A Message from Mayor Childs

Did you know there are over 70 volunteers serving you on various boards, commissions and committees? The Town of Surfside Beach has six statutory (i.e., required by SC Code) committees: Accommodations Tax; Board of Zoning Appeals; Construction Board of Adjustments and Appeals; Municipal Election Commission; Planning and Zoning Commission, and Stormwater Committee. There is also an Historical Society, and four ad hoc committees: Business Committee; Keep Surfside Beach Beautiful; Parking Committee, and Ralph Magliette Senior Citizens Committee. One resident also represents the Town on the Grand Strand Water and Sewer Advisory Board. Without citizens’ participation, the town could not comply with legal mandates or provide the myriad of services and events that it does.

This issue’s article is going to address the stormwater committee, which is vital for compliance with the Federal Clean Water Act.

Many citizens may not realize our lakes and streams allow stormwater passing through the system to filter and enter the ocean cleaned of most sediment and debris. The town’s Public Works Department, the Stormwater Committee members, and a group of trained volunteers monitor our lake water every other week for such things as bacteria, dissolved oxygen, suspended solids and nitrogen nutrients. Silt runoff from construction sites upstream affect nitrogen levels; excrement from waterfowl and animals contribute to high bacteria, and excess fertilization of your lawn can wash into the stormwater system adding nitrogen nutrients.

(Continued on page 2)
Events at the Family Beach

January 2018

Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday, January 15

February 2018 - no events/holidays

March 2018

Anything but Butts Challenge, Friday, March 9
BBQ Festival, Saturday, March 10
Good Friday Holiday, Friday, March 30
Easter Egg Hunt & Kids Fair, Saturday, March 31, 1:00 to 4:00 p.m., 10 & under

April 2018

Sunrise Service at the Pier, Sunday April 1, 6:00 a.m.
Pet Fair, Saturday, April 21, 9:00 to 12 noon at Barc Park

May 2018

Memorial Day Golf Cart Parade, Sunday, May 27, 1:00 p.m., meet at 17th Avenue North
Memorial Day Cookout, Sunday, May 27, 4:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. Surfside Drive
Memorial Day Service, Monday, May 28, 2:00 p.m., Veterans Memorial
Sunday Serenades, May 27th, 2:00 to 4:00 p.m., Passive Park

Mayor’s Message … continued

The twice monthly water monitoring program has been ongoing for about seven years, and is performed by volunteers. During that time there have been instances when high counts were found. Subsequently, an upstream cause was identified and corrected by Horry County and/or developers. You can see reports for the water quality monitoring at http://www.surfsidebeach.org/stormwater-committee. Replacement of the bridge at Myrtle Swash between 4th and 5th Avenue North will begin soon. Town Council awarded the bid in a special meeting held December 22nd. Be prepared for detours during the construction process, which should be completed in less than 90 days.

A bathymetric study is being undertaken on the town’s larger lakes. This study maps the topography of the lake bed and measures the volume of water in the lakes. This is important information that will help us know when it is time for lake dredging.

The stormwater committee hosts two free annual education seminars for the public. The next one is on April 9, 2018 at 6:00 p.m. in council chambers. Don’t miss this chance to learn how you can help through hands-on exhibits. The committee members and professionals will be there to answer your questions and give you advice about managing stormwater.

The committee’s function is to develop complimentary strategies for managing the town’s stormwater systems through public education, outreach, and participation.

To learn more about the stormwater committee and its function, please visit www.surfsidebeach.org/stormwater.

Robert F. “Bob” Childs, III
Candidate Filing Opened January 8, 2017

PUBLIC NOTICE

Candidate filing opened Monday, January 8, and closes Friday, January 12. Hours are 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. daily to file as a candidate for the April 3, 2018 General Election to elect three Town Councilmembers.

Candidates must be at least 18 years of age; registered electors, and town residents for at least 30 days.

Filing fee for Town Council is $25. Walk-in candidates are welcomed between 9:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. while filing is open or by appointment. After hours appointments are available when made in advance.

Polls open at 7:00 a.m. and close at 7:00 p.m. on Election Day. This is a nonpartisan election and no reference to party affiliation will be placed on the ballot.

The term of office begins May 8, 2018 and ends May 10, 2022. For more information, or to schedule a filing appointment, call Town Clerk, Debra Herrmann, 843.913.6333 or send an email to dherrmann@surfsidebeach.org.

Candidates must provide a valid SC Driver’s License or other State issued photo ID; voter registration card, and cash or check for the filing fee.

Also visit: www.surfsidebeach.org/elections-commission.

Last date to register to vote in this election is Friday, March 2, 2018. Surfside Beach electors must present a valid photo identification pursuant to South Carolina Code §7-13-710. Contact Horry County Board of Voter Registration (843) 915.5440 or visit www.scvotes.org to register.

Yard of the Month

Congratulations Terry & Gloria Roop, winners of the October 2017 Yard of the Month.

Yard of the Month is awarded from March through October. Send your nominations for Yard of the Month to the Keep Surfside Beach Beautiful Committee via dherrmann@surfsidebeach.org

The Keep Surfside Beach Beautiful Committee was appointed to work towards the improvement of the aesthetics of the town; its overall appearance; its cleanliness, and preservation and enhancement of public and private property value.

Membership is open to all town residents. Send a brief summary of background to dherrmann@surfsidebeach.org if you would like to join.
## Department News

**Deputy Administrator**

Welcome to Deputy Town Administrator, Jon Harrah. Jon has a:

- Masters Degree in Public Administration from Regent University in Virginia.
- Masters Degree in Computer Science and Software Engineering from Colorado Technical University in Colorado.
- Bachelor of Science Degree in Information Technology from Colorado Technical University in Colorado where he graduated Magna Cum Laude.

He also comes to the town with 17 years of executive management experience including complex local and regional project planning, budgeting and implementation. In addition, he has these certifications:

- ICC / South Carolina Certified Building Official
- NIMS 100-800 National Incident Management System
- Certified Flood Plan Manager
- South Carolina Certified Fire Marshal
- South Carolina Class I Officer
- Client Java Programming Undergraduate Level.
- CompTIA Network Fundamentals Undergraduate Level.

A native of West Virginia, Jon and his family have lived in the Myrtle Beach area for 25 years. During that time his professional affiliations include:

- ICMA- Member
- Served as President of Horry-Georgetown Building Officials Association.
- Is the current Treasurer of the Coastal Code Enforcement Association (12 Coastal Counties).
- Is currently serving on the Horry County Board of Directors of Building Officials Association of South Carolina.

His duties include oversight of the Planning, Building and Zoning Department and major infrastructure projects and grants. He also works closely with the Construction Board of Appeals, the Planning Commission, and the Board of Zoning Appeals when there are challenges to departmental decisions. Harrah has already been instrumental in updating some archaic town codes, and is working towards a complete review of all ordinances that effect planning, building and zoning.

**Floodplain Management**

**Flood Zones — How do I determine my flood zone and get more information?**

Whether you own or rent a residential or commercial building in the town, you should know which flood zone you are in, the requirements to build in that zone, and the associated elevation requirements. The PB&Z staff will be happy to help you with this. There are also several ways for you to obtain a copy of your elevation certificate.

- Call the Surfside Beach Planning, Building and Zoning Department at 843-913-6341.
- Visit us at Town Hall, 115 US Highway 17 North, Surfside Beach, SC.
- Check the town website surfsidebeach.org under the Flood Plain Resources tab. Elevation certificates are added often for new structures as well as for some structures that were built years ago.

**No Dumping Law — Do you know about the “No Dumping” Law?”**

Section 14-56 of the Town Code of Ordinances states it is unlawful for any person, company, corporation, etc. to throw, drain, run, or otherwise discharge to any component of the town’s stormwater system, including streets, highways, rights-of-way, or to cause, permit, or suffer to be thrown, drain, run, or allow to seep or otherwise discharge into such system, any organic or inorganic matter that shall cause or tend to cause pollution or blockages to such waters, as provided for in this article.

It further states that it is unlawful for any person, company, corporation, etc. to connect any pipe, open channel, or any other conveyance system to the town drainage system that discharges anything except stormwater discharges that are identified on the approved stormwater management and sediment control plan.

For more information on this article or any other planning, building or zoning questions, please contact the PB&Z Department at 843-913-6341.

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**Phone:** 843-913-6331  
**Email:** jharrah@surfsidebeach.org
Police Annex Open

It is with great excitement that we announce the opening of the Police Department’s Annex building located next door to the police station. Huge Kudos to Facilities staff members, Dennis Todd and Lenny Armitage, for all their hard work on this amazing transformation.

This move represents the first increase in facilities for the Police Department since the opening of the existing Police Department building in 1995. At that time the Police Department had approximately 14 police officers and 5 dispatchers. Since that time, the public safety demands of our community have increased and staffing increased as a result. As of 2018, the Police Department has a staff of 27 full-time employees which includes 20 Police Officers, 6 full-time Communications/Local Corrections Officers and an Administrative Supervisor. The department also employs 8 part-time employees that includes 3 Police Officers, 2 Victim’s Advocates, 2 part-time Communications Officers, and an Evidence Custodian. In order to provide the best service possible to our residents and visitors, the Police Department employs up to 8 seasonal Beach Services Officers each summer from Easter to Labor Day.

We were excited to move the Uniform Patrol operations to the annex where we now have a much-needed patrol briefing room for a formal transition of patrol shifts! This ensures that the shift going off duty fully informs the oncoming shift of the events that have occurred to provide consistent and reliable response to the needs of the community. The building also has a reporting room where officers can complete paperwork and administrative tasks that can’t be completed in their cars.

In addition, our patrol staff was very excited to finally have a kitchen space where they could enjoy healthier meal breaks. Finally, an office space houses the Police Lieutenant and both Patrol Sergeants.

We remain grateful to the Town Council who recognized our need for more space to accommodate the hard-working men and women of the Surfside Beach Police Department.

We also appreciate the overwhelming community support of our efforts to keep the “Family Beach” the safest community on the Grand Strand.

Please join us for an open house on Thursday, February 1st from 4:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. We would love the opportunity to show you the exciting things happening in your police department! Thank you for your support!

Kenneth Hofmann, Chief
Phone: 843.913.6351
Fax: 843.238.1882
Email: khofmann@surfsidebeach.org
Committee News

Keep Surfside Beach Beautiful

Hello Surfside Beach!

We would like for you to meet some of your Keeping Surfside Beach Beautiful committee members! Some of our members are not pictured as their pictures were unavailable at this time.

We are so happy to support our community and ensuring that we maintain and continue to elevate the beauty of Surfside Beach. We would love to have you join our Keep Surfside Beach Beautiful (KSBB) Committee in the New Year!

Some of the things our committee has accomplished this year include: Yard of the Month! You may have seen the Yard of the Month sign in your neighbors yard or even your own. We would like to encourage all of you to nominate a yard for Yard of the Month! Take your nomination to Town Hall or email it to Debra Herrmann with your vote.

Event Booths! We are at the Surfside Beach Festivals and most recently had the citizens of Surfside vote on the Yard of the Month winner! Thank you all for your participation and congratulations again, Terry & Gloria Roop! Special thanks goes to Benjamin's Bagels & Jellie Bellie & Co for your generous gift card donations for our winners! We welcomed new members, Laurie Czerwienier, partnership with Public Works.

Beach Sweeps! We had the pleasure of partnering with Ron Zesch and New Spring to pick up the litter on our beaches, in our Pier Planters. Planters and our Town of Surfside Beach signs are maintained by volunteers, Diana Taylor and Dora Eaddy.

We want to THANK all of the citizens that give their time to volunteer!

Preserved a Historic Tree! Through our partnership with Public Works we preserved and beautified a landmark tree on North Cherry Drive. We would like to encourage everyone to reach out to our committee when you see an opportunity to beautify our community.

Hanging Baskets! Yes, those beautiful potted pots hanging along Surfside Drive and Ocean Boulevard are from our efforts and

Member Jennifer Courtnay, "Together everyone achieves more."

Member Jeff Hines believes, "Real, sustainable community change requires the initiative and engagement of community members."

Member Linda Woodlief believes beautification efforts make a big difference and encourages everyone to, "Never give up!"

Member Jennifer Courtnay, "Together everyone achieves more."

Member Jeff Hines believes, "Real, sustainable community change requires the initiative and engagement of community members."

Member Linda Woodlief believes beautification efforts make a big difference and encourages everyone to, "Never give up!"
The 3rd Annual Surfside Beach Senior's Fair, presented by the Ralph Magliette Senior Citizens Committee, was held on Friday, October 20th at the Surfside Beach Fire House. Health & Wellness for Seniors was the theme, benefitting residents and visitors from eight communities along the Grand Strand.

There were 38 vendors and healthcare providers who spoke with almost 200 senior citizens and their families. A very informative, good time was enjoyed by all. Refreshments, Charleston Flats food truck lunch, free promo items, and raffle door prizes were donated by the vendors and the own of Surfside Beach. Celebrity Weatherman Ed Piotrowski also attended, ensuring a beautiful weather day.

This year the Seniors Fair had three donating presenting sponsors: Tidelands Health, representing their three hospitals, 200 physicians, 1,800 employee partners, and 50 outpatient providers; Horry County Council on Aging, representing their 10 Senior Centers in Horry County, and the DynaSwingFit Golf School of Myrtle Beach, representing their Seniors Enhanced Golf Instruction program. The Surfside Beach website has a listing of this year’s participating vendors and healthcare providers.

The next Senior’s Fair will be in October 2018; plan to attend!

The Ralph Magliette Senior Citizens Committee has two vacancies. Membership is open to town residents. If you are interested in serving, please email a brief summary of your background to dherrmann@surfsidebeach.org.
Inside SURFSIDE BEACH

Volume 28, Issue 1

Welcome to Surfside Beach
"The Family Beach"

Free Mobile App!
Available on iTunes and
the Google Play Store
Just search
Town of Surfside Beach, SC

Newsletter Distribution Policy
In an effort to save tax dollars, "Inside Surfside Beach" will be posted on the website three times a year (i.e., January, May and September). It can be viewed at www.surfsidebeach.org.

If you would like an email notification when a new issue is posted to the website or if you require a paper copy please contact the Town Clerk at 843.913.6333 or email her at dherrmann@surfsidebeach.org.

Contact Information

Town Council
Robert F. Childs, Mayor
BChilds@surfsidebeach.org
Ron M. Ott, Mayor Pro Tem
ROtt@surfsidebeach.org
Timothy T. Courtney, Town Council
TCourtney@surfsidebeach.org
Mark L. Johnson, Town Council
MarkJohnson@surfsidebeach.org
David L. Pellegrino, Town Council
DPellegrino@surfsidebeach.org
Julie Samples, Town Council
JSamples@surfsidebeach.org
Randle M. Stevens, Town Council
RandleStevens@surfsidebeach.org

Town Clerk
Debra Herrmann, CMC
843.913.6333
dherrmann@surfsidebeach.org

Department Contacts
843.913.6111 Town Hall—Main Number
town@surfsidebeach.org
843.913.6111 Town Administrator, Micki Fellner
843.913.6331 Deputy Town Administrator, Jon Harrah
jharrah@surfsidebeach.org
843.913.6337 Court, Municipal Judge Chris Arakas
arakasc@horrycounty.org
843.913.6336 Finance Director, Diana King
dking@surfsidebeach.org
843.913.6369 Fire Department, Chief Kevin Otte
kotte@surfsidebeach.org
843.913.6341 Planning, Building & Zoning
jharrah@surfsidebeach.org
843.913.6351 Police Department, Chief Kenneth Hofmann
khofmann@surfsidebeach.org
843.913.6361 Public Works, Director John Adair
jadair@surfsidebeach.org
843.650.9548 Recreation & Events, Supervisor Debbie Ellis
dellis@surfsidebeach.org

EMERGENCY CALLS—Dial 9-1-1
US Mail: Town of Surfside Beach
115 U.S. Highway 17 North
Surfside Beach, SC 29575

Web: surfsidebeach.org