



**SURFSIDE BEACH TOWN COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
REGULAR MEETING MONDAY, JUNE 26, 2017 ♦ 6:30 P.M.
TOWN COUNCIL CHAMBERS**

Town Council Meeting – 6:30 p.m.

1. CALL TO ORDER. Mayor Childs called the regular meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. Mayor Childs, Mayor Pro Tempore Ott, and Councilmembers Courtney, Johnson, Samples, and Stevens were in attendance. Councilmember Pellegrino was absent. A quorum was present. Others present: Administrator Fellner; Town Clerk Herrmann; Finance Director King; Fire Chief Otte; Interim Police Chief Hofmann; Public Works Director Adair, and Events Supervisor Ellis.

2. INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE.

A. Invocation: Pastor Allen Rogers, Journey Church, gave the invocation.

B. Pledge of Allegiance: Mayor Childs led the Pledge.

3. AGENDA APPROVAL. Mr. Johnson moved to adopt the agenda as presented. Mr. Stevens second. Mr. Ott offered a friendly amendment to delete Business Item 7.D. Mr. Stevens second. Mr. Ott explained that Ms. Fellner will ask for consensus during the administrator's report. All voted in favor.
MOTION CARRIED AS AMENDED.

4. MINUTES APPROVAL. Executive Session and Regular Meeting June 13, 2017. Mr. Johnson moved to adopt the June 23, 2017 executive session and regular meeting minutes as presented. Mr. Ott second. All voted in favor. **MOTION CARRIED.**

5. PUBLIC COMMENTS – Agenda Items Only. (3-minutes per speaker). There were no comments on agenda items.

6. COMMUNICATIONS

A. Guy Daniels Foundation Report by Mr. Mikey Pruitt, Councilmember Pellegrino. Mr. Pruitt said I am the director of the Guy Daniels Foundation, which is a nonprofit organization organized in 1999 after the death of Mr. Guy Daniels, a 19 year old resident of Surfside Beach that was well known throughout the community. The foundation is operated solely by volunteers. The mission is to make Surfside Beach and our neighboring communities better. Since inception, the foundation has granted about \$110,000 in scholarships. This year 10 very amazing students who are well poised to be great members of society from Horry and Georgetown Counties were awarded scholarships. We received good feedback to a recent mailing to the community. Many of the plans we've discussed were solidified as a result. We are actually working with Mr. Adair to design signage for the beach to educate visitors and residents about respecting the beach. (A template copy is on file.) We are trying to simplify signage. I know there's a lot of rules; just a simple phrase, 'respect the beach' we thought be a good thing to have at the beach accesses to help people remember that sea turtles live here, too, and that they need to remove their trash. A report on the web traffic from last year was distributed. (A copy is on file.) We have a very popular webcam at 13th Avenue South. There are about 10,000 visitors a month; hits are actually from 75 different countries and all 50 states. We've found the webcam (www.surfoff.com) is our best asset, and we promote that as best we can. The Surfuff this year is July 29th and 30th. I hope to see you all there. Come have some fun with us. Mayor Childs asked if the camera working, as he had a number of calls about it. Mr. Pruitt said as of this morning it was working. There have been some glitches in the last month or so that will be completely corrected by the end of the week. The beach atmosphere is traumatic on electronics. Mr. Ott said I know you've been involved in the Surfuff since the beginning. I think you've

54 done a wonderful job. You actually made the Guy Daniels Surfoff synonymous with the Town of Surfside
55 Beach. All these people that come here, and surfers from around the country know the word Surfside
56 Beach and it's because of what you've done. Mr. Pruitt said that's our goal. Surfside Beach and our
57 nonprofit have always been partners. Surfside Beach has always been our biggest supporter financially.
58 Ms. Ellis works every year helping with the event. We appreciate the support, I'm here today to say thank
59 you to all of you and all the staff that supports us with everything that you provide for us. Mr. Courtney
60 said thank you as well. My kids and their friends enjoy the Surfoff. It is an outstanding event. Mayor
61 Childs said thank you; we appreciate all that you do.

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63 **B. Department Reports.**
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65 **i. Events.** Supervisor Ellis presented the written report, a copy of which is attached hereto. The
66 People's Choice Award winner at the 2nd Annual Art Show was Wendy Shelley's painting of a dolphin that
67 was titled "Peace be the Journey." Runner-up was Debbie Ann Hicks with a fiber artwork turtle. There
68 were 142 votes cast. Ms. Samples said it was a great art show. Thank you for your efforts, along with Ms.
69 Kathryn Martin.

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71 **ii. Finance.** Director King presented the written report, a copy of which is attached hereto. Ms.
72 Samples said great report and asked if we spent any CTC (County Transportation Committee) money this
73 year. Ms. King said not yet; the CTC money is actually a reimbursement. Ms. Samples asked for an
74 explanation of the general fund revenue, budget number 735, Municipal Association Business License
75 revenue that shows \$790,000 budgeted, and said I am concerned that we have only received \$730,000.
76 Ms. King explained that the Municipal Association collects business license fees for the town. Most of the
77 revenue is collected in July and August, but it is credited to this fiscal year. Ms. Samples asked if the
78 \$156,000 expenditure in the hospitality fund paid for fire department radios. Ms. King said yes. Mr. Ott
79 thanked Ms. King for the report. He asked for an explanation of the money budgeted for maintenance in
80 the Lanier fund. Ms. King explained that the caption is "Parking Lanier," but that fund is for the town's
81 entire parking function. That money is not paid to Lanier, but is budgeted in the parking fund in case stop
82 signs, landscaping or repair to a parking area are necessary. Mr. Courtney asked if we can use that
83 money for 50 palm trees to beautify Surfside Drive. Ms. King said yes.

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85 **iii. Fire.** Chief Otte presented the written report, a copy of which is attached hereto. Ms.
86 Samples said a business associate of hers experienced a fire on Sandy Lane to which the department
87 responded. He praised you like you would not believe and had so many great things to say about the
88 department, even that you followed up. I just wanted to pass that along and say thank you. Mr. Ott
89 reminded everyone that fire house holds free birthday parties for children, but you have to provide the
90 cake. He asked for an explanation of pre-fire plans. Chief Otte said all three shifts work with the fire
91 marshal and business owners to tour the town's businesses when give permission so we can develop
92 information and sketch floor plans, mark electric boxes, mark where equipment is located etc. that would
93 assist firefighters if there was a fire. Mr. Ott said that is excellent, thank you very much. Mr. Courtney
94 said thank you for the report. The organization committee met with you and developed a plan to recruit
95 volunteer firefighters. Would you report on the success of volunteer recruitment and how the plan might
96 work in the future? I would also like to see the roster of the career and part-time firefighters. Chief Otte
97 said absolutely. The banner needs some minor changes. It should be ready in the next two weeks. Mr.
98 Courtney asked who owned the antique fire engine in the firehouse. Chief Otte said American LaFrance;
99 it is on loan to the station and there is no cost to the town. Mr. Courtney said it's very attractive, we get
100 a lot of compliments on it.

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102 **iv. Planning, Building & Zoning.** Ms. Fellner presented the report for Director Morris who was
103 absent. A copy of is attached hereto. Mr. Stevens said I contacted the building department about a
104 complaint of a citizen running a beauty shop out of their home around 7th Avenue South and Lakeside
105 Drive. Has that been investigated? Ms. Fellner said she would check on the status and let him know. Mr.
106 Courtney asked if a resolution had been found for the 14th Avenue flooding. Ms. Fellner said she was

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107 trying to determine who was responsible, which is what the judge wants to hear. Mr. Courtney said asked
108 if Mr. Adair could trim that ditch on 14th Avenue. Mr. Adair acknowledged that that could be done.
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110 **v. Police.** Chief Hofmann presented the written report, a copy of which is attached hereto. Mr.
111 Stevens spoke about a recent trip to Myrtle Beach during which he and his wife felt unsafe, because of
112 the recent shootings, and illegal activity they saw. Chief Hofmann and the town's police officers keep our
113 town safe. Our town has the least amount of drug use in the area. I am so glad that I live in Surfside
114 Beach versus Myrtle Beach. When you see our police officers, shake their hands and thank them for
115 keeping us safe. I will salute them over and over and over again, because they keep our neighborhoods
116 safe. Mr. Ott said I appreciate the police report and it is one of the first things I look for in my packet. It
117 is very informative and to the point. The call logs balance with the activity log. The K-9 Units are very
118 active. We are down 50-percent in traffic accidents, and now are in the 30s. Terrific job. Mr. Courtney
119 said you really did a good job on your report. As far as residents saying there is no enforcement on the
120 beach, your numbers show that there is. Good job there. Again, we're down 50-percent with accidents
121 from last year. We do have a speeding problem in town. I urge everyone to please slow down. It's not
122 worth taking a life to get home five minutes early. I look forward to receiving your report on the 16th
123 Avenue straightway. I've seen cars doing 50 miles per hour or more going down 16th. Your numbers
124 speak for themselves. You're doing a great job. Fantastic. What positions are open for police officers?
125 Chief Hofmann said only the chief's position is open. We have eligible officers that will advance to fill slots
126 created by promotions. Mr. Courtney said it was important that keep the detective unit, because it is part
127 of role in keeping crime down in Surfside Beach. People know our reputation and try to go on the bypass
128 now. It's very important to see officers out there. Great job. Fantastic. Thank all the officers for a great
129 job. Ms. Samples said the police presence is noticeable. Thank you. Mr. Johnson asked how many beach
130 service officers there are. Chief Hofmann said I believe it seven; I will double check that for you. Mr.
131 Johnson asked if they were sworn officers. Chief Hofmann said they are civilians. All of our beach services
132 staff are seasonal workers. The officers do from time to time fill in. Mr. Johnson asked if he would email
133 councilmembers the hours that they are on the beach. Chief Hofmann said absolutely. Mayor Childs said I
134 have had a number of people in town that have told me to make sure that I say something about the
135 high visibility of your officers in and around the neighborhoods lately. They really appreciate that. Seems
136 like every time you walk out the door you see an officer. Chief Hofmann said I'm very flattered to hear
137 that. That is one of the things that I'm about. I know speeding on the highway is a problem, but
138 speeding on the highway doesn't put kids or pedestrians in danger. Speeding in a residential area, stop
139 sign violations, and similar things affect residents are big things to me. I'm glad to hear that what I'm
140 preaching is paying off.
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142 **vi. Public Works.** Director Adair presented the written report, a copy of which is attached
143 hereto. Mr. Stevens said the gazebo looks really good since the work was completed. He asked if the
144 picnic tables could be stained before July 4th. Mr. Adair said that probably could be done. The picnic
145 tables haven't been stained in the past, because once you stain them annual upkeep is required. Mr.
146 Stevens said in the summer of 2015 there were numerous complaints about trash and rats. Through
147 efforts of Town and County Councilmembers, and the Solid Waste Authority Board of Directors, a plan
148 was devised to allow late Saturday dumping at the landfill. Is that agreement still in place? Mr. Adair said
149 it is and the cost to the town was not even \$2,000 for the season. Ms. Samples said as usual, your
150 department is a well-oiled machine. I know I compliment you often, but you do a fantastic job and your
151 crew does a fantastic job. She asked Ms. Fellner if the beach renourishment update could be published
152 on the website to inform the public. Ms. Fellner said yes. Mr. Ott said in my opinion, it would be better for
153 the staff performing the Moby rollouts to use a Gator or a golf cart. Mr. Adair said this discussion has
154 come up several times. During rollouts, staff also picks up debris left roadside and hauls it to the facility
155 on Sandy Lane. There is no perfect solution, but the pickup trucks seem to work the best. Mr. Courtney
156 asked why bulk pickup is not done on Fridays. Mr. Adair said this had been discussed many times. A
157 pickup day was scheduled about three years ago so residents would know when to put out their bulk
158 items. The tourists' change over day is a weak link in the system, but the schedule has worked well. The
159 bulk pickup day can be changed; however, it doesn't matter when the pickup day is there will still be bulk

160 items roadside. Mr. Courtney brought this forward, because he wondered if other councilmembers and
161 the public saw the same problem. Mr. Johnson said thank you. I appreciate that you, council, and the
162 residents have been tweaking the debris, yard pickup, bulk pickup, and garbage schedules for many
163 years. I thank you for trying to do what I think is best at this point. I don't think there will ever be a clear
164 solution. Mr. Adair added that the Solid Waste Authority will no longer take plastic leaf bags after July 1,
165 2018. Paper bags can be purchased at home improvement stores. If leaves are not bagged, the town
166 would have to purchase a leaf vacuum truck and hire an operator. Mayor Childs said Mr. Adair and his
167 staff do an excellent job.
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169 **C. Administrator's Report.** Ms. Fellner presented the written report, a copy of which is
170 attached hereto. Ms. Fellner said there is one consensus item. The landscape and tree subcommittee
171 unanimously recommends to Town Council that the two simplified versions of the revised landscape and
172 tree ordinance, along with all of their input, be presented to the planning commission for its review. Ms.
173 Samples said Town Council defeated sending this ordinance back to the planning commission at a
174 previous meeting. She asked if the subcommittee members, Mr. Ott, Mr. Johnson, and Mr. Stevens could
175 answer "what the distinction is between the two versions; what specifically will the planning commission
176 be asked to do, and what time frame will be given for its review." To be fair to the planning commission
177 members who worked diligently on this ordinance, I want specific recommendations. Ms. Samples said
178 these were simple questions, just for the record. Mr. Johnson called *point of order*, and asked if this was
179 deleted from the agenda. Mayor Childs explained that since the administrator had the consensus item in
180 her report, it was redundant to have a business item. Mr. Ott said there are two versions, but the
181 subcommittee also suggested some changes that were not prepared and distributed. I think we're
182 jumping the gun by going back to the planning and zoning, myself. I would like to meet again with the
183 subcommittee to go over a couple items that are in these two reports. I like both reports, but they need
184 some additions, and some editing. Then we can come back with something else. I think the
185 subcommittee can do its job on this now. Mayor Childs asked if there was consensus to send the two
186 landscape and tree ordinance versions to planning commission. **CONSENSUS FAILED.** Mr. Courtney
187 thought this should go back to the subcommittee because its recommendations were not in the drafts.
188 Ms. Fellner said that is why she stated simplified plans along with all other input. Mayor Childs asked if
189 there was consensus to send the ordinance back to the subcommittee. **COUNCIL CONCURRED.** Ms.
190 Samples said for the record, "I supported the ordinance for second reading, quite frankly, because when
191 I looked at it at great length the four page, and I do want to go on record for this, the four page tree
192 ordinance was good. I liked it. I thought it was a significant change, and had a lot of value to it. I could
193 clearly see Ms. Fellner that your hands are all over. And that's probably why I like it. It's very clear. Very
194 concise. Very simple, which is what we've been trying to do now for months. So I do like it. The four
195 pager is identical to the ten pager, let's say, I'm not sure how many pages it is, since two of those pages
196 are definitions. When I've gone line item by line item they're pretty much identical. It's just all in the way
197 it's being presented, and so, I do like it, and I appreciate the amount of effort that you, Ms. Fellner, have
198 put have put into this tree ordinance in trying to bring it to some sort of resolution. Again, I think it was
199 ready for second reading. But, since it's going to go back to the subcommittee for a third time, we'll see
200 what comes out of it. Thank you." Mr. Courtney said I really appreciate all the hard work that you and
201 planning and zoning have done with this. Have either of these versions been sent to the town attorney?
202 Ms. Fellner said no, we are waiting to determine which version Town Council wants to consider. Mr.
203 Courtney said this was being presented for second reading, and I am concerned about the short version
204 being legal. Ms. Fellner said this wasn't presented for second reading. The recommendation was to send
205 it back to the planning commission to consider. Mr. Courtney said the town attorney should review it
206 before second reading. Mr. Johnson said during the subcommittee meeting an attorney review was
207 discussed; what is brought for second reading definitely must be reviewed by the attorney. Mr. Ott said
208 for example in the shorter version there is a sentence about penalties that states that any tree 25 inches
209 in diameter or over that cut down [without a permit] is subject to a \$10,000 fine. That would include
210 palm trees. That's why this needs to be cleaned up. On the longer version it says landmark trees. We
211 need to clean it up. Ms. Fellner said absolutely. Mr. Ott said I appreciate Ms. Fellner's help with this.
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7. BUSINESS

A. Reading Ordinance #17-0847 to add Chapter 17 Sale of Personal Property at Residence, Director Morris. Mr. Ott moved to adopt second reading of Ordinance #17-0847 as presented. Mr. Courtney second. Mayor Childs, Mayor Pro Tempore Ott, and Councilmembers Courtney, Johnson, and Stevens in favor. Councilmember Samples voted against. **MOTION CARRIED.** The decision paper and ordinance copies are on file. Ms. Samples said for the record, "I support the basic elements of this ordinance. What I don't support is the fact that to have a yard sale, you now have to go to town hall and get permission. I've got a problem with that. It's overregulation at its worst. Thank you."

B. Resolution #17-182 to reduce Ralph Magliette Senior Citizens Committee Membership to Five Members, Councilmember Stevens, Liaison. Mr. Stevens moved to adopt Resolution #17-182 as presented. Ms. Samples second. All voted in favor. **MOTION CARRIED.**

C. MOU Horry County Fire Department, Chief Otte. Chief Otte presented the decision paper and memorandum of understanding, copies of which are on file. Ms. Samples said one of my concerns is that the town's taxpayers have been subsidizing Horry County with our response to county fire calls. We are the first responders to areas outside of our town. Considering that we know Horry County residents pay taxes for fire service, and we are their first responders, but we don't get that county-paid tax money. Have we had an MOU with Horry County in the past? Chief Otte said yes. Ms. Samples said I understand that the county keeps a rescue squad housed in our fire station, with two members who can also fight fires. That rescue squad responds to town residents for medical calls. Chief Otte said correct. Ms. Samples said that doesn't change and will continue to occur. I understand from when we met with Horry County that they appreciate them being able to house the medic unit here and we appreciate them being here, because it helps both the county and the town with the ISO ratings. Mutual aid is when we are there to help each other. Automatic aid means that the Town of Surfside Beach Fire Department will be the first people that arrive. We are responding to Ocean Lakes, Long Bay, and Prestwick; why? What is the justification? Chief Otte said the distance to the fire station. The county's fire station is located out on Dick Pond Road (Highway 544) [near the waterway.] The town's station sits strategically closer so we can respond and be on scene minutes quicker. The county's station on Scipio Lane is situated best to respond to Caropines and Deerfield. Automatic aid from Horry County responded to the recent fire on Sandy Lane within minutes. Ms. Samples asked if that fire was in the town limit. Chief Otte said yes. Ms. Samples said she was referring to county areas where the county should be the first responder. That is my opinion, and I just want to have the discussion amongst council so everyone recognizes that by supporting this memorandum of understanding that we are giving an approval to go and be the first responders to those areas in the county, which we could be responding to those areas in the county not be in the Town of Surfside Beach. Mayor Childs said perhaps Horry County will pay the town a portion of the tax money it receives from those areas and then we can cover the expense. Ms. Samples said that has been my argument since day one; those county residents pay dearly for fire service, and the town is first responder and should receive that money, which is why I cannot support the MOU. Mr. Ott agreed with Ms. Samples, but the coverage area was cut in half. That was a good achievement; maybe we can bargain a little better. Thank you, Chief Otte. Mr. Johnson asked what the distance is from the fire station on the south end of Myrtle Beach to Ocean Lakes versus the town's station. Chief Otte said the town's station sits in the middle of the town limits and we are about one mile from the Ocean Lakes entrance. The Myrtle Beach station is much farther away. Mr. Johnson said I agree it's not the best scenario, but at least it is a step. If we don't approve this, then there will be [no reduction in service area.] Chief Otte said correct. Mr. Courtney asked if this affected the ISO1 rating if we stop responding outside our jurisdiction. Chief Otte said only if no other houses respond in. Mr. Courtney said call volume is considered when you apply for grants. We have to be very careful, because if we lose your call volume, it would put us at risk for losing grants. Mr. Stevens said the ambulance at the fire house is one of the best things we have. The ambulance responded within five minutes when my late mother-in-law had a fall. I agree with Ms. Samples; I don't like our department going all the way to Pirateland. Fact is Horry County gives us automatic aid response in structural fires. The county is helping us and we're helping them. We

266 reduced the response area by 50-percent. Maybe eventually the county will build more fire departments
267 and they can take care of their own. But, it is good step in the right direction. Mr. Stevens moved to
268 approve the MOU as presented. Mr. Ott second. Mayor Childs, Mayor Pro Tempore Otte, and
269 Councilmembers Courtney, and Stevens voted in favor. Councilmembers Johnson and Samples voted
270 against. **MOTION CARRIED.**

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8. TOWN COUNCIL DISCUSSION.

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A. Reports on Tent usage at Season End, Mayor Pro Tempore Ott. Mr. Ott presented the discussion paper, a copy of which is on file. Mr. Ott asked for a review of the tent ordinances at the end of the season and said that council should always review newly adopted ordinances after six months to determine the effect to the residents. Ms. Samples said I really appreciate Mr. Ott bringing this forward. My only comment is that new rules for the tent ban take effect in January 2018 and you are proposing that we have this discussion at the first meeting in 2018. It seems to me that it would just make more sense if we discussed at the end of this season, so it's fresh on the minds of the people involved. Then we don't get ourselves in a position come January when the rules are already in place to start making changes again. Mr. Ott said I could agree with that. I would like to see things with reviewed within six months, but as you say will be fresh in everybody's mind we could do it in October or November. Mr. Johnson suggested 30 or 60 days after the renourishment project is completed. Mr. Ott said that was an excellent idea so we could see the condition of the beach. Ms. Fellner asked if we could bring the discussion 30 days after beach renourishment ends. Mayor Childs said there were many comments about the shortage of beach on the south side of town. This morning at high tide there was about 50 feet of beach on the north side that could be used. Today's newspaper reported that 156 lots were approved for building right across the road here. Within a mile of town, Southwood is building 268 houses. That is a grand total of 848 people if there are two people in each house. I know there's a lot of discussion on why we are eliminating the tents, but there is not going to be any beach with all these people coming here. They are coming to use the beach; they didn't come here to go snow skiing. People set up their 10' x 10' tents and set chairs on either side, taking up beach, but nobody was using the tent. You all can see this same situation every time you go to the beach. That's the problem. We're going be have more of a problem when all these people coming because of all these giant shading devices. Everybody's eliminated them but Surfside. We have to be realistic. I wish everyone would check out the beach around noon and see what I'm talking about. It's not only an issue for the lifeguards and the police, but it's going be an issue for you or your family when want to go to the beach. There will not be any room left, if we allow all these shading devices. Mr. Ott said asked where these thousands of people would park. We have to be logical. Every ordinance that we adopt should be reviewed within six months; he had no intention of repealing the ordinance. Mr. Stevens said I don't have a problem reviewing it. Why doesn't Ocean Lakes allow tents? It's because they've got too many people; the tents would crowd the beach. I talked with all the Myrtle Beach councilmembers about how the tent ban affected them. The response was that there were always some repercussions. I agree we need to revisit this. Mr. Johnson agreed that we need to revisit this at the second meeting in October. Mr. Courtney said I agree with Mr. Ott in reviewing ordinances. I'm not about overregulating. We are a legislative body. We sit up here and unfortunately, we gotta make rules, because there are some that will go over and beyond setting up tents and chairs taking up unfair shares of the beach. Melody Lane has restricted parking all the way up, because they were tearing up the county side of the road. Cars are lined up on Melody and not paying the meters in town. I watched tourists families come with their new bags to the beach, but couldn't find a place at 13th Avenue South to sit, so they left. It's not town residents; it's the people day trippers from the area neighborhoods who don't spend any money in town. **COUNCIL CONCURRED to revisit the tent ordinances the second meeting in October** (or 30 days after beach renourishment ends.)

B. Any matters of concern or information to be discussed. There was no other discussion.

9. PUBLIC COMMENTS – General Comments. (5-minutes per speaker)

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319 Ms. Gail King, Hollywood Drive North: I've owned a home in Surfside since 2002. I've resided
320 permanently here since my retirement in 2013. I'm appalled by some of the comments that one of our
321 councilman has made in social media to attack the character another councilman, staff, and people of our
322 community. As a resident, who votes in all elections, and supports the council, I think I have the right to
323 expect the elected officials to act responsibly, and with dignity and that they not participate in this type of
324 petty nastiness. We did not elect you to behave in a way that reflects badly on Surfside Beach. We
325 advertise [our] town as a family beach, but the name-calling and innuendos that have played out in social
326 media, in council meetings, and on flyers do not support that image. Many people who have visited and
327 are considering moving to Surfside Beach read this material on social media. I know someone will say
328 this is against their Freedom of Speech rights, but is it too much to ask that council show a little class?
329 I'm asking the Mayor to please have your council people show some human decency towards their
330 neighbors and the people of this town. This is a form of bullying and it needs to stop now.

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332 Ms. Betty Lowery, 4th Avenue North: I'm going to try to hit several things at one time. First one.
333 Thank you for the fruit arrangement that I got when I broke my arm and had the surgery. I realize it was
334 because I was a member of the committee, but it was so unexpected, and so thoughtful. I mean peeling
335 and slicing became a real exercise in creativity, if not impossible. So I really appreciate that. It was very
336 sweet of you. I know for some of you it was done in your name and you had no idea, but I still
337 appreciate it. Ms. Samples, you said something the permit for the yard sale. We had looked at that and
338 tried to find some way around it, and the way it was sent to begin with was not that they would have to
339 get town hall to get it. It was something that they can do online, and it can be sent back to them that
340 same way with rules on back of it. The reason we went with that was that it would be simpler to track
341 the yard sales rather than having some of the people in Surfside having a flea market set up next door
342 every weekend. It can be tracked easily with a spreadsheet that was already in the office for something
343 else, and it would allow them when you came up for your; you want to do the fourth one, they say, sorry
344 you've already done yours, and [it's] just protecting the neighbors. It's a simple way of tracking it without
345 causing a lot of hassle. Like I said, it was, I don't know what it looks like now, because I haven't seen it,
346 but when we said it, it was something can be done online. If they wanted to do it in person, that's fine.
347 But there would be no charge for; just a way of tracking them to protect the neighbors. With the
348 umbrellas, I have a friend that does oceanfront property management in North Myrtle Beach, the
349 Crescent Beach area, and at lunch one day I just asked her how did the tent-umbrella controversy play
350 out for them? She said it really wasn't noticeable. The people who came into their properties were aware
351 of it. It didn't bother them a bit. We were at the Sea Captain's House and I looked out the window and
352 saw a string of umbrellas. There were eight or 10 of them there altogether, but they were far enough
353 back so there's plenty of the beach there. The beach is wider there, of course. But, she said that there
354 really was not much of an issue. I kept sitting back there thinking, what did they do before they used
355 tents? I've been at Surfside Beach at one time or another for 65 years. I don't remember those tents. So,
356 obviously, people were surviving somehow without them. I don't see that you're gonna have a problem
357 with 'em. I really don't. The questions was asked 'why doesn't Ocean Lakes have tents.' It's because they
358 are part of the county. Horry County eliminated tents, that's Garden City, all the campgrounds, [and] the
359 State Park; no tents. They didn't do it individually. That's the county. Also, there have been at times
360 comments about constituents and who you represent. I just would like to remind you that when we hired
361 you, you applied for the job, you gave us resumes, you gave several good interviews, you have friends
362 who wrote essentially spoken letters of resume, I mean of reference. You wanted this job. Apparently,
363 we liked you, because we hired you. You didn't get elected to the position you're in by this little area or
364 that little area. All of you represent all of Surfside; not the north end, not the south end, not the
365 businesses, not the beaches, not the residents. All of us. Some people didn't even vote, much less vote
366 for you. But you still are responsible to them. You are also responsible for every person who drives into
367 Surfside. They're visitors, property owners, nonresident property owners, all of these people are part of
368 Surfside Beach and every decision you make affects every one of those. *(Time ended.)* So, when you say
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370 something about your constituents or the people that you represent, it's a lot bigger than the contact list
371 in your phone, so be careful. Time Up? That's fine. You know, I could go on forever.

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10. TOWN COUNCIL COMMENTS

Mr. Ott: Thank you everybody for coming out, and I enjoy your comments just as much you enjoy our comments, and it wasn't actually about the tents. It's about, I want to start something in this council where we bring every ordinance that we enact back for review. Basically, that's it. I have some wishes and hopes, but you'll never find me in a tent on the beach. That's it. Thank you very much for coming out. I'm hungry. I don't know about you.

Mr. Courtney: I'd like thank everybody for coming out. I do agree with Mr. Ott. We should review ordinances to see if they're right or wrong, to see what the outfall of it is. I urge my councilmembers to please watch the beach this summer. Take a good look. Get out there, because I know a lot of you don't go to the beach. I can tell by your color. *(Laughter)* But, sorry, except Ms. Samples, you look great. Ms. Samples said it's called sun screen, thank you very much. *(Laughter)* Mr. Courtney said don't forget about the beach luau tomorrow. Please go out and enjoy this wonderful town. This is our place. This is our home. We have a beach luau, please go. Have a great time, and we've got a lot of events. We've got great public safety; we've got the police, we've got fire, and the town workers who are all doing a great job, every one of them. Ms. Ellis, thank you very much. And, enjoy. Thank you.

Mr. Johnson: Gee, thanks. I don't know what to say after that *(laughter.)* Thank you guys for coming out. You all are actually a blessing to me. Y'all don't realize that, but I just appreciate all the support and all the comments whether they are negative or positive, you know. That's what makes this town great. It's the councilmembers, but it's specifically the residents, and our wonderful employees. I was going to say some other things, but I'll leave it at that. Thank you again for coming out. God bless you. Have a great evening.

Ms. Samples: Ms. Lowery, you can thank Ms. Herrmann for the kindness of your recovery basket, if you will. She is always on top of those things and we all appreciate it, but the sentiment is all of ours. We do appreciate all the time and effort you put in serving on the planning commission. Thank you for your explanation of the yard sales. Yes, Ms. Morris did a good job explaining it last time, and she did explain that you could go online to sign up for the yard sale. That is a nice convenience to have. I still don't support, however, the need to get a permit. It's just overregulation. It's just my thing. I don't like it. Ms. King, you are quite articulate when you came up to speak at the podium, and I for one who have been blasted by some of the social media antics; I certainly have experienced that, personally. I am not on Facebook. I haven't been on Facebook for a long time. I choose not to get on Facebook for a lot of reasons. Mainly because you hear so many falsehoods and lies and innuendos and half-truths and people make stuff up all the time. I've have people stop me on the street I understand you don't support this or you don't support that. I just look in bewilderment as to what the heck are you talking about, because if people say it on Facebook, somebody will spread it, and everybody will believe it, and we know in the small town, this lovely small town of ours that it gets personal sometime, and that's unfortunate that that happens. It is really unfortunate when we have councilmembers who actually play into it and feed into it. We have no control over that, unfortunately. My suggestion to you would be to just not read it. Do what a lot of us do; we just don't read it, because you just can't react to that crap, and that's what it is, crap. The fact that you care enough to come before council and speak so well, and are so articulate, I for one, appreciate it. I'm sure a lot of people sitting out in the audience appreciate it. I know our staff appreciate it, because they are sometimes harassed and they shouldn't be. Sometimes there are councilmembers that create a hostile work environment for that staff and that shouldn't be happening either. So, I appreciate it. I hope more people speak out about it. Thank you, very much.

Mr. Stevens: I've sit here and I is sit here, and I've been on this council, and I know what it's like being; everything thrown at me but the kitchen sink, and I have from people I don't even know. But they have, and that's okay. There is an old saying, can't stand the heat, get out of the kitchen, and that's what politics is about. That's what the freedom in America is about. We have the right to do what we want to.

Town Council Regular Meeting
June 26, 2017

425 We speak about, speak about somebody, if you don't like it, you can speak about them, and you don't
426 have to vote for them during the election. I'll vote for her during the election. It doesn't matter, whoever
427 might be. That's your choice. That's what makes America great. We have this, this thing that we can do;
428 you go and you mark the name on the ballot. Whoever you want to mark it for. Some people might not
429 like who gets elected. Some people might; it doesn't matter. You exercise that right. As long as I live, I
430 will defend everybody's right to speak up; have freedom of speech; say what they want to say, and some
431 of them are true, some of them are not true. But that's what makes America the greatest country in the
432 world. There will never be any country better than this country. Thank you all for coming out. Have a
433 good evening. Have a good week.

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435 Mayor Childs: I agree with Ms. Samples. I tell you, some of the things that are said on social
436 media, by the way, you'll never see my name on the social media. Not only do I not get on it; I don't
437 read it. I think that a lot of times things are said even up here on the dais that I think are not gentlemen-
438 like. I think things could be handled in a more businesslike manner. You can get as much done being
439 polite and kind. You don't have to get up here and be sarcastic and be nasty. It is not necessary. You're
440 not making any friends. I'm sure that all you out there look up here when somebody's like that, and I'm
441 sure you're not saying, well boy, aren't they great. I hope, like Ms. Samples said, I hope you do bring this
442 continuously to our attention. This needs to be calmer sometimes; stop personal attacks, and for
443 goodness sake, stop using some language just shy of being foul.

444
445 **11. ADJOURNMENT.** Mr. Johnson moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:28 p.m. Mr.
446 Stevens second. All voted in favor. **MOTION CARRIED.**

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448 Prepared and submitted by Debra E. Herrmann, CMC, Town Clerk

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450 Approved: July 10, 2017

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453 _____
Robert F. Childs, III, Mayor

454
455 Attest: _____
456 Debra E. Herrmann, CMC, Town Clerk

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458
459 Clerk's Note: This document constitutes summary minutes of the meeting that was digitally recorded,
460 and not intended to be a complete transcript. Appointments to hear recordings may be made with the
461 town clerk; a free copy of the audio will be given to you provided you bring a new, unopened flash drive.
462 In accordance with FOIA §30-4-80(A) and (E), meeting notice and the agenda were distributed to local
463 media and interested parties via the town's email subscription list. The agenda was posted on the entry
464 door at Town Council Chambers. Meeting notice was also posted on the town website at
465 www.surfsidebeach.org and the marquee.