



TOWN OF SURFSIDE BEACH ♦ TOWN COUNCIL CHAMBERS
February 24, 2009 ♦ 7:00 P.M.

TOWN COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

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1. **CALL TO ORDER**

Mayor Deaton called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m. Mayor Deaton, Mayor Pro Tem Truett and Councilmembers Blair, Johnson, Martin, Samples and Childs were present. A quorum was present. Staff present: Administrator Booth; Clerk Pinnell and Police Chief Christenson. Attorney Mr. Smith was also present.

2. **INVOCATION and PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE.**

Pastor Dan Krawchuck from the Tabernacle of Meetings said the invocation and Mayor Deaton led the pledge of allegiance.

3. **AGENDA APPROVAL**

Mr. Truett made a motion to approve the agenda as submitted. Mr. Samples seconded the motion. **All voted in favor. MOTION CARRIED.**

4. **MINUTES APPROVAL**

Mr. Childs made a motion to change page 7 line 309 to Wes Sparkes. Mr. Samples made a motion to approve the regular meeting minutes from February 10th as amended. Mr. Johnson seconded the motion. **All voted in favor. MOTION CARRIED.**

5. **PUBLIC COMMENTS – Agenda Items only**

There were no public comments.

6. **COMMUNICATIONS**

A. *Presentations from Engineers*

i. *Castles Engineering*

John Poston from Castles Engineering of Myrtle Beach introduced himself. Mr. Poston stated that Castles Engineering is a local firm. They have one firm and have always worked in the area adding that his company works here, lives here and plays here and added that money that goes to his firm stays in the area and passed out some information on his company. Mr. Poston reported that his company started in 1986 and they have over 2,000 projects under their belt adding that they know what works. They have been in the Grand Strand for a long time; they are multifaceted in design, surveying, planning and transportation; they can handle projects from start to finish. Mr. Poston stated that within the firm there is over 100 years of combined experience. Mr. Poston stated that there are six major components of his firm, they do civil engineering; land planning, landscape design, transportation engineering, surveying and construction services. Mr. Poston highlighted two of the components, one being transportation stating that they are one of the few engineering firms in the area that take care of this in-house. Mr. Poston stated that the construction related services are a little more involved than most other firms and highlighted a few of their projects one being Coastal Federal Field which they are proud of, Coastal Grand Mall project where they assisted with the access road and stormwater plans. Mr. Poston stated that his firm took over the Grand Dunes project approximately two years ago adding that this project is like doing work for a

52 town within a town. Mr. Poston stated that they are currently working on a
53 project for Conway Medical Center and they also have a survey and component
54 on the Grand Strand Regional Medical Center; they were contracted for the
55 survey, ground control and ADA compliance rules and regulation specifications.
56 His firm also worked on Wild Wings Plantation and Hard Rock Park. Mr.
57 Poston stated that they have experience working with municipalities. They
58 worked on the water mains for Myrtle Beach and traffic signals and intersection
59 improvements. Mr. Poston stated that the three things that separate them from
60 other firms is their budget knowledge, innovative solutions; they keep themselves
61 up to date with certifications, they have dealt with pervious pavement, green
62 gardens and stormwater treatment and are currently working on environmentally
63 friendly designs and also enhancing the nature of the existing features in towns
64 and the third thing is scheduling, adding how important this is.

65
66 **ii. *Dennis Corporation***

67 Dan Dennis, President of Dennis Corporation introduced himself and Frank
68 Hribar the Construction Manager. Mr. Dennis stated that he has been in the
69 engineering business in South Carolina for 20 years adding that he is a Citadel
70 graduate and is a registered engineer in 12 states and a registered land surveyor
71 in South Carolina. Mr. Dennis stated that his firm is currently working up and
72 down the coast of South Carolina. They are doing county engineer work for
73 Georgetown County, Horry County, Charleston and Beaufort. They are currently
74 working for municipalities, which include Mount Pleasant, City of Charleston,
75 Town of Hilton Head Island and they are also doing quite a bit of work at
76 Patriots Point Naval museum. Mr. Dennis stated that they are very familiar with
77 coastal areas and their special needs. Mr. Dennis stated that his firm is not local
78 they are located in Columbia and have several other offices around the State, one
79 in Bluffton, one in the upstate in Fairfield County and they have another satellite
80 office in Chester County. Mr. Dennis stated that typically if they received a job
81 similar to that of Surfside Beach they would set up a local office. Mr. Dennis
82 stated that his firm does a lot of county and municipal work, which means there
83 is no conflict of interest; they do not do a lot of private work for developers
84 adding that he feels that this is a very important thing to consider when choosing
85 an engineer. The primary interest should be on the client. Mr. Dennis stated that
86 his firm has a lot of resources, which include receiving and applying for grants.
87 Mr. Dennis stated that they are experts in stormwater drainage and water quality,
88 which are very important issues for any coastal community. They do a lot of
89 road improvement work and work often with SCDOT and one of the largest
90 projects he worked on with SCDOT was the Conway bypass interchange with
91 US 17 at the former Briarcliffe Mall, he was the engineer of record on that
92 interchange which was about an 80 million dollar interchange. Mr. Dennis stated
93 that he also worked at the Grand Strand Airport and did several projects there
94 when it was still an airport and he also did some work at the Myrtle Beach
95 International Airport.

96
97 Mr. Dennis went into his annual report and gave a snapshot of it. Mr. Dennis
98 stated that he started Dennis Corporation in June 2005 adding that they have
99 done very well since then. Mr. Dennis showed the revenue, which had gone
100 from conception about \$150,000 in their first half year up to the current year

101 where they almost broke the 6 million dollar mark in fees. Mr. Dennis showed
102 their overhead, which is down at 130 and that is because they are very efficient at
103 what they do, they do not have a lot of overhead as far as management. Mr.
104 Dennis stated that he is the president and he is 100 percent billable and if the
105 town needs him then he is there. Mr. Dennis showed the profitability adding
106 that in spite of the economy his firm is still doing well with a 4 percent profit for
107 2008. The largest expense is payroll and his firm is very diverse. His firm has
108 registered surveyors, land surveyors and construction managers and feels that
109 they are the only engineering firm in South Carolina that has all three licenses.
110 Mr. Dennis stated that they are very cognizant of the communities in which they
111 work and they donate to many charities and Chamber of Commerces in the
112 communities. His firm has a lot of employee growth and currently has 85
113 employees on the payroll and the employees are working all over the State every
114 day. Mr. Dennis stated that the firm has 14 different divisions which are key to
115 the diversity. Mr. Dennis stated that his firm has a civil infrastructure division,
116 which does a lot of site design and stormwater design using all of the latest
117 software. Mr. Dennis stated that Frank Hribar is the Construction Manager who
118 handles the heavy highway civil projects and they also have a Construction
119 Manager who just deals in vertical building construction. Mr. Dennis stated that
120 his firm does all of their own testing in house and if the town had a DOT project
121 all of their inspectors are DOT certified and would meet all of DOT requirements
122 adding that this is becoming very important now with all of the new federal
123 guidelines for either stimulus money of transportation and enhancement grants.
124 Mr. Dennis stated that he does a lot of expert witness work on behalf of towns
125 and counties and also contractors and engineers. Mr. Dennis stated that his firm
126 has four traffic engineers on staff and feels that their traffic division is as strong
127 if not stronger than any other firm in the State. Mr. Dennis stated that they have
128 the latest and greatest surveying equipment and have four crews and are very
129 efficient. Mr. Dennis stated that GPS is a very efficient tool they use and they
130 use two man crews; they no longer use three man crews. Mr. Dennis explained
131 that they are a horizontal company and he does not micro-manage, each one of
132 his managers is in charge of their personnel and are very dedicated to client
133 service. Mr. Dennis stated that his company has also received many awards. Mr.
134 Dennis stated that his firm is also always looking at ways to help the
135 environment.

136
137 **B. Public Works Report**

138 Mr. Martin asked when the lights on 14th Avenue would be installed. Mr. Taylor
139 stated that once all of the houses are hooked up they would be installed. Mr. Booth
140 stated that once they have completed 14th Avenue they will work on the underground
141 wiring at the fire station and then they will move to Seaside Drive.

142
143 **C. Administrator's Report**

144 *Property on 3rd Avenue*

145 Mr. Booth reported that this property was discussed previously and he would like
146 permission to go forward for a \$200,000 grant; it is a 50/50 match. The town
147 currently has \$149,000 in the fund for meters and would make up the difference this
148 year in meter funds. Mr. Booth stated that he feels that it would be a great
149 investment and would make a great park. Mayor Deaton stated that this is the

150 property that was previously the Arke which is part of the Tillman Plantation
151 property back when Surfside Beach was a plantation and this is the site of the
152 original house itself adding that this is probably the only historic area in Surfside
153 other than the slave graveyard. Mr. Martin asked if the property is available. Mr.
154 Booth stated that it is available; it is a company that owns it and he spoke to them.
155 He got an estimate of about \$400,000 but it would need to be appraised prior to
156 purchasing. Mr. Johnson stated that at one time that area was one piece of property
157 and it was divided into at least three or four lots and asked if Mr. Booth was talking
158 about the entire area or one lot. Mr. Booth stated that it is the entire piece of
159 property. **There was consensus of council to go for the grant.**

160

161 *Sewer Leak and 6th Avenue South*

162 Mr. Booth reported that there was a recent sewer leak on 3rd North and that it was a
163 considerable sewer leak and Public Works reacted immediately. Mr. Booth stated
164 that he is discussing this situation with Grand Strand Water so that they can react
165 quicker in the future on these types of situations. Mr. Booth stated that his concern
166 now is on 6th South. The town had dug a retention pond a few years back because
167 there was not a lot of retention for water at the time, which is now actually just a
168 large ditch. Mr. Booth stated that there is a pressure sewer line located in that pond
169 or ditch and if it ever breaks it will cause a major problem and now that the town is
170 cleaning out the lakes he now has the material to fill the pond and is looking for
171 feedback from the council on this. Mayor Deaton stated that he was Chairman of the
172 Stormwater Committee for about four years adding that Councilman Samples also
173 served on that committee and the area was put there for water retention at the time
174 and in the meantime the town has increased its capacity tremendously and agreed
175 that there is no longer a need for this retention area and would like to create some
176 additional green space and plant some trees. Mr. Booth stated that there would be no
177 cost since the town could use the materials they are currently dredging. Mr. Johnson
178 stated that he has a concern and would hate to get rid of a water retention area. Mr.
179 Booth stated that he agreed and would not even think about it but there is a pressure
180 sewer line that is running right through it. Mr. Samples stated that this was discussed
181 previously and at the time he did object to filling it and recalls suggesting that Grand
182 Strand reroute the sewer line and asked if there was any possibility for this to be
183 done. Mr. Booth stated that it is a pressure line and the town would need to bear the
184 cost and it is pretty expensive to reroute a pressure line like that. Mr. Samples asked
185 for an estimated cost. Mr. Booth stated it could cost about \$50,000; it takes
186 considerable amount of work to reroute and relay it. Mayor Deaton stated that
187 originally the area was a green space. It was confirmed that the pipe is only a few
188 feet underneath the pond and it is actually exposed in some areas. Mayor Deaton
189 agreed that it is a potential liability for the town. Mr. Booth stated that if it were to
190 flow over it could easily go into Floral Lake. Ms. Blair asked what the potential
191 impact regarding flooding would be to the area if it were filled in. Mr. Booth stated
192 there would be very little now. **There was general consensus of council to fill in
193 the pond.** Mr. Truett stated that he agreed that it should become a small park.

194

195 *Mural on Corner of Surfside Drive*

196 Mr. Booth stated that there is currently a vacant lot on the corner of Surfside Drive
197 and Poplar that is being used by skateboarders and they are also painting graffiti on
198 the side of the building. Mr. Booth reported that the owner of the lot is going to pay

199 the town to remove the concrete and this should keep the kids from going there. Mr.
200 Childs stated that he would hate to see a beautiful mural ruined by graffiti. Mr.
201 Booth stated that it has been his experience that once a mural is up it is not usually
202 painted over with graffiti. Mr. Booth stated that he has experienced this before with
203 water tanks and once the mural is up they go somewhere else. Mr. Booth stated that
204 the town would also put a material up that would be easy to wipe off. Mr. Booth
205 stated that he would like to get a local artist and perhaps give them a remuneration of
206 about \$1,000 and provide the materials. Mr. Booth stated that he would use the
207 beautification committee to look at the renderings that artists may have and to select
208 a design. Mr. Childs stated that Mr. Mabry had spoken about putting murals on the
209 backs of buildings some time ago and commented to Mr. Mabry in the audience that
210 he was ahead of the curve on this. Mr. Booth stated that he was approached by the
211 owner of the building about putting a mural there and has given the town permission
212 to do it. There was no objections from council.

213
214 *Bulkhead on Dogwood*

215 Mr. Booth stated that the town is moving forward on this project. Mr. Booth
216 reported that not all erosion came from the lake some came from the properties that
217 are sloped. The county has agreed to pay 70 percent on this project and the town is
218 moving forward. Mr. Truett asked if the town was using the compost bulkhead. Mr.
219 Booth answered that they were. Mr. Childs stated that he had someone contact him
220 over the weekend regarding the original project with the bulkheads and the pilings
221 and before the town decided to go with the compost he claimed that he had the low
222 bid and Mr. Childs explained to him that the project had been scrapped and the town
223 moved to a different one and is glad he gave him the correct information. Mr. Booth
224 stated that he had spoken with him also and explained that the stormwater committee
225 determined that the non-evasive type of materials is what the town would want to use
226 as a standard and that it is less expensive and lasts longer than the bulkhead. Mayor
227 Deaton stated that anyone can go to Magnolia Lake and see the previous project they
228 completed and this would be similar to what they will be doing on Dogwood.

229
230 *Debt Set-Off Collections*

231 Mr. Booth reported that the town has collected a fair amount of money within the
232 last month and expects to collect additional funds. Mr. Booth explained that this is
233 the program that is being used to collect from individuals who do not pay their ticket
234 fines and reside in South Carolina

235
236 *Beautification Workshop March 2nd 7 PM*

237 Mr. Booth reported that there will be a Beautification workshop on March 2nd and
238 would like participation.

239
240 **7. BUSINESS**

241 **A. *First Reading: #09-0656 Parking Ordinance***

242 Mr. Booth stated that this ordinance adds booting for offenders who do not pay
243 parking tickets. Mr. Smith stated that this ordinance also includes pay stations and
244 definitions and also provides for a violation fine and also adds in decals to be issued
245 to golf carts. Mr. Childs made a motion to adopt first reading. Mr. Johnson
246 seconded the motion. Mr. Samples asked if there was any change of time of parking.

247 Mr. Booth stated that the enforcement time has not changed. Mr. Samples asked if
248 the town is changing the hours of operation as it relates to parking meters. Mr.
249 Booth answered “not for enforcement”. Mr. Smith answered that they would be in
250 effect during the same times they previously were. Mayor Deaton stated that there
251 was a rumor that the town would be enforcing it 24 hours a day and it was confirmed
252 that this was a rumor. Mr. Childs stated that he feels that the addition of adding rules
253 and regulations to golf carts is a great idea and stated that there are a lot of golf carts
254 coming into town and on flatbeds and asked if there was any way that carts used in
255 town could have the stickers with the regulations on it and feels that this would help
256 adding that the kids he sees on the golf carts are definitely rental carts. Mr. Samples
257 stated that any business who rents carts in town should have to have a sticker and be
258 registered. Mr. Truett asked about a previous conversation he had regarding setting
259 up signs with parking fines and booting notices. Mr. Booth stated that they would be
260 putting up signs to notify the public. Ms. Blair asked for confirmation on rental carts
261 having to be registered and carts being brought in by renters. Mr. Childs stated that
262 if a police officer saw a cart brought in by a renter they would need to have the
263 regulations on the windshield and would like to see them on any cart in town. Ms.
264 Blair stated that if there was a vehicle from out of state that was in violation they
265 would certainly get ticketed so why not a golf cart. Mr. Johnson asked for
266 confirmation on the change from 50 feet from an intersection to 30 feet. Mr. Booth
267 stated that this is State law and it is being brought back to State law. Mr. Smith
268 asked for confirmation on the golf carts stating that he had spoken to the Chief of
269 Police to add local vendors and it would be changed to indicate that whatever
270 percentage of carts a vendor rents in Surfside would need to be registered but he
271 would suggest to add a penalty for all other golf carts that someone owns and decides
272 to bring it into Surfside Beach. A penalty could be added for these external golf
273 carts and could be enforced through the infractions parking ticket because that ticket
274 has a box that says “other” and an infraction ticket could be given for not having a
275 sticker adding that he could put a fine on it if he could get some guidance from
276 council as to what that fine should be. Mr. Childs removed his motion and Mr.
277 Johnson removed his second. Mr. Smith stated that as a matter of procedure the first
278 reading can be approved as presented and then Mr. Smith could make the changes
279 and then present the changes on second reading. Mr. Childs restated his original
280 motion and Mr. Johnson restated his second. **All voted in favor. MOTION**
281 **CARRIED.** Mr. Truett stated that many golf carts come in from Ocean Lakes and
282 they would need to be notified of this ordinance.

283 B. *First Reading: #09-0657 Zoning Text Amendment Non-Conforming Bldg.*

284 Mr. Booth stated that this request comes from the Planning & Zoning Commission.
285 The town has received many requests for variances and since the town had
286 previously changed the setbacks it now makes it very difficult for anyone to add onto
287 their home. Mr. Childs made a motion to adopt first reading 09-0657 Zoning Text
288 Amendment Non-Conforming Buildings. Mr. Samples seconded the motion. Mr.
289 Johnson stated that he is trying to figure out how someone can get around this as
290 proposed because he can see it happen. Mr. Johnson stated that he believes that this
291 came about based on the 8th Avenue South situation that the town ran into recently
292 and is concerned about someone getting away with something that we cannot
293 currently see. Mr. Booth stated that if an individual wants to square off their
294 building they can do that and they cannot add into the setback. Mr. Samples stated

295 that in reading the ordinance as it is written it stated that an individual cannot be any
296 closer to a property line or another structure so what the town is doing is allowing
297 the houses that are non-conforming because they were built prior to the current
298 ordinance, to square out but they cannot go into the setback. Mr. Samples asked “is
299 there a way to get around it” and added that he is sure there is someone who can.
300 Ms. Donevant added that it has also gone through legal review. Mr. Childs stated
301 that he was at the Planning & Zoning and Ms. Donevant and staff had really gone
302 through and reviewed this item and he feels that it is worthwhile. Mr. Martin asked
303 if an addition is made are the other requirements reviewed as well adding as an
304 example if there were only two parking places and another bedroom is added do we
305 look at this. Ms. Donevant answered that it is all considered. **All voted in favor.**
306 **MOTION CARRIED.**

307 C. *First Reading: #09-0658 Per Diem*

308 Mr. Booth stated that this has been explained previously and there is no additional
309 expense to the town it just eliminates the need to keep all of the receipts adding that
310 most government agencies keep per diem rates when dealing with meals.
311 Transportation and overnight accommodations would need receipts but meals and
312 sundries would not. Mr. Truett made a motion to adopt first reading. Ms. Blair
313 seconded the motion. Mr. Samples asked how this per diem differs from staff. Mr.
314 Booth stated that he would put the same per diem in the personnel manual for staff.
315 **All voted in favor. MOTION CARRIED.**

316 D. *Second Reading: #09-0652 Infractions Hearing Ordinance*

317 Mr. Booth stated that there has been a lot of discussion on this and due to the
318 Supreme Court rulings on infractions they have now required the need for someone
319 to hear these infractions when someone wants to appeal it. Mr. Truett made a motion
320 to approve second reading. Ms. Blair seconded the motion. Ms. Blair, Mr. Johnson,
321 Mr. Martin, Mr. Truett, Mayor Deaton and Mr. Childs voted for. **Mr. Samples**
322 **voted against. MOTION CARRIED.** Mr. Samples stated that he voted against it
323 since there is not penalty for failure to comply he feels that it is a waste of time.

324 E. *Second Reading: #09-0655 Procurement Ordinance*

325 Mr. Booth stated that the request is to raise the procurement from \$5,000 to \$10,000
326 adding that this does not stop the town from going out for three bids; it just keeps the
327 town from having to advertise and go through the formal process. Mr. Booth stated
328 that the last time it was reviewed was in 1989 and there has been a lot of inflation
329 since then and it gives the town a less expensive way of doing business and stressed
330 that the town would still be going out for bids. Mr. Truett made a motion to approve
331 second reading. Mr. Childs seconded the motion. Mr. Samples stated that the list of
332 cities provided to council with procurement amounts of \$10,000 such as North
333 Myrtle Beach also have a purchasing officer. Mr. Samples stated that in almost all
334 other instances that were cited there is a purchasing official and is not advocating
335 that the town has a purchasing official but does not feel that this is an apples to
336 apples comparison. Mr. Samples stated that the town’s ordinance claims that
337 whoever is designated has the authority to get three telephone quotes to who knows
338 who and spend \$9,995 and that he does not support this. Mr. Childs stated that he
339 agrees with Mr. Samples. Mr. Truett, Mr. Martin and Mayor Deaton voted for and

340 Ms. Blair, Mr. Johnson, Mr. Samples and Mr. Childs voted against. **MOTION**
341 **FAILED.**

342 F. ***Second Reading: #09-0654 Hospitality Fees Ordinance***

343 Mr. Booth stated that there was a concern that this could not be changed because the
344 town was grandfathered in back in 1996 however in 1998 the ordinance was
345 changed. The town is now changing it back to include convenience stores. Mr.
346 Booth stated that the County and other municipalities include convenience stores and
347 they should all have to pay the tax. Mr. Truett made a motion to accept second
348 reading. Mr. Martin seconded the motion. **All voted in favor. MOTION**
349 **CARRIED.** Mr. Truett stated that it had come up that the town was going to place a
350 burden on the convenience stores to collect a separate tax but they are already
351 collecting that tax for the County so this is not an added burden. Mr. Booth agreed.
352 Mr. Martin stated that he believes that it is part of the hospitality law that if it is such
353 a small amount it is collected annually or quarterly if it is a little larger; it is a
354 frequent recording if it is a fairly large number.

355 G. ***Decision paper: Amendment to Personnel Policy Manual: Change to Personal***
356 ***Time and Family Leave Act Amendments***

357 Mr. Booth stated that the federal government has required the family leave change
358 and the personal leave time was previously discussed and should save the town a
359 little money and makes it easier for the managers to manage employee time. It
360 removes award time, sick leave and floating holidays and the reason many employers
361 use this is because a lot of employees take sick time every time they accumulate it so
362 this allows them to use it as vacation. Mr. Childs asked if the manual was a policy or
363 an ordinance. Mr. Booth stated that the manual is a policy. Mr. Childs made a
364 motion to adopt the decision paper amendment to the personnel manual. Mr. Truett
365 seconded the motion. Mr. Samples asked if this was worth the time to have a
366 workshop on or not. Mr. Booth stated that it would not. The employee loses a little
367 and gets added holidays but there is also a benefit to the town. **All voted in favor.**
368 **MOTION CARRIED.**

369
370 8. **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

371 *Ron Ott, 7th Avenue North:* “In reference to the zoning text amendment for legal non-
372 conforming buildings. This was brought about by the Zoning Board of Appeals because
373 we had a few of these in a row brought to us and we asked the Planning & Zoning
374 Commission to look at it to see if we could stretch it out and help these people out and
375 be friendly to our neighbors. I have not seen the text but what I would request is that it
376 be only for the residential family building, no garages, no detached buildings and no
377 swimming pools just the family building, something attached to it and that’s about it.
378 that would be the main thing that I would see that somebody would try to swing by and
379 also have it in reference to the 15 foot setback from the street to the primary residence,
380 not anything else. That’s what it was; it was basically the street to the house. Thank
381 you.”

382
383 *Joe Zoltak, 414 Pine Drive:* “You all voted and approved tonight to cover the pond at
384 3rd Avenue South. I believe some of you forgot that the need for that was really required
385 by the engineer at the time because you needed storage in that basin and that was the
386 only storage you could find. You now have gone and made a decision to cover that pond

387 without going back and consulting the engineer on the impact of covering that pond.
388 Today we had a meeting at stormwater and everybody was surprised to hear that some of
389 the outfalls where all of these stormwater improvements were done that the bacteria
390 counts are still high and yet this particular pond, well, helped that situation and the final
391 point I want to make is my taxpayer dollars paid to create that pond. Do we get refunds?
392 Thank you.”

393
394 *Jim Mayes, 911 S. Ocean Blvd.:* “I’ve had the pleasure of meeting many of you and
395 many of the Surfside Town employees. My wife Kathy and I are the owners of the new
396 Seadogs Ice Cream parlor located on Surfside Pier and operating an ice cream parlor is a
397 totally new venture for me. I’m a retired engineer from Verizon but for my wife Kathy,
398 it’s just business as usual. She was a General Manager for a large national restaurant
399 chain and she has the restaurant experience. Having our ice cream parlor located on the
400 Surfside Pier has a special meaning to us; we had our first date last year on the pier and
401 were married last month. When we first decided to open our ice cream shop we looked
402 at properties from Murrells Inlet to, and I have to say we were skeptical of operating a
403 business in Surfside. This being the result of heresay and the blogs we have read about
404 the difficulty of doing business in Surfside but I just wanted to take this opportunity to
405 report back to you that the employees of the town of Surfside have just been great to
406 work with. They’ve gone out of their way to answer our questions and provide
407 assistance. Sharon Leahey in Business Licensing, the folks in the Police and Fire
408 Department that came out and did their required inspections and many people in those
409 departments have stopped by, in addition, to welcome us and offer us any support that
410 we need. Ed Booth has been a frequent face on the pier answering questions as we’ve
411 had them. Ty Taylor and his staff have gone out of their way to assist us and make us
412 feel like we’re a part of the pier team and that’s what we want to achieve and just want
413 to let you know that Kathy and I are going to be the owners and operators and we
414 visualize our business as becoming a major attraction of the pier and of the town itself.
415 We have plans to become active members of this community. We will be involved in
416 the schools, recreation and government. We’re going to be a year round operation, we’ll
417 be closed a couple of months in the winter but it’s not just going to be a summer
418 enterprise. There’s a lot of folks who think we’re crazy opening a new business in
419 today’s economic climate but I’ll tell you when the economy turns sour make lemonade
420 and at Seadogs Ice Cream we have the best fresh squeezed lemonade so come and see
421 us. In closing I just want to emphasize how excited we are about teaming up with you
422 folks in the promotion of the pier and your civic activities. We’re going to open for
423 daily operations starting March 1st and we’re going to have a grand opening event
424 scheduled for Friday April the 3rd. Mr. Mayor, Mr. Booth, I’ve been in touch with both
425 your offices and have requested that you all participate in our grand opening ceremonies
426 and we would invite all of you to come and join us. It’s going to be at 11 o’clock,
427 Friday April the 3rd. Complimentary coffee and cake and join us in kicking off this
428 venture. We’ll have our mascot there. A big red dog aka Seadog who has already made
429 an appearance on the pier. It’s been a great hit with the kids and we look forward to
430 having Seadog participate in the Christmas parade and other civic events. We want to be
431 a part of this community so I thank you for your time and look forward to seeing you
432 this summer on the pier.”
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9. COUNCIL COMMENTS

Mr. Childs: “I want to welcome Jim and Kathy to Surfside Beach and I think I can speak for the entire council and wish you all the luck in the world. You have a beautiful place there. Jim and Kathy have really made it a cozy, really a friendly place, I’ve talked to Jim a couple of times so welcome and good luck and like I told you before I think you’ll do good.”

Mr. Martin: “I promised a very nice gentleman who belongs to the South Strand Lions Club that I would try to let people know about an event that’s coming up on March 28th which is a Saturday at 9 o’clock at the Tupelo Bay Golf Center, the 18 hole executive course, they’re having the Second Annual Charity Golf Tournament, the 28th of March at 9 o’clock at the Tupelo Bay Golf Center. Thank you.”

Mr. Johnson: “Good evening ladies and gentlemen. I would just like to thank you all for coming out. It’s been a long day but thank you again for attending all of the meetings. Thank you.”

Mayor Deaton: “I would like to reiterate that. Thank you for coming. It’s been a very productive day and I entertain a motion at this time.”

10. ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Martin made a motion to adjourn. Mr. Truett seconded the motion. **All voted in favor. MOTION CARRIED.** The meeting was adjourned at 8:20 PM.

Approved: March 10, 2009

Sharon Pinnell, Town Clerk

K. Allen Deaton, Mayor

Joseph P. Martin, Town Council

Vicki W. Blair, Town Council

James S. Truett, Mayor Pro Tem

Douglas F. Samples, Town Council

Mark L Johnson, Town Council

Robert F. Childs, III, Town Council

Clerk’s Note: This document constitutes minutes of the meeting, which was audio taped. In accordance with FOIA, meeting notice and the agenda were faxed and/or emailed to local media and interested parties. A complete list is on file in the clerk’s office. The agenda was posted on bulletin boards outside Council chambers and in the town hall reception area. Meeting notice was also posted on the town marquee.