs have been repainted or will be replaced.
Upcoming Recreation Registrations

Birth certificates are required for all players and must be presented at the time of registration. Players must play within their age category (no exceptions). Please also note that upper weight limitations have been imposed for football in an effort to minimize the opportunity of player injury.

Football Registration
- Saturday 8/16/08
- Ages 7-12
- 8:00 a.m. until full
- $25.00 resident registration fee - Must show proof of residency ($75.00 non-resident)
- All ages as of November 15, 2008
- Players must play within their age limit
- Registration location: Dick M. Johnson Civic Center
  - Ages 7-8 - 90 lb. weight limit
  - Ages 9-10 - 135 lb. weight limit
  - Ages 11-12 - 150 lb. weight limit

Basketball Registration
- Saturday 11/08/08
- Ages 10 - 17
- 8:00 a.m. until full
- $25.00 resident registration fee - Must show proof of residency ($75.00 non-resident)
- All ages as of February 28, 2008
- Players must play within their age limit
- Registration location: Dick M. Johnson Civic Center

Public Safety

We have been very busy so far this year. From January 01-2008 thru June 30-2008 Law Enforcement has responded to and/or handled 8238 incidents and have made 2237 courtesy and incustody arrests. In June we endured a whole new set of challenges including the influx of thousands of high school seniors embarking on their celebratory vacation in relation to graduation from school. We also enjoyed a very busy July 4th Independence Day celebration and look forward to the remaining summer weeks leading up to the usual Labor Day blowout.

Surfside Beach Officers have worked diligently to provide the highest quality of professional services throughout these busy times. We will continue to promote the Town of Surfside Beach and combat criminal activity in an effort to make our home as safe and enjoyable as possible.

In continuing to “think outside the box” we are considering utilizing one of our already assigned police officer positions to create a “Community Policing/Services Officer”. This assignment would afford us the ability to have one specific officer assigned to be on bike patrol, utilize a police golf cart and business district foot patrols, etc.. Simply put, we are looking for ways to conserve fuel, while at the same time take advantage of the community policing philosophy and getting more involved in a proactive manner with the business owners as well as the residents within our town. This Officer would not only be a representative of our department but also an ambassador for the entire Town of Surfside Beach.

We look forward to the remainder of the summer season.

“We will continue to promote the Town of Surfside Beach and combat criminal activity in an effort to make our home as safe and enjoyable as possible.”

In continuing to “think outside the box” we are considering utilizing one of our already assigned police officer positions to create a “Community Policing/Services Officer”.
Surfside Bans Biker Vendors for Two Years

By Aliana Ramos
Reprinted from the Myrtle Beach Sun News (July 10, 2008)

Temporary motorcycle event vendors are now banned for two years from Surfside Beach during May’s annual biker rallies, after Town Council on Tuesday approved a moratorium.

The action comes on the heels of Myrtle Beach’s aggressive campaign to end the rallies that attract thousands of motorcycle enthusiasts to the area each year.

The ban in Surfside Beach is intended to protect residents from the traffic congestion and noise pollution that plague the area each May as thousands of motorcyclists travel to the Grand Strand, Mayor K. Allen Deaton said.

"We're overwhelmed during the biker weeks. What happens is the gridlock on [U.S. 17 S. business] and Ocean Boulevard creates a problem for people trying to leave their neighborhoods. Our tourism area is only about three blocks wide. When [bikers] venture out of that three-block area, they are basically in our neighborhoods. Noise is the major problem," Deaton said.

As a result of the moratorium, the town will lose about $4,500 in vendor permit fees. Deaton said the town spends more money on overtime and public safety than it brings in from the permits. The town issued eight vendor permits, five tent permits and 12 banner permits last year, Town Clerk Sharon Pinnell said.

Deaton recognizes the number of permits issued is not large, but said it will help to relieve some of the congestion off of its major tourists roads.

"Our attitude is not to eliminate the Harley-Davidson rally. It's to control it," he said.

Surfside Beach and Myrtle Beach are both part of the Coastal Alliance and agreed during a recent meeting that the bike rallies were a problem.

Surfside Beach decided to move forward on its own, but the city of Myrtle Beach plans to ask Horry County and North Myrtle Beach to join in and take action to restrict vendor activity during the rallies, said City Manager Tom Leath.

A meeting of the Grand Strand Coastal Alliance for all governments affected by the bike rallies is tentatively scheduled for August to create a plan, Leath said.

"I think the city will be pleased that the Town of Surfside Beach has taken this action," Leath said. Taking away licenses "itself will not curtail all activities, but it's a step in the right direction."

The city's council members have also passed first reading to change the city's OZ-50 zoning so vending permits cannot be issued in May. OZ-50 covers the Myrtle Beach Convention Center and Broadway at the Beach, two spots that in years past have drawn motorcycle-related vending, Leath said.

Despite protests from some businesses that the rallies provide an economic boon to the area, Myrtle Beach passed a 3-mill property tax increase on June 17 to dedicate to an anti-bike rally campaign.

The city started its efforts in response to residents' complaints about increased crime and traffic congestion. The city spends an extra $300,000 or so each year on the bike rallies, between additional law enforcement, overtime, trash clean-up and other services, city spokesman Mark Kruea said.
Town Votes to Buy Pier in Surfside

By Aliana Ramos
Reprinted from the Myrtle Beach Sun News (June 25, 2008)

Town officials have decided to buy the Surfside Beach pier from Scalise Development for $2.5 million.

Town Council approved a resolution Tuesday to reallocate $900,000 in accommodations tax dollars from beach renourishment funds to be used for the pier purchase. The town used federal money to pay for beach renourishment, leaving accommodations tax money available to go toward buying the pier, Mayor K. Allen Deaton said.

The remaining $1.6 million for the pier is expected to come from enterprise funds, which includes money the town collects through parking meters and leases on property it holds, Deaton said.

The deal to buy the pier was made several weeks ago and will not be finalized until the end of September. Tuesday's actions approved the funding mechanism for the pier purchase.

"The pier is a landmark in Surfside Beach. I think the residents are really excited about this," said Councilman Bob Childs.

Surfside Pier was originally built in 1953. It has been rebuilt at least three times.

Town Directory

Phone Numbers:
Dial 911 for all emergency, fire, rescue, or police calls!
843-913-6111 Town Hall-Main Number
843-238-5432 Town Hall-Fax Number
843-913-6342 Business Licensing
843-913-6111 Building-Planning-Zoning Department
843-650-6111 DM Johnson Civic Center
843-913-6336 Finance
843-913-6337 Municipal Court
843-650-4131 Parks & Recreation
843-913-6369 Public Safety-Fire (non-emergency)
843-913-6368 Public Safety-Police (non-emergency)
843-913-6360 Public Works
843-650-9548 Special Events Coordinator

Web Address: www.surfsidebeach.org

E-Mail Addresses:
General Mailbox: town@surfsidebeach.org
Administrator: ebooth@surfsidebeach.org
Town Clerk: spinnell@surfsidebeach.org
Finance: khursey@surfsidebeach.org
Building Department: building@surfsidebeach.org
Public Safety Director: achristenson@surfsidebeach.org
Public Works: publicworks@surfsidebeach.org
Parks & Recreation: recreation@surfsidebeach.org

Finance

The Town of Surfside Beach’s Finance Department now consists of five full-time employees. Please do not hesitate to contact us when you need more information or have questions regarding our department.

- Finance Officer
  Kim Hursey
- Payroll Accountant
  Kathy Blair
- Accts. Payable Accountant
  Tammy Gardner
- Business License Inspector
  Sharon Leahey
- Business Licenses
  Angie Mangan

$1.6 million (of the total $2.5 million) ... is expected to come from enterprise funds, which includes money the town collects through parking meters and leases on property it holds..."
Hurricane Preparedness Tips from Our Fire Chief

Before a Hurricane

- Gather disaster supplies and create a basic supplies kit, which you can use at home or take, if you evacuate. Include ...
  - “2008 South Carolina Hurricane Guide”
  - Non-perishable food (including canned goods)
  - Drinking water (two quarts per person per day)
  - Flashlights, extra batteries, and bulbs
  - Battery-powered AM/FM or hand crank radio and NOAA weather radio with extra batteries
  - First-aid kit and manual
  - Non-electric can opener
  - Essential medicines, including prescriptions
  - Sturdy shoes
  - Baby supplies (including baby food and diapers)
  - Games and books
  - Fire extinguisher
  - Important documents (insurance policies, family records, photo identification, important telephone numbers, tax records, bank information)
  - Toiletries and other personal hygiene items
  - Cash and credit cards
  - Road maps
  - Jumper cables
  - Tire repair kit

- If you live in a vulnerable area be prepared.
  - Plan an evacuation route and learn the locations of official shelters
  - Be prepared to drive at least 20 to 50 miles to locate a safe place.
  - Make arrangements for pets. (Pets are not allowed in most official shelters.)
  - Fuel up family vehicles and service them.
  - Bring inside or otherwise secure all outdoor items.
  - Turn off gas, electricity, and water.
  - Stay tuned to your local television and radio stations for emergency information.

During a Hurricane

- Stay tuned to your local television and radio stations for emergency information.
- Stay inside a well-constructed building away from windows and doors, even if they are covered. Go to an interior first-floor room, basement, closet, or under the stairs.
- Be alert. Tornadoes are often spawned during hurricanes.
- If the “eye” of the storm passes over your area, be aware that severe conditions will return with winds from the other direction in a very short time.

After a Hurricane

- Wait until an area is declared safe before entering. Roads may be closed for your protection. Do not drive in flooded areas.
- Check gas, water, electrical lines and appliances for damage.
- Avoid using candles and other open flames indoors. Use a flashlight to inspect damage.
- Report life-threatening emergencies only.
**August 2008**

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Regular Town Council Meetings are held the 2nd and 4th Tuesdays of each month at 6:30 p.m. in Council Chambers. Unless otherwise announced, the public is invited to attend.

K. Allen Deaton, Mayor  
Term: 05/13/2008 to 05/08/2012  
Phone: 843-222-2652 or 843-913-6330  
Email: AllenDeaton@surfsidebeach.org

James S. Truett, Mayor Pro Tem  
Term: 05/09/2006 to 05/11/2010  
Email: SammyTruett@surfsidebeach.org

Vicki Blair, Town Council  
Term: 05/13/2008 to 05/08/2012  
Email: VickiBlair@surfsidebeach.org

Joseph P. Martin, Town Council  
Term: 05/09/2006 to 05/11/2010  
Email: JoeMartin@surfsidebeach.org

Bob Childs, Town Council  
Term: 05/13/2008 to 05/08/2012  
Email: BobChilds@surfsidebeach.org

Douglas F. Samples, Town Council  
Term: 05/09/2006 to 05/11/2010  
Email: DougSamples@surfsidebeach.org

Mark L. Johnson, Town Council  
Term: 05/13/2008 to 05/08/2012  
Email: MarkJohnson@surfsidebeach.org