Council’s Message

Surfside Beach is a gem, as former councilman Ralph Magliette used to say. Our community is a gem because our beautiful beach, bright green canopy of leaves above, clean and well-maintained parks, roads, and sidewalks, and a capable town staff that provides these services as well as excellent public safety. This is the reason we are a destination for residents and visitors alike.

Over my years on town council, I have received many complaints about taxes. In my opinion, taxes are one of the things this town does right. The average Surfside Beach tax for a full-time resident is less than $500 per year. It is incredible that we get to enjoy our beach, our trees, our sidewalks, our parks and roads, our police department, our fire department, trash pickup, and our other services for so little. We can thank our rental home owners and businesses for this, since they cover more than 80% of our tax base.

We have already dressed up Hwy. 17, and will be working on building up our business base. But currently, our most important project is the construction of our new pier. We have finally started, and we are making progress every day. This will be the focal point in our entertainment district when it opens in 2022.

All of us need to work to maintain our gem of a community. Please continue to be positive, welcome visitors, wave to neighbors, respect our town staff, and protect our beautiful common areas and trees throughout the neighborhood. This will ensure that our community remains a destination for many years to come.

By, David Pellegrino

Planning, Building & Zoning

Please note that starting the week of May 17, 2021, the Planning, Building & Zoning Department will no longer be issuing or accepting applications for permits after 3:00 p.m. on Wednesdays and Fridays until further notice.

FINANCE

2021-2022 Business license renewals were mailed out on April 5th. Applications are due by May 31st or postmarked no later than June 1st. Should you have any questions, please call the business license office at 843.913.6342

Easter Sunrise Service conducted by Gathering Church
The Surfside Beach Police Department completed their annual Law Enforcement Risk Assessment with a remarkable 100%! The assessment is administered by the Municipal Association of South Carolina (MASC) and looks at the Police Department’s General Orders, Training, and Practices. By examining the following areas of high liability within the department:

- Law Enforcement Standard Operating Procedures Manual and Updates
- Law Enforcement Standard Operating Procedures Manual Training
- Response to Active Resistance (Use of Force) Documentation and Training
- Vehicle Operations Documentation and Training
- Review of Mutual Aid Agreements
- Hiring Process for Law Enforcement Officers
- Employee Performance/Disciplinary Actions
- Non-Certified Law Enforcement Officers
- Reserve Police Officers
- Holding Cells and Detention Facilities
- Body-worn Cameras
- Law Enforcement Accreditation

Body Armor
On March 21, 2021, the Surfside Police Department received a $900 donation, from the Moose Lodge of Surfside Beach, to cover the cost of a new set of body armor for Patrolman First Class Robbie Pinto. The Elected Officials, Town Administrator, and Chief Hofmann want to thank you for helping keep our officers safe.

The trainings we completed in April were Judgement Shooting in Deadly Force Situations (8hrs) and De-escalation and Crisis Intervention (16hrs). The training was hosted by retired FBI agent Dr. Gregory Vecchi at VGI Training

Corporal Jessica Kirby received Police Officer of the Year from the Surfside Area Rotary Club
2021 EVENTS

JUNE
7th, 14th, 21st, 28th – Hula Show – Mondays – 7 pm to 8 pm – 3rd Ave S/Beach
9th, 6th, 23rd, 30th – Crafter’s Cove – Wednesdays – 9:30 am to 11 am – 3rd Ave S/Beach

JULY
3rd – 4th of July Golf Cart Parade – Saturday – 2 pm – Ocean Blvd
4th – 4th of July Celebration – Sunday – 6 pm to 10 pm – Martin Field
12th, 19th, 26th – Hula Show – Mondays – 7 pm to 8 pm – 3rd Ave S/Beach
14th, 21st, 28th – Crafter’s Cove – Wednesdays – 9:30 am to 11 am -3rd Ave S/Beach

AUGUST
2nd, 9th – Hula Show – Mondays 7 pm to 8 pm – 3rd Ave S/Beach
4th, 11th – Crafter’s Cove – Wednesdays – 9:30 am to 11 am – 3rd Ave S/Beach

Farmer’s Market – Tuesdays – 10 am to 3 pm – Memorial Park – May thru October
Holiday Market – Tuesdays 11 am to 2 pm – Memorial Park – November/December
Discover Surfside Market – Thursdays – 10 am to 3 pm – Memorial Park – April thru December
COMMUNITY GARDENS PROGRAM MISSION

The Surfside Community Garden has been in “full bloom” for three months. The goal to bring people together and grow “vegies” has worked. (Please see below.) They have their own Facebook: “Surfsidebeachcommunitygarden.” We, at the town, are proud of what you are doing. I am looking forward to eating some of these homegrown vegetables.

Inside Public Works by John Adair, Director

It seems the 2021 tourist season is upon us. The Public Works Department is busy maintaining and beautifying the Town with projects such as installing the hanging baskets in commercial areas, edging and mulching the landscape beds around town, and increased service to the beach trash cans and beach raking. The beach lot at 5th South has its new restroom delivered, and it should be open to the public in early June. Crews have been weeding, spraying the lakes for algae and aquatic weeds, repairing worn playground equipment, and replacing damaged sidewalk segments.

As far as larger, outsourced projects, the recent road paving project is substantially complete with over 2 miles of roadway resurfaced. The Dogwood Swash Culvert Replacement has had equipment delays, and will be completed over the summer. The SCDOT Highway 17 improvements completed last year have revealed a few deficiencies in design, which have been brought to the attention of the project coordinators in Columbia.

Several employees were recognized recently for their contributions to the town. Fleet Shop Supervisor Chris Bolster received a recognition from the Surfside Rotary Club for his outstanding contributions to the efficient operations of the town. Additionally, Ben Johnson (Sanitation Division) and Don Wright (Streets & Drainage Division) have been recognized by the town for their tenure of 40 years and 10 years, respectively.

Communicating rules and procedures to the public is of critical importance, particularly when it comes to Sanitation services. Several commonly asked about and/or correctable items are:

- Bulk and Yard Debris are on a schedule. Please do not put these items out for pick-up until the evening before. The schedule/map can be found at: https://www.surfsidebeach.org/public-works. Cooperation in this area keeps the town neater and cleaner.
- Recyclable materials are picked up town-wide on Fridays. The material in the blue carts must be unbagged, so as not to jam up the sorting machines when off-loaded. Additional and/or larger carts are available upon request. There is no charge for recycling service to your home or business. We encourage everyone to participate in this program, to conserve landfill space.
- Yard Trimmings, leaves, pine straw and twigs must be bagged in paper bags. Unbagged piles will not be serviced, nor will plastic bags of yard debris.

Attention to these areas of frequent misunderstanding helps the Sanitation Division remain efficient, and keeps rates very low for the services provided.

We hope everyone has a safe and blessed 2021. Public Works can be contacted at 843-913-6360.
Consensus Construction is honored to be entrusted by the Town of Surfside Beach to reconstruct the Town’s Fishing Pier. We continue to work with Town leadership and the Design team to provide the citizens and tourists of Surfside Beach a pier that will serve as a proud landmark for long into the future. An enormous amount of work has transpired over the last several months in the pre-construction and design phase. We are moving into the next critical path phase; over the next few months we will see the structure taking shape.

The engineers have worked collectively with the construction team engineers to upgrade the ocean concrete piles and concrete admixtures for salt water. Final design on the ocean side piles and pier should be complete by June 1, 2021. The sheet piles for the temporary trestle have been designed and installation has started. All the pre-stressed 18” podium piles have been driven and have tested to perform as designed. The remaining smaller 12” piles on podium ramps and stairs are all that remains to support the podium.

Structural podium concrete can start after all the podium piles are driven. The steel reinforcement engineered plans have been completed and the engineers have reviewed for compliance. Production of reinforcement steel shall begin this Monday and will start arriving on site within the next two weeks. The marine contractor will bring in a second crane sometime early summer.
Now is the time to get prepared!

- Stay tuned for the latest information.
  - Follow the guidance of your local officials and check media and weather reports via official sources, including social media.
- Consider purchasing flood insurance to protect your property from potential flood damage.
- Most homeowners’ policies do not cover flood damage.
- Flood insurance takes 30 days to become effective – don’t wait until the last minute!
- Based on your location and community plans, make your own plans for evacuation or sheltering in place.
- Become familiar with your evacuation zone, the evacuation route and shelter locations.
  - Evacuate if told to do so. Be aware that traffic and congestion add to travel time.
- Gather needed supplies for at least 3 days.
  - Keep in mind each person’s specific needs, including medication.
  - Don’t forget the needs of pets.
- Keep important documents in a safe place or create a password protected digital copies.
- Protect your property.
  - Declutter drains and gutters. Install check valves in plumbing to prevent backups.
  - Consider hurricane shutters.
- Plan how to communicate with family members if you lose power.
  - Remember that during disasters, sending text messages is usually reliable and faster than making phone calls because phone lines are often overloaded or down.

For more information, please go to https://www.surfsidebeach.org/flood-plain-resources

**DISASTER SUPPLY CHECK LIST**

- **Water** - At least a ten day supply (one gallon per person per day)
- **Food** - At least a ten day supply of nonperishable/canned food
- **First Aid Kit**
- **Flashlight with extra batteries**
- **Battery-powered or hand crank radio**
- **Medical Supplies** (prescriptions, pain relievers, etc.)
- **Special Items** (diapers, formula, glasses, etc.)
- **Tools** (wrench, pliers, hammer, tape, etc.)
- **Sanitation** (toilet paper, personal hygiene items, towel, etc.)
- **Change of clothes & bedding**
- **Important family documents** (birth certificates, insurance/bank account info, mortgage, pet records, etc.)
- **Food, water, and medicine for your pets**
- **Kennels or crates, collars, & leashes for each pet**
- **Cash**
KSBB launched their 2021 Yard-of-the-Month program in April. They are proud to announce the following winners: April; The Ridgeways at 101 Harbor Lights Drive, May; Steve and Carol Blair at 611 5th Avenue North.

KSBB is always accepting Yard-of-the-Month nominations! Proud of your yard? Inspired or impressed by a yard you've seen in Surfside? Nominate them by sending a message to KSBB on their Facebook page (Facebook.com/ksbbsc), email them at Keep-SurfsideBeachBeautiful@gmail.com or call Sheri Medina (Town Clerk) at 843.913.6333. Yard-of-the-Month winners must live in Surfside Beach, SC.

The KSBB Summer Beach Sweep program is in full swing! The committee celebrated Earth Day with a Beach Cleanup initiative by Saving Oceans in partnership with Surf Dreams Foundation, The Surfside Beach Holiday Inn, Love Blue Inc. and The Oasis Wellness Center. Thanks to everyone who came out for a good cause to keep our beach town clean and beautiful! KSBB's second Beach Sweep was held on Saturday May 22nd at 3rd Avenue Beach Access. Get the full beach sweep schedule on the KSBB Facebook page. Bags and gloves are always provided. All sweeps are fun and family friendly. Plus, you can enter to win a gift certificate to Pizza Hyena!

KSBB teamed up with the Town of Surfside Beach and Beth Pellegrino for the First Annual Surfside Beach Arbor Day Tree Planting Celebration. On April 30th they planted a live oak tree at the corner of 6th Avenue South and Willow Drive. Thanks to the event sponsor Benjamin’s Bakery for providing complimentary snacks and beverages. Check out the event video and photos on KSBB Facebook page.

The KSBB committee has one opening. If you are interested in joining their team, email Sheri Media at smedina@surfsidebeach.org for an application.
Southside Beach Town Council Directory

Mayor Bob Hellyer 843-913-6330
Email: Bhellyer@surfsidebeach.org

Mayor Pro Tempore Debbie Scoles
Email: Dscoles@surfsidebeach.org

The Hon. Bruce Dietrich
Email: BDietrich@surfsidebeach.org

The Hon. Paul Holder
Email: pholder@surfsidebeach.org

The Hon Cindy Keating
Email: ckeating@surfsidebeach.org

The Hon Michael Drake
Email: mdrake@surfsidebeach.org

The Hon. David Pellegrino
Email: dpellegrino@surfsidebeach.org

If you want to speak with a member, call the Town Clerk at 843-913-6333 to get the member’s Personal telephone number.

Any Emergency – Dial 9-1-1 (Fire, Police, Rescue)

Town Hall Main Number: 843-913-6111
Town Administrator: 843-913-6111
Town Clerk: 843-913-6333
Events, Rec, Civic Cen: 843-650-9548
Finance Department: 843-913-6334
Fire Dept. (Non-emergency) 843-913-6369
Municipal Court: 843-913-6337
Planning, Bldg. & Zoning: 843-913-6341
Police Dept. (non-emergency) 843-913-6368
Public Works: 843-913-6360

Town Hall: 115 US Highway 17 North
Civic Center: 829 Pine Drive North
Dog Parks: 1st Avenue North & Willow Drive
Fire Department: 821 1st Avenue North
Floral Clubhouse: 617 Lakeside Drive
Huckabee Complex: 499 Spanish Oak Drive
Martin Field: 6th Avenue South & Dogwood Drive
Memorial Park & Veterans Memorial: Surfside & Willow Drives
Pier: Ocean Boulevard at the end of Surfside Drive
Planning Building & Zoning: 829 Pine Drive North