



**SURFSIDE BEACH TOWN COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
REGULAR MEETING JANUARY 9, 2018 ♦ 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, Pellegrino, Samples, and Stevens were in attendance. A quorum was present. Others present: Administrator Fellner, and Town Clerk Herrmann.

2. INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE. A. Invocation: Reverend Laura Whitt gave the invocation. **B. Pledge of Allegiance:** Mayor Childs led the Pledge.

3. AGENDA APPROVAL. Mr. Pellegrino moved to adopt the agenda as presented with an amendment to delete 6.A. and 7.E., presentations by the business committee. M. Ott second. All voted in favor. **MOTION CARRIED.**

4. MINUTES APPROVAL. Executive Session and Regular Meeting December 12, 2017. Mr. Stevens moved to adopt the December 12, 2017 executive session and regular meeting minutes as presented. Mr. Johnson second. All voted in favor. **MOTION CARRIED**

5. PUBLIC COMMENTS. Agenda Items Only. (3-minutes per speaker)

Ms. Elizabeth Bradley, Surfside Beach: I came in favor of the amendment, [agenda item] 7. Section C, the ordinance being read on the ban of single use plastic bags. I'm here to support that.

Mr. Tom Dodge, 8th Avenue South: This has to do with item 7, B. What, what really is the purpose in doing this? The only thing that is not a business in that area right now is one house and parking lots. I don't understand why we're doing this. Is it going to cost the town anything? Are we going to lose parking spaces in that area? We don't have near [sic] enough parking spaces as it is to designate this as an area that is not required to have parking. Seems to me a little off the side of the hill. We don't have near enough parking in that area as it is. I just would like to know what it's going to cost the town; what the purpose of it is, and just a real why. What, what, what you doing here?

Ms. Jennifer Cribb, 14th Avenue South: I'm speaking to the first reading of the single use plastic bag ban ordinance. As you know, I'm a local licensed real estate broker and realtor, as well as the founder of Surfsidians that has over 16,000 members and growing; people who care about Surfside Beach and the environment. Most importantly, I'm a concerned resident who is completely in favor of the single use plastic bag ban ordinance. First, I would like to thank our Town Councilmembers for bringing this important and serious ordinance to its first reading with no delay. I also would like to thank all of the other concerned citizens who traveled here tonight from all over Horry County, Georgetown County, and beyond to show their support for such an important issue. The Town of Surfside Beach is a small, but very strong, coastal town. We have this huge and important opportunity to make a real difference. Our town has a gorgeous beach; beautiful lakes, the wildlife is awesome. We have such wonderful and caring residents. We must show our neighboring towns, counties and states that we do actually care, and want to protect our most precious asset, the ocean. It is up to us to pave the way for others to follow. We already know and are very aware of the grave harm single-use plastic bags bring to our ocean, our inlets, wetlands, and estuaries, marine life, and wildlife. So the time is now, not later. We must take this much-needed bold stand against plastic bags. Please, I implore you, our elected town officials, our councilmembers to make this happen without delay, and to vote in favor of a single use plastic bag ban. Thank you so much in advance for doing the right thing.

Ms. Gottlieb McClaran, Pawleys Island: I also am here in support of your plastic bag ordinance. I have been studying plastic for the past 10 years and I have a lot to say on it myself. But, I would like to read to you a letter which was sent by Rick Bowman who has been in the fishing business since 1967. Good evening ladies and gentlemen, my name is Rick Bowman. I am the founder of Murrells Inlet Seafood and I have been in the seafood business locally since 1967. I would like to commend the Surfside Beach city council for having the courage and

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57 vision to address the plastic pollution issue, as I would and I would like to give some perspective to the issue from a
58 fishing position. The plastic industry complains that any regulation or ordinance could negatively affect the jobs that
59 the industry provides. This is a very selfish and bogus position. If every industry used jobs as their excuse for
60 wanton pollution, there would be no regulation of pollution at all. Every polluting industry provides jobs. The
61 plastics industry want you to believe that the jobs they provide are due justification for polluting our air and waters,
62 and thus jeopardizing the fishing industry. This is something with which I totally agree. This is not a professional or
63 ethical position. The fishing industry upon which we depend a great deal also provides numerous jobs directly in the
64 fishery itself, and secondarily, in related businesses like ice, bait, maintenance, and infrastructure. All the way down
65 to the seafood shops that offer our products to the public and in restaurants who serve our products, all the way
66 down to witnesses and dishwashers. Scientific studies have revealed that fish are ingesting plastic particles. I have
67 brought a sample (handed to the mayor.) They fish are mistaking [plastics] for food. We are ingesting toxic plastic
68 when we eat fish. Scientists are predicting that there would be more plastic in the ocean than fish by 2050. At the
69 moment, there are 500 times more plastic particles in the ocean than stars in the galaxy. This is unacceptable. The
70 plastics and packaging industries should change their practices and procedures to produce packaging products which
71 are not toxic to the environment and human beings. Rather than producing more product the industry should retrain
72 and retool and invest in the future of packaging. In fact, they should have done so already. (Time ended.) Even the
73 United Nations environmental program states that the plastic issue is one that has been neglected for far too long. An
74 issue (gavel) with which I totally agree. Again, I thank you for taking up this issue and urge you to pass one use
75 plastic bag ban.

76
77 Ms. Carrie Johnson, Harbor Lights Drive: I am here to speak on 7.D. The Ordinance 18-0864 amendments
78 to Chapter 14 Flood Damage Prevention. This states that there are serious problems with the floodplain management
79 regulations. This is completely false. Each year the community assistant visit reviews all the flood ordinances
80 throughout the region. Changes are required based on changes made to the model ordinance. An example would be
81 the definition of critical facilities. When the town's flood ordinance was approved by Town Council, this definition
82 came directly from FEMA (Federal Emergency Management Agency). FEMA has now changed the term to critical
83 development. None of the changes required by FEMA are a result of the town violating anything or promoting
84 erroneous requirements. The requirement being requested regarding the fill is absurd, to say the least. This is an
85 evident attempt to try and cover up an error that has been made. This error has already been reported to FEMA, and
86 by changing the ordinance, some are hoping this goes away. I know some have asked to see the report from FEMA
87 and were denied. I asked that before you do anything on this ordinance, you see the report from FEMA. In the past
88 the letter requiring the changes was always included in the council packets for transparency reasons. When you see
89 the report then you can make the necessary changes required by FEMA, and only those changes. The city of Myrtle
90 Beach, Horry County, City of North Myrtle Beach, City of Georgetown, Georgetown County, and the City of
91 Conway all have the same language as our town currently has regarding fill in Coastal A and V Zones. The town
92 established a Coastal A Zone approved by FEMA to require V Zone requirements in this zone. The requirements
93 recommended by FEMA are more stringent than the building codes and the National Flood Insurance Program to
94 protect the homes from storm surge and to help prevent devastation during an emergency. Changing this ordinance
95 will have an immense impact on the town's Class 5 CRS rating, and this could potentially affect every homeowner
96 with flood insurance, if this is allowed to be changed. I served on the CRS committee, and many hours went into
97 getting our rating to a Class 5, which benefits the whole town. The CRS committee was made up of a couple of
98 insurance agents, which I am, real estate agents, business people, all required by FEMA for the CRS committee.
99 Please get your head out of the sand and see what is going on here. There are many, many ordinances that are not
100 being enforced. Mistakes are being made, and then in order to rectify the mistakes, they're trying to change
101 ordinances that should not be changed. We desperately need a planning and zoning director that knows what they
102 are doing such as the one we had and was fired for not doing these favors that are being done now. She enforced the
103 ordinances as written, and of course was sometimes not liked for that, but don't fire the messenger when all she was
104 doing was doing her job and doing it right, unlike what is happening now. Thank you.

105
106 Ms. Patricia Magliette, Harbor Lights Drive: I will make it short. I'm addressing Section D to amend
107 Chapter 14 Flood Damage Prevention. Well, okay they worked on it a while back and they did a very good job. It
108 was good in the eyes of FEMA. It kept our flood insurance reasonable and it was protection for everybody's living
109 place, whether you rent places or whether you own a yard, or a house, or townhouse. Okay, so I'm afraid that any
110 changes to our successful flood damage prevention may in fact result in increased flooding to families' homes. This
111 means all of our loyal taxpayers who been here paying taxes in the town for years, they, they don't want to have a
112 chance of increased damage, particularly if they're old senior citizens, and people who can't leave Surfside Beach to

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113 live somewhere else. So yeah, we don't want a chance of increased flooding to families. Two, we don't want to result
114 in a terrible increase with much higher insurance premiums. Not everybody here can afford to pay higher insurance
115 premiums. And three, we don't want to downgrade the good job we're doing. As I said, FEMA was in favor of what
116 we did. We have no violation of any FEMA law. We have something good, and I pray that if it's not broken, let's not
117 try to fix something that's not broken. We are dependent on you guys up in council. We are depending on the town
118 administrator. We are depending on all of you to use the discernment that Pastor Laura Whitt said make a good
119 decision for safety property protection and for us to feel good about living in Surfside Beach, please. Don't destroy a
120 mess around with our flood damage prevention and, in fact, FEMA does approve of what we been doing. Other
121 places do, too. It's not broke, don't fix it. Thank you and praying to God that we keep this town stay from
122 stormwater surges.
123

124 Ms. Beth Kohlmann, South Ocean Boulevard: First, I want to say I support the single-use plastic bag
125 ordinance, but I'm here tonight speak about 7.D. the flood, the flood ordinance. First, I want to just tell you that y'all
126 know me very well up there and this is my research on this (held up folder of papers) and I've been doing quite a bit
127 of it. In touch with DNR; in touch with FEMA; in touch with everyone, because and I'm not afraid to say it, I was
128 the one that reported the fill dirt in the flood zone. I was told not to do that because I would have problems, and then
129 to see this come out the way came out it's very disturbing, very disturbing. I just want to show you all here this is
130 what you were handed. A decision paper with eight pages, eight pages. This is the real flood prevention ordinance.
131 It's 66 pages. How are you supposed to vote on something that is incomplete, number one, and it has half-truths, as
132 my mom would call it, which is a lie. It says in here the community assistance report said there was serious
133 problems and that was given in September. If they were that serious, why did it take a resident to report this
134 violation of an ordinance for it to be looked at? I don't understand that. There is no conflict [sic], which I been
135 talked around and around the block by many people in town. You're reading into it so deeply. The only thing is like
136 one word in an ordinance that changes it and you're saying that fill dirt can't be used for structure, and that fill dirt
137 can be used for landscaping. Well, you don't landscape until you build a house. So you shouldn't be allowing fill dirt
138 to be dumped on a lot and then spread, which is what is happening at 16th Avenue South and South Ocean
139 Boulevard. Now it's already leveled. So how do you get the natural grade when they do a survey? There is a process.
140 It's in the flood ordinance. It's not being followed. There are; you need stormwater plans. You have to do it in order,
141 and the way they're saying this it's wrong. And now when you read this ordinance, go to page 5 if you would up
142 there, you all have this? That incomplete ordinance, go to page 5, page 5 of 8, you're allowing recreation vehicles
143 back down there. There is a reason it was taken out; for the CRS. Zoning ordinance in this town doesn't allow it. So
144 you're gonna take it out of this ordinance, and guess what folks, it's in another ordinance. So you're making this
145 compounding. You're just compounding this. Go to page 6. Page 6 of your ordinance. You just lined out G, and if
146 you all noticed like go back one page, he puts in Section 14-8, doesn't put an 8, he puts a number 4. Where's A? It
147 goes from four to B. What is that? And takes out enclosures of any kind. (Time ended.) There is so much more I
148 have to say. I hope you all take me up on my offer of I'll give you all my stuff. Thank you.
149

150 Ms. Marybeth Mabry, 15th Avenue North: I'm here to talk about flood ordinance. I want to remind you
151 that we not only got an award for this ordinance, they use this ordinance to teach in Maryland, and if you don't
152 believe it, go on to the FEMA website. If it was so bad and so egregious, do you believe that they would be teaching
153 that? Using our ordinance in tiny little Surfside two by 2 by 2 square miles. We're teaching it in Maryland. They're
154 teaching it to everybody all over the United States. How bad can it be? How bad can that language be when all the
155 other towns used our ordinance as an example? Every year FEMA audits us. That happens. And once in a while
156 they'll change the language that they are now using and request that we add that to our ordinance. That's not
157 egregious. That's not horrible. Nobody made a mistake. It was something that we do on a yearly basis. So, for you
158 have a staff member try to make his self or their selves look so good by tearing down something else. It is
159 misleading to the public. It is unfair to the residents, and it's wrong. And for you to allow it is doubly wrong. You
160 know it. You don't do something about. We are not being told the truth. We are being misled by these accusations
161 that did not happen. Call FEMA. Our floodplain manager has never spoken to our district FEMA representative. Not
162 once. Doesn't even know who he is. Wouldn't you think that if you were gonna change that you would've called
163 that representative. Had that face-to-face to see if we were correct or not. We didn't do that. We just came up with a
164 bunch of garbage because you're trying to do a favor for a friend, and there's no other way to say it. Thank you.
165

166 Ms. Lynn Livesay, 10th Avenue South: Council and Mayor, that's a hard act to follow. I want to address
167 the small portion of C3 they we're thinking about rezoning. I've lived here 34 years. I've served on many of your
168 committee as a volunteer, so. Some of it I've forgotten; some of his been changed. I want to address this particular

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169 issue simply because maybe the reason will be revealed and it is a small portion of C3. But, there's just a few things
170 that we need to think about a little bit more. We may be rushing to pass this, and I don't know why. The parking
171 services down there are; they're not permeous [sic.] That's what I want to speak to. They're not permeable at all. We
172 need an aggregate down there or put in more pavers. But if you go in there and start messing with this new zone, this
173 entertainment zone, anything on the surface is not grandfathered. You might be establishing something here that
174 may turn out to be title restrictions or anything. But, we need to work little bit more in that and it involves the
175 flooding. It involves the, what's down there, and it needs to be maintained. It should not be grandfathered. Anything
176 changes down there, you gotta put in a pervious surface. The other thing is I've been disappointed that since we had
177 a nice restaurant down there, it's in the, it's going to be in the proposed E district that there's never really been any
178 decent signage, since the old pier left and we ripped down the other one, and there's been floods and winds and
179 hurricanes. But we really need to address the signage ordinance, and I don't think you can just suddenly stick a sign
180 down there at the pier, but you need one up here on our corridor on 17. It should say hey, look, the ocean is this way
181 and we've got a pier and it's got a great restaurant. It should also mention we have other things down there; the other
182 restaurants, and the parking. We have public parking. We need a sign. You can't just stick a sign up here on the
183 corridor, though, unless you change the sign ordinance. So we need to look at that seriously. There aren't too many
184 cases where I think it would really apply. I think a survey could be done, and we can look into that specifically. But
185 the pier area that you're now thinking about making an entertainment area really needs to have a sign. It needs it
186 right now, but you need to start working on it. I wish you'd throw that to planning and zoning. The other thing, and
187 this is usually, is the trees and the green space in that area. There is none, and I think were rushing to pass this
188 ordinance without addressing some of those things. We need to include the thought of pervious surfaces. We also
189 need to put in some green space, and it can be done. We're requiring the folks on our corridor up here to tear up
190 parking lots and put in greenery. We're preparing for a big influx, you know, (time ended.) Wow, I didn't know I
191 spoke that long. Anyway, you get point. I think were rushing to this and I think we need to slow down and address
192 these issues. Thank you.

193
194 Mr. Harry Kohlmann, South Ocean Boulevard: I'd like to speak about the E district. I just want to let you
195 know I'm for it. But, I don't know why you rushing. This is something that's really, really big. It should be more
196 than one the workshop. Maybe event sent out to an engineer or a development company, or a planning company.
197 Right in Mr. Harrah's notes it says right now we don't have enough parking, and that we're against, and now we're
198 going against our ordinances once we build the pier again. He said we're gonna only lose 28 parking spaces. Well,
199 truth be had, it's really going to be over 55 parking spaces eliminated. You missed a couple spaces. Even the places
200 that he put, he missed count. Saying it's 6 acres; it's not 6 acres. It's more like 2 acres. It's one square block.
201 Incorporating the hotel has nothing to do with it. Those parking spaces are for the hotel. And saying 93-percent on a
202 slow year in July for last year the daily average capacity was filled, 93-percent was filled. That doesn't take; that's a
203 guesstimate, because that doesn't take into account all the parking decals of all the residents and out of town
204 residents, second home owners, their parking decals. You're getting there, because you put if you have a parking lot,
205 then you have to put parking spaces there if there's no structure, and you make a structure, you have to have parking
206 spaces. But, nowhere does how many. Two? Do you have to replace every single parking space? It doesn't say that.
207 Where, I didn't see it, but where in the ordinance does it say about the boundaries? Because I got two different
208 maps, and it shows two different boundaries. One ended at Dogwood and one ended at Yaupon. Which one is it?
209 We don't have enough parking there. That's the truth. If you're gonna put up buildings, you're gonna let people
210 build a restaurant right to the lot lines, and have no parking, guess what's gonna happen? I mean it's a wonderful
211 dream to say people are gonna walk, but nobody walks here, folks. Everybody takes their car to a parking lot and
212 then walks a block or two. If there's no parking, restaurants are going to go under. It's not gonna work. You have to
213 think about it. Why is people who have a structure there now, if they tear it down, don't they have to supply
214 parking? They should have to have the exact same amount of spaces that they used to have and they should have
215 them in the new building just like with the parking lots (time ended) when they're empty and it says you have to
216 have parking underneath. Why are they exempt? I'm just curious.

217
218 Ms. Caroline Bradner, East Bay: I'm here to speak about the plastic bag ordinance. First, I would like to
219 thank the council for the opportunity to comment on the plastic waste reduction ordinance and also for consideration
220 of it. [I am the] land, water and wildlife project manager for the Coastal Conservation League. I focus on how best
221 to protect these resources in our region. The Conservation League works in all of South Carolina's coastal counties
222 to protect our natural landscapes, abundant wildlife, clean water, and quality of life. The Conservation League
223 wholeheartedly support this ordinance as an excellent step towards addressing dangerous marine debris. It sends a
224 clear message that Surfside Beach does not want businesses operating within its boundaries to contribute to plastic

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225 pollution that litters our streets, endangers our state reptiles, along with hundreds of other species, and releases
226 harmful chemicals into our soil and water supply. It make sense to ask why we need a bag ban to take the necessary
227 steps in breaking a single-use plastic addiction. This is about 27 plastic bags that I picked up while I was waiting
228 outside for the meeting to start. (Held up bag full of bags and trash.) For an average of 12 minutes of use the US
229 produces 100 billion single-use bags a year. Only around 5-percent are recycled. These bags are truly what we
230 consider convenience items. The retailers spend around \$4 billion per year to give away. I may have to use a
231 reusable bag several times before its production is worth it environmentally. But, it doesn't take too much to imagine
232 173 less plastic bag in the ocean, which is about how many times you have to use your reusable bag. This isn't about
233 what we do with our bags. This isn't about producing the bags. This is what happens after them, not just for the next
234 day or year, but the next 500 years, which is our best estimate of how long it will take. Plastics do not biodegrade.
235 They do photo-degrade and they breakdown in the sunlight. Not only does that cause the bags to leach harmful
236 chemicals into the environment, it breaks the plastic down into smaller and smaller pieces, eventually becoming
237 micro plastic. Micro plastics totally unnoticed are in the fish we eat, the water we drink, and they are in us. Physical
238 plastic is dangerous. The toxins are dangerous. The only way to reduce the exposure and to get a handle on the
239 problem is to stop introducing new sources of plastic pollution into landfills, neighborhoods, and waterways. As
240 individuals, we take the initiative for the betterment of our communities building good habits like bring our own
241 bags, carrying reusable water bottles, walking and biking when we can. This is an opportunity for the local
242 businesses to make the same commitment. The necessary investment we all make when we choose to do the right
243 thing for ourselves and our community. This is about the health and safety of our wildlife, our beaches, and us. Our
244 coastal towns and cities are very lucky to have such proactive and forward thinking community leaders and such
245 passionate, passionate community members ready to address the problem head on. Thank you very much. I'd be
246 happy to answer any questions.
247

248 Ms. Kelly Thorvalson, South Carolina Aquarium: [I'm] here to comment on the plastic waste reduction
249 ordinance. I'd also like to thank you for your leadership in just having this conversation tonight, and last month
250 when I was here. I'd like to just reiterate something I talked about last month. I am a sea turtle rehabilitator. I've
251 been rehabilitating turtles for 14 years. We've seen a frightening increase of turtles being admitted into our sea turtle
252 hospital at the aquarium with plastics in their G.I. (gastro-intestinal) tracts. In 17 years, we've treated 20 turtles with
253 plastics; 15 of those have been the last three years, and 7 of those have been just in the last year. Seven of 20 in one
254 year. This is the same trend that we're seeing on our beaches; that were seeing in litter pickups across the state; that
255 were seeing along the road sides as we travel from one place to another. It's so, the aquarium, because we're seeing
256 this trend, we've made it a strategic imperative to try to combat plastic pollution and one way in which were doing
257 that is to engage people to physically remove this trash from our landscape, from beaches, from river sides, from the
258 streets. We've developed an app (software application) to track that data. So not only does this app help engage
259 groups and individuals to track or two to pick up litter, but I can actually see what the problem issues are with
260 plastics. Since this app began a little over a year ago, 4,205 plastic bags have been tracked in this (**) data app. Now
261 this is a small part of South Carolina, mostly coastal that is being swept and tracked. We're hoping to do a lot more
262 throughout the state. Very little sweeps have been tracked in this app in the north coast, but we're trying to do more.
263 After the December meeting where this ordinance was introduced, a small handful of us did a sweep in Surfside for
264 about an hour. It was freezing cold the next day. We picked up 44 bags in about an hour. Today as the Coastal
265 Conservation League rep said, she picked up almost 30 just a few minutes before I got here. I picked up about six
266 along with two bags of other types of trash and plastics. So plastics are an issue. Single-use plastic bags are one of
267 the easiest things to remove from circulation. There are so many inexpensive options, and I assure you, we all know
268 that change is hard, but I assure you people will get used to it. Change is absolutely imperative for the betterment of
269 society. When you learn that something is harming your community, your community members, the wildlife in your
270 community, it's that important to make those changes that help. The community members that are on board
271 understand why it needs to happen. Businesses need to consider the end game (time ended) of these harmful
272 products. Thank you for allowing me to comment.
273

274 Samantha Ladowik, Myrtle Beach: I'm a graduate student at Coastal Carolina University. I'm actually
275 working on micro plastic, microscopic pieces of plastic, research in Winyah Bay, South Carolina. Winyah Bay is so
276 beautiful, and it's the third largest area on the east coast. So were bringing down a lot of pollution from above us,
277 and I think we just need to be thinking about plastic bags as a bigger problem than what we can see, because they
278 break down into teeny, teeny, tiny pieces that I need a microscope when I filter my water samples and my
279 assessment samples to the been able to see the plastics. As they break down their surface area becomes a lot larger
280 and so that allows them to absorb these chemicals a lot more so than they would before as they're a bigger form of

281 plastic that we call macro plastics. So, it's just that it's a larger issue and we're seeing micro plastics in everything;
282 our sea salt that we get at the grocery store. Even lake salt, like it's horrible. Even drinking water. I have to use
283 what's called milique water in the lab, which is super filtered water in so many different ways to even get these
284 plastics out the water that I want to use in the lab so I don't contaminate my samples. So I think it's just a bigger
285 problem than what we really can even see or imagine. I want to just consider that as you're thinking about this
286 plastic bag ban, because it's going to be more than just a meal for a sea turtle that day in his stomach, but we usually
287 pull out where or even of a whale, it's bigger than that. It gets down to the plankton size. So it's affecting everything.
288 Thank you.

289
290 Daniel Bundrick, Surfside Pharmacy: I'm here to talk about the plastic ban, also. I live and work in
291 Surfside Beach. My pharmacy Surfside Beach Pharmacy at 320 US Highway 17 North. Just as a business owner,
292 we've already banned plastic. I brought some of our paper bags (showed the bags to council). We use only paper, so
293 we have small, medium, and we have large bags. If it's something is bigger than that, I'll carry it out to the customer
294 for them. You know, I'll take it out for them. We're getting bags with our logo on [them.] As a businessman, I'm
295 always promoting, as people know on Surfsideians (Facebook page), I love to put my pharmacy on site. We're going
296 to put our name and logo on the bags, and hopefully, customers will bring them back in and we teach them and
297 educate them. We're also hoping to open our ice cream shop, finally, in April. We also want to use all paper straws,
298 paper cups. We're going to be proactive even for that part of our business. Just as a business owner, I don't think is
299 very hard to do. I don't think it would be an inconvenience for my customers. So I'm in support of it from the
300 business standpoint. Again, you can put your logo on here. On plastic bags you don't really see the logo, but you see
301 'em on the paper. So, anyway, thank you.

302
303 **6. COMMUNICATIONS.**

304
305 **A. Business Committee Update, Inside Surfside Beach, Chairman Truett.** This matter deleted from the
306 agenda during business item 3 above.

307
308 **B. Administrator's Report.** Ms. Fellner presented the written report, a copy of which is attached hereto.
309 Mr. Johnson asked Ms. Fellner if additional information was available from FEMA (Federal Emergency
310 Management Agency). Ms. Fellner said we are located in Region 4. When we told FEMA that Region 2 has
311 approximately \$500 million obligated under 428 programs with the same type of parameters as our pier would have,
312 they didn't feel comfortable making a decision any longer. So they kicked it up to FEMA headquarters, and there are
313 four people at FEMA headquarters. I emailed all of our representatives and sent this information along to them. I
314 also included in the email those four people from FEMA headquarters who are the decision-makers. That's where it
315 resides now; it is at the highest level. Mr. Ott asked regarding beach renourishment did we change our focus point
316 where the height will be, because what was done before was inefficient. I don't believe they had a target height that
317 was high enough. What I've seen in other beach renourishment was much higher. Ms. Fellner understood his
318 concern. When renourishment is done, the Army Corps determines the height, and because this is an emergency,
319 because of what happened with Hurricane Irma coming right after the renourishment project and washing all the
320 sand back into the ocean, they will put back what we lost. Mr. Ott said we won't be able to grab some of that sand
321 and push it back into the dunes like I see them doing in North Myrtle Beach. Ms. Fellner said right; we could do that
322 after, but certainly not before. Mr. Ott said referred to the flood ordinance and asked don't we usually have this in a
323 discussion form first? How did it come into the business section without council consensus? Ms. Fellner said I think
324 because these were changes from the representative and from DNR (Department of Natural Resources) and I think
325 you have a sheet in front of you with regard to the person at the DNR, because this was all sent to the DNR. Mr. Ott
326 said Mr. Harrah may be sick for a while. Maybe we should the set up some kind of workshop quickly and really
327 educate ourselves on this, so we all understand exactly what's happening, if we could. Ms. Fellner said obviously,
328 there is a lot of discussion with the public. There was a lot of input tonight. I think that be a great idea. Mr. Ott said
329 the business committee chairman was added to the agenda under communication and business without council
330 discussion. The council does run this. I don't know why we're jumping over and running with these things and
331 pushing them so fast. Ms. Fellner said I think that's why that's taken off the agenda. Ms. Samples said to clarify Mr.
332 Ott's statement about the flood damage prevention was put on discussion at last meeting. We have gone through
333 discussion on that ordinance once. So, it was quite appropriate for it to be brought forward as a business item
334 tonight. But, I agree that we should probably defer that and discussed it when Mr. Harrah is present, so he can
335 answer our questions. Ms. Fellner said I agree. Mayor Childs said when the business section is opened, any member
336 may make a motion to defer business item 'D' to a later date. Mr. Stevens said regarding the flood damage

337 ordinance what the FEMA recommendations were and in his opinion, the CRS committee should review it. Ms.
338 Fellner said I think that's why we just talked about having a workshop. Mayor Childs said I think the CRS
339 committee has been disbanded. I asked Ms. Fellner to contact the members to ask them to review this. I think even
340 prior to I would like to see the committee review prior to a workshop, if we could get that the group to review it.
341 Then if we still want a workshop, we can do so. Ms. Samples said one of the concerns about the CRS committee, as
342 a resident pointed out, is that the committee was made up of business people in town. I realize that that was at the
343 direction of FEMA, but these are stormwater issues, and flood issues. We certainly, I would hope, get some
344 expertise in the area of stormwater and flood when we're talking about flood damage prevention. I just offer that up
345 as a suggestion, if we're going to talk about bringing back a focus group. It sure would be nice to have that
346 expertise. It certainly above my knowledge and skills. Mr. Courtney asked by the flood management ordinance did
347 not go to the planning and zoning commission for review. I have a grave concern with this. None of us are FEMA
348 experts. Ms. Fellner said again, I think that's one of the reasons why we're going to have a workshop. Mr. Courtney
349 thanked staff for doing a good job during the winter storm. Do we stock any kind of salt or pellets for icy
350 conditions? The pier was completely salted, but Surfside Drive was a sheet of ice and not salted. People were
351 walking to our restaurants. The sidewalks are town property. The property owners had a problem with this, because
352 they can't put a sandwich board out more than three feet past their door, but they are expected to take care of the ice
353 on the sidewalk. Isn't that our responsibility? Why don't we have a pallet of the stuff in the warehouse? Ms. Fellner
354 said we had two pallets. We went through a tremendous amount of ice melt. I believe the afternoon that you and Mr.
355 Ott came into my office, they went over there. They put some down, but they had to chop the ice to get it off. It
356 looked a lot better and the business owner was happy. Mr. Courtney said this issue has to be addressed in the future.
357 We have to have enough product to use. The pier was definitely all clear, I don't see why both sides of Surfside
358 Drive should have been clear, as well. I watched many people take falls over there when going into Surfside Pizza.
359 So, it is something we need to address for next year. Ms. Fellner said I agree with you 100-percent. Mr. Courtney
360 said I think there was a mistake made when signs were placed on Yaupon Drive North. The signs read 'no parking
361 any time except for C3 permits only.' Ms. Fellner said I think as we discussed when we met, the clerk is going to
362 queue up all of those particular times council discussed that and council voted. You and another councilmember
363 were going to come back in to listen to those recordings. Mr. Courtney said Mr. Ott and I read all the minutes. The
364 intent was, I think I was very clear on this, the intent was that the employees of these businesses were going to get
365 green decals. Again, it got stalled over the course of last summer, and they never implemented that. The green decals
366 were never bought. Now we were originally going to charge the employees for these decals with their owners paying
367 for them. But then we came back to council after speaking with the parking committee, and we said we would give
368 them to free. The parking committee designated [sic] the green decals were given so they would be able to park in
369 regular parking spots. We preferred they didn't park in the pier parking lot, and we asked him if they could park on
370 Surfside Drive and Yaupon South in that parking lot. To designate a whole block for C3 permit parking on Yaupon
371 North, you're taking away parking from the residents and you're taking away parking from customers. You're
372 designating a whole block for employee parking. Ms. Fellner said I hear what you're saying. The appropriate time to
373 address this is to come back and to hear what is on the record. After we've heard what is on the record, then we can
374 put it on an agenda, if you want to discuss it in public, or if you just want corrective action, if, indeed, there was a
375 misstep made. We'd be happy to do that. But, it's not on tonight's agenda or in my report. Mr. Courtney said well,
376 I'd like to add it back on the agenda. I did read the minutes, so I did go through them thoroughly. I don't see where
377 the error occurred. I would like to add to the agenda, because I'm not going to designate a whole block of parking
378 and take it away from the residents or people visiting and give them a whole block of free parking, and nobody else
379 can use those spots. Ms. Fellner said minutes are not verbatim, so we need to actually listen to all of those
380 recordings, then determine what the vote was, because if the vote was passed, and you were not one of the people
381 who passed it, if you didn't vote in favor then it couldn't be brought back by you. It would have to be brought back
382 by someone who it's stated that was in favor of it. So there are a lot of pieces to this puzzle. We have to start with the
383 audio recordings. Mr. Ott said I read a lot of them and I found out and there is an error. Nobody is flawless. What
384 I've seen, and I saw it written in the minutes in a couple places the liaison to the parking committee and the
385 chairman of the parking committee both spoke of Yaupon and Surfside Drive without designating north or south. I
386 think it's best if we get together and make the correction, if we can and just make it right. Ms. Fellner said I'm happy
387 to do that. That's all we're attempting to do as staff.

388
389 **7. BUSINESS.**

390
391 Mayor Childs reminded everyone that Ms. Fellner already said Mr. Harrah was absent due to illness. He
392 believed the only item about which there were questions was business item D, first reading or Ordinance #18-0864

393 regarding flood damage prevention, and asked if there was a motion to defer that item. Ms. Samples moved to defer
394 first reading of Ordinance 18-0864. Mr. Pellegrino second. Mr. Stevens moved to amend to have the ordinance sent
395 to the CRS committee, and also have the South Carolina Department of Natural Resource recommendation letter
396 delivered to councilmembers. Mr. Courtney second. Mr. Ott asked Ms. Fellner if the CRS committee was still in
397 existence. Ms. Fellner said no, they have not met for very long time. We can certainly contact the former members.
398 Mr. Ott said that's all I need to know. Mayor Childs, Mayor Pro Temp and Councilmembers Courtney, Johnson,
399 Pellegrino and Stevens voted in favor. Ms. Samples voted against. **MOTION TO AMEND CARRIED.** All voted
400 in favor to defer first reading of Ordinance #18-0864 as amended. **MOTION CARRIED AS AMENDED.**

401
402 **A. Second Reading Ordinance #17-0861 to amend Chapter 17, Article 6, Signs, Deputy**
403 **Administrator Harrah.** Mr. Stevens moved to approve second reading of Ordinance #17-0861. Mr. Johnson
404 second. The decision paper and ordinance copies are on file. Mr. Ott said I know that we spoke explicitly about the
405 political signs, which this is in reference to and the size of the signs, but there were also changes made in this as per
406 the code enforcement officer and the fine and procedure in that. I'm not sure if Mr. Harrah was here if he would be
407 able to tell me if it was in reference to the nuisance ordinance, also, where they would be combined. I just didn't see
408 that in there before. Does anybody else on the council remember seeing that? There was no discussion, right? Ms.
409 Samples indicated she did not. All voted in favor of second reading of #17-0861. **MOTION CARRIED.**

410
411 **B. Second Reading Ordinance #17-0862 to amend Chapter 17, Article 3, rezoning a small portion of**
412 **C3 in the pier area to Entertainment District, Deputy Administrator Harrah.** Ms. Samples moved to approve
413 second reading of Ordinance #17-0862. Mr. Ott second. Mr. Johnson said according to the town code neighboring
414 property owners within 150 feet are required to receive a letter of proposed zoning changes no less than 15 days
415 prior to the hearing date. He asked regarding the entertainment district if all of the neighboring property owners
416 were duly notified. Mayor Childs said council held an extensive workshop on this past Saturday on this ordinance.
417 Quite a few business owners came. In fact, I think all business owners were present at the workshop, and asked all
418 their questions. Mr. Johnson asked for a copy of the letter delivered to the property owners. Ms. Fellner said that
419 was probably done, but that specific question was not asked. Mr. Johnson said the sign that was actually posted was
420 for a variance request, which may be an issue. Ms. Fellner said it may, and I'll check on that. Ms. Samples said to
421 inform the public, I want to state that in 2016 there was at least one planning commission meeting, and discussion
422 about the E district and in 2017 the planning commission met on it at least twice, and council had a workshop this
423 past Saturday when the affected business owners attended. So it's not like this has been done autonomously. We
424 have had public meetings, so I just want to make that statement for the record. Ms. Fellner said yes, and I appreciate
425 that. I just want to make sure we do it the right way. If Mr. Johnson's comments are true, and we need to go back
426 and retrace our steps. Ms. Samples said this is why it's important to have conversations with our employees, and we
427 could have had this resolved before tonight's meeting. Mayor Childs said it could have also been brought up at the
428 workshop. Mr. Courtney said I believe Mr. Johnson's point is whether or not residential was contacted. I didn't hear
429 that in the statement. Ms. Fellner repeated that she did not know. Mr. Ott said the sign at the corner of Ocean
430 Boulevard and Surfside Drive did say variance. We usually have a rezoning sign that was actually a different color.
431 We did have a workshop, and I asked for the workshop, because I had questions on the parking issues, and the
432 parking issues were quite extensively covered by Mr. Harrah. One other question that was asked about this is as far
433 as I've been told, and I read this rezoning will keep all parking spaces as they are today going forward and they
434 would have to be changed in the future by our planning commission and the council. Saying that the only thing that
435 were stopping is if somebody would buy one of the businesses there and put up a condominium or something like
436 that. This district will remain a business district, and not anymore residential homes built there. That's what council
437 has been informed. Mayor Childs said you're absolutely right. That's the main objective so it can't be changed into a
438 residential area. Mr. Pellegrino said I have a point on Mr. Johnson's comment, if we don't know if we follow the
439 ordinance, can we vote on this or should it be deferred? Ms. Samples agreed with Mr. Pellegrino, since we cannot
440 answer the question. I don't think we can adopt second meeting, so, I would like to withdraw my motion and asked
441 that the second be withdrawn. Mr. Ott withdrew his second. Ms. Samples moved to defer second reading of
442 Ordinance #17-0862 until a later date. Mr. Stevens second; several other members also second. All voted in favor.
443 **MOTION CARRIED.**

444
445 **C. First Reading Ordinance #18-0863 to establish a ban on Single Use Plastic Bags, Deputy**
446 **Administrator Harrah.** Ms. Samples moved to approve first reading of Ordinance #18-0863. Mr. Ott second. Ms.
447 Samples said I talked about this at our last meeting. This is something for our coastal community that is very
448 important. We've heard a lot of people talk about it tonight. Let's see if we can make this thing happen. Mr.

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449 Pellegrino said for those of you who were at last meeting, we talked extensively about this. I appreciate your
450 comments, but I didn't say anything during the last meeting because I always know there's two sides to every
451 decision. It is my responsibility to understand both sides to a decision before I vote, obviously. The reason I tried to
452 postpone this item was because I'm personally not ready to vote. When I did research, and you know information
453 can be skewed in all kinds of different ways, [I found] in the city Toronto, Canada a plastic bag ban was adopted.
454 They are now looking at repealing it right now for three reasons. First, it didn't fix the problem. Second, the default
455 was paper and it created five to seven times more solid waste, depending on the neighborhood, and [third] they
456 found a huge increase in people purchasing plastic bags from stores to meet all their needs for plastic bags. That's
457 history. That's factual. The US EPA (United States Environmental Protection Agency) website has a whole bunch of
458 facts supporting each side, but in the end EPA didn't recommend it. There's pros and cons each way. The UK EPA
459 (United Kingdom Environmental Protection Agency) did a study on the cotton bags, which are commonly handed
460 out. According to their study, which how accurate is I don't know, you would have to use those bags 131 times
461 before you had economic impact that would make it better than single-use plastic bag. Whether it's 131 or 50 or I
462 don't know, but it is information. Personally, I don't like littering. I don't like pollution. I don't like driving down the
463 highway and seeing plastic bags in the trees. I hate that. But in the end, it's a personal responsibility whether we
464 litter. It's a personal responsibility whether we recycle. This is a choice. Those bags don't end up in the ocean
465 without someone throwing it out. I'm not ready to vote yes on this today, because I still some follow up that I'm
466 waiting for and I just know there are two sides to every story. I'm probably the only one in this room on the side, but
467 I may vote in two weeks for the plastic bag ban, but I don't have all the information today. I know we haven't met
468 for weeks. My wife and I did some research, and reluctantly found compelling arguments on both sides. I'm still
469 waiting to talk to more people and get feedback. I just want everyone to know that there's benefits to one thing but it
470 could hurt another and vice versa. So, at this point, I'm not prepared to vote yes. Mr. Ott said I respect Mr.
471 Pellegrino's decision. But the Town of Surfside Beach, and when we do strike this ban will not put an end to the
472 problem. It's too big, but we're gonna spearhead this forward. We're gonna make something happen. We're going to
473 show other people this is how we do it. We stopped smoking in our stores and restaurants here. Horry County still
474 hasn't done it. I believe that you have to start somewhere and we're gonna start it. Mr. Courtney said my opinion on
475 it is that you don't have to use a paper [sic] bag, you can use one these that was just given to me (held up reusable
476 cloth bag). Plastic bags don't get thrown out by the public, they get loose. They fly out of the cars. They fly out of
477 the garbage pails when they are being dumped. I watched plastic bags wrapped around a telephone line that was
478 there for two years. They finally came off. My friends and I watched those bags during two Super Bowl games.
479 Where it went? To the ocean, Long Beach, New York. Hopefully, it won't make its way down here. I believe that
480 we should work on the Styrofoam products, as well. I'm in favor of this. I don't see why we should not move
481 forward today. Mr. Stevens said as a fisherman I see a plastic bag on the shoreline, and I go 'what in the world is
482 that doing there?' Who was dumb enough to throw it out there and put it in the environment? The fact is, when my
483 nieces visited me, we toured the Pee Dee River. When we stopped to see a plantation house near Georgetown and I
484 pulled a bag out of the water that was made Cheraw, South Carolina. That bag travelled down the river from
485 somewhere around Cheraw to near Georgetown. Plastic bags can't be recycled. If they could be recycled, I could see
486 using them. Paper [products] can be recycled and made into paper bags. It would be very easy for the town of
487 Surfside to ban plastic bags and provide a paper bag, recycled, so we could recycle the bags and make them put
488 them right back out there. I understand Mr. Pellegrino. I'm for businessman out there, but at same time, I'm for the
489 environment. I want to fish and not pull in a plastic bag. There is a big sign at Sandy Island Landing that says 'Don't
490 eat the Largemouth Bass and Mudfish,' because there are pollutants in the water. Fish are dangerous to eat when the
491 water is polluted. Mr. Pellegrino said just for the record, "I didn't mention anything about businesses. I mentioned
492 environmental facts, and yes, paper can be recycled. Plastic can be recycled. One time [use] plastic bags can't be
493 recycled the for reuse, but they are recycled to pick up dog poop, to put in your trashcan at home, to do a lot of
494 things. But, recycled, there is no guarantee recycled paper will be recycled, our paper will be recycled. Also,
495 someone else has to invest millions of dollars to build a facility do it, and then manage it. So, I just want to say I
496 challenge this council to research both sides, and I may still vote for the ban in two weeks, but I'm gonna be sure
497 that I understand both sides of the argument. So I challenge you, because I bet there's people up here that haven't
498 even looked at the other side." Mr. Courtney: I appreciate Mr. Pellegrino's comments and I do respect them. I did
499 do some research, and we took a trip down to the Solid Waste Authority. I was very surprised. We were given a
500 tour. I went with another councilmember. The biggest problem that they had was plastic bags. It was a big issue for
501 them. [Plastic bags are] getting caught up in the machinery. I could not believe what I saw. They actually had people
502 climbing into the hopper to get rid of these plastic bags. It is very dangerous to do so in that big size of the
503 equipment. It is a problem for Horry County. Mayor Childs said I do agree with the majority of council. I think
504 banning plastic bags is a good thing. I know we went through similar arguments when this town was out in the front

505 with banning smoking. They wanted to tar and feather those of us that were on council at the time. I think eventually
506 everything will have to be recyclable, because we are just burying ourselves in trash. I went to Maryland for the
507 Christmas holidays. We went to a major restaurant, and my wife got a box to go. They actually gave us a small small
508 cardboard box instead of Styrofoam, because you can actually put cardboard boxes in your microwave. Actually, the
509 silverware was recyclable. So, I think this is a good thing that Ms. Samples has brought forward. I certainly hope
510 that council does support this. I think it's one step in the right direction. Mayor Childs, Mayor Pro Tempore Ott, and
511 Councilmembers Courtney, Johnson, Samples and Stevens voted in favor. Councilmember Pellegrino voted against.
512 **MOTION CARRIED.**

513
514 Ms. Samples said before business is finished, she wanted to share that Mr. Harrah was contacted and
515 confirmed that the letters Mr. Johnson spoke of were properly mailed to the neighboring residents. However, the
516 issue of the proper sign posting remains. Mr. Johnson said he would still like to have a copy of that letter.
517

518 **D. First Reading Ordinance #18-0864 to amend Chapter 14, Flood Damage Prevention, Deputy**
519 **Administrator Harrah.** This item deferred to a workshop; see number 7 above.

520
521 **E. Business Committee Funding Request for *Inside Surfside*, Chairman Truett.** This item removed
522 from the agenda, see number 3 above.

523
524 **8. TOWN COUNCIL DISCUSSION.**
525

526 **A. Public Safety, Councilmember Courtney.** Mr. Courtney said I want to bring this to the residents. This
527 is something very important. I been beating this drum now going on almost two years. Public safety, our police, fire,
528 as you know, on the Grand Strand, Myrtle Beach has now raised their salaries for recruitment to Myrtle Beach
529 police. They bumped it up over \$10,000. They also have given incentives; take-home cars, and other perks, and
530 more vacation time. We are facing a problem coming down the road. I've been informed that we are about to lose a
531 few more offices to go there. It's all about feeding the kids and taking care of your home. Our police department is
532 under paid. If we want to retain our police department, which is the finest, we are known in Surfside Beach, we have
533 our own police department. We have our own fire [department,] and you can't get any better than that. We're in a
534 two-mile town, and you have a response time; I can have a police car at my house within a minute. I have to say, we
535 have to start looking down the road, because I'm gonna ask that when we go to the budget meeting I've asked Chief
536 Hofmann to address us. I'm asking council to take a good look at this, and look at what the other municipalities are
537 doing around us, and that we have parity with the other departments or at least close to it. I spoke Chief Hofmann on
538 this and he is bringing information to us at the next Town Council meeting, correct? Chief Hofmann indicated yes.
539 Mr. Courtney said, so I just want to bring this to every one's attention. We don't need to be losing police officers.
540 When we lose them, it cost us money. There's money to train them, put them in uniforms, fire arms, leather, and
541 more training, and they end up staying for a year, two years, and they roll on over to another department. We lose
542 valuable officers, and what we do? We go high three or four more officers, send to the Academy, and it just goes on.
543 It just does it all over again. So were really losing money. I think that we really need to bump them up and bring
544 them up to parity with the other departments. Again, I ask council that you look at this coming this budget meeting.
545 Mr. Stevens said I would agree wholeheartedly with Mr. Courtney. We have, in my opinion, the finest police
546 department anywhere in the probably the whole Pee Dee area. They are out there doing the job. They get it done.
547 When we have criminals come in our town, a lot of times when they are caught they say we thought we were in
548 Myrtle Beach. Chief Hofmann can verify that. We need to pay our police more. Let's face it, these guys are putting
549 their lives on the line. They never know whether someone is dangerous and has a gun or not when they stop a car.
550 We need to take care of them. I attended a seminar on Public Safety with the Municipal Association. One of the
551 things they said was be proactive. Pay your people enough money so they'll stay with you. This is a great town and
552 I'll guarantee you, if you check our crime statistics we have the lowest crime anywhere in this area. We're way
553 better than everybody else. [Police] will be at your house in no time, I've actually been on a drive along with the
554 Police Citizen Academy and saw them in action. They do the job. This is definitely something we need to look. I
555 applaud Mr. Courtney for bringing this up. Public safety, the safety of our citizens in this town, whether it's police
556 or fire, is tantamount; the greatest importance that we can have. So, I agree 100-percent. I'd love to see this brought
557 back up, so we can get more money for police officers. Mr. Ott said I believe this is one of the issues by disbanding
558 the organizational committee, we ended up and we can't talk about this or discuss it. We need to have options,
559 because I know vigilante groups aren't one of our options. We don't have any options on the table. We can go into a

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560 visioning meeting, and we have nothing. We have to addresses this and address it soon. I'd like to see the council
561 bring back the organizational committee. I wasn't on it, but I think they accomplished a lot [as a committee.]
562

563 Mr. Courtney said during the last six months I've never seen a mess in Surfside Beach like I've seen before.
564 I've seen stuff done, permits. I've seen stuff done that we don't have answers for, because we have untrained people
565 giving us information. We had a FEMA expert working for us, and at this time, I'm gonna ask consensus to reinstate
566 a former director of planning and zoning, Ms. Sabrina Morris. I'm gonna ask consensus of this council to bring it
567 back as a business item at the next council meeting. She was an expert in FEMA. She knew her stuff. If there was an
568 issue, I mean I'm not going to get into personnel issues, but I'll leave it at that. She was an expert. We put a lot of
569 money into her. We trained her. She was here for years. She knew her stuff. A lot of this stuff that we're challenging
570 every council meeting, she would have the answers, and we never hired a planning and zoning director. We hired a
571 deputy administrator to replace the administrator that was heading out in June. So we still don't have a planning and
572 zoning director. I think that we should bring it back in the business, and I'm looking for consensus of council.
573 Mayor Pro Tempore Ott and Councilmembers Courtney, Johnson, Stevens concurred. Mayor Childs, and
574 Councilmembers Pellegrino and Samples objected. **COUNCIL CONCURRED.**
575

576 Mr. Johnson said several ordinances that have not been enforced, such as the sign replacement at 16
577 Avenue and Highway 17 North. The panel replacement was allowed even though the sign does not meet size
578 requirements. Nonconforming signs shall not be allowed to remain after a change of ownership of property. That is
579 exactly what happened there. On the south end, Hall's Automotive changed hands. A freestanding sign was allowed
580 to change without meeting the sign ordinance. The freestanding sign is in the right way. By ordinance it must be set
581 back five feet from the property line. That was not done. The new owners were not required to meet the overlay
582 requirements. The car lot on the corner of 4th Avenue South and Highway 17 South, the landscaping does not meet
583 the overlay. The owner allegedly presented a plan that met the requirements, but later came in complaining about the
584 requirements, and was given approval to use less landscaping by one of the town employees. The owner should be
585 given the option to request a variance from the board of zoning appeals, since the property had the available space to
586 plant the required landscaping. Instead, someone granted the variance, which is not the legal way to grant variances.
587 At 641 Sparrow Drive, I don't know if it was the owner or a renter, but they [severely] topped the trees. They did not
588 have a permit. Topping trees under our ordinances is not allowed. Council was told by Mr. Harrah during a meeting
589 that the trees were not topped; they were pruned. That is not true, they were topped. You can go by there today or
590 next week and see how those trees were topped. I'm not talking about being topped 10 feet off the ground topped.
591 The building official is required to take all decisions to the assistant administrator who has overridden most
592 decisions. By state law, the building official's decision is final. The only avenue by law is an appeal of the decision
593 to the construction board of appeals. The administration has no legal jurisdictions. I could go on. I don't think that
594 there is pertinent qualification in certain areas of employment in our planning and zoning department. One of the
595 major issues was never addressed and it included one employee who is still employed by the town. I have some
596 serious issues, and so therefore, I support Mr. Courtney's recommendation wholeheartedly. Thank you.
597

598 Mr. Ott said last week we had an infrastructure meeting, and we spoke about the additional money [being
599 used] to rebuilding the bridge at Myrtle swash and Ocean Boulevard. It's a lot more than what was estimated. We
600 gave \$22,000 or \$24,000 more. So, what I'd like to do is look at what we have approved already, and see by the
601 structure committee, and see which one we want to cut back from what we approved to save that money. As Mr.
602 Pellegrino said we have needs and wants, and I'd like to see what the cut off for want is. I'd like to bring this as
603 discussion item of the next meeting so that we can we can look at it. I know the 3rd Avenue South, that's a lot of
604 money. We have that money and it's in a grant and we're not gonna touch that. We do have the bathrooms that we
605 are putting in the Passive Park or the concrete on the parking lot over [at the fire station.] I would like to try to save
606 that money in the budget for that item, if we could. I'd like to get consensus from council to bring this back. All
607 members concurred. **Council CONCURRED.**
608

609 **9. PUBLIC COMMENTS. General Comments.** (5-minutes per speaker)
610

611 Ms. Patricia Magliette, Harbor Lights Drive: I'm not gonna take five minutes. Okay, so we do know we
612 have the finest police force around. My burglar alarm went off by accident. I barely had time to even answer the
613 door and they were there. They make us safe, particularly for the elderly, and the people with little kids. I mean you
614 know your family is safe here, and same goes for the fire department, and also the emergency personnel who come
615 when you need to go to the hospital. If we really can't scratch up the money, okay, so we know we all like the pier,

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616 but we bought the pier for a huge amount of money many, many years ago. We can't seem to know what to do to fix
617 the pier. Why don't we just sell the pier for, I mean, just think about it. Sell the pier for a whole lot of money. Take
618 that money pay our police, fire, EMT (emergency medical technician) personnel or police and firemen, and let
619 someone else take over the pier. Let someone else fix the pier, and let someone else worry about the pier. We can
620 put our monies into our police and fire and be a safe town and don't have the headaches that come with hurricanes
621 running the next pier. It's just an idea, but there's probably other ideas you really need to brainstorm this, but in
622 closing our police and fire department, the police do need more money. The fire department does need full-time
623 members. They can't depend on volunteers. They worked hard for their status as number one rated fire department.
624 Same for the police. They're excellent. Let's pour some money in that direction. Thank you.
625

626 Ms. Ann Wescott, Cedar Drive North: The technology to make biodegradable plastic bags out of corn oil
627 has existed for at least 25 years. In another life, I worked for a food broker who actually represented them. Now, I
628 can understand why the oil industry isn't very happy about it, and the manufacturers and retailers aren't very happy
629 about it, because unless they rotate their stock it's gonna start to decompose before they can use it. But, I would like
630 to suggest that some of the people who like to do research, and some of the young people who are here today, would
631 take a look at this, and do a little bit of research. It would solve a lot of problems.
632

633 Ms. Carrie Johnson, Harbor Lights Drive: I would just like to give you a little bit of knowledge and true
634 facts about the CRS committee, since I was on it. It was a committee. It's not like it was just a bunch of people got
635 together and decided to throw around some ideas about flood. We had to have certain qualifications. So we had real
636 estate agents, like I said, insurance agents, mortgage lenders, all people who deal with flood, especially insurance
637 agents. We deal with FEMA rules and regs [sic] all the time. So the committee, and it was a committee, it was not a
638 focus group, was required by FEMA, and because we had this community, we got points towards our CRS rating.
639 We had a book. It was probably about 3 inches thick that we all had; that we all studied. This was recommendations
640 from the state and regional FEMA coordinators, as well as specialist and instructors. So, it was not a focus group. It
641 was a committee. We did get points for having the committee, and like I said, we did a lot of studying. We met
642 many times, and so we just to get together and just throw out some things and put it on a piece of paper. Thank you.
643

644 Mr. Don Reed, 16th Avenue South: This plastic bag thing is a problem. It's a real problem. My wife and I
645 walk the beach every day. We pick up plastic bags. We pick up cigarette butts, which I think is already law on the
646 books that says you're not supposed to do that. We continue to pick up cigarette butts, and we even have sought;
647 identify some birds that have been tangled up in bags. We didn't know who to call to help them out. I've listen to
648 this committee, or these speakers and a couple of things have happened. It's established that there is a problem. It's
649 established that we want to be an example for the rest of the world, and that's the truth that picking up bags has
650 saved, the problem, is one of the things for the problem. I don't know if the law addresses that or not. I'm not an
651 expert in this. I'm just a little old man that's pragmatic. We need a law that is gonna be effective. I don't think the
652 law that I've heard so far is going to help stop having bags on the beach. I'm fearful that this is nothing more than a
653 knee-jerk bumper sticker policy that's got, that's designed as a PR (public relations) event for Surfside to look real
654 good and for, to help our tourist and residents that want to be good, goody-two-shoes. So we need a law that is really
655 going to do this. Not just bumper sticker stuff. Surfside is 2 miles long. It has plenty of bags come from the outside.
656 The percentage of bags that come, that are on the beach, probably don't come from BI-LO. They probably come
657 from Walmart and all the other places that the tourists bring 'em in and that we bring back. I wonder how many; it
658 won't limit this, and that, as a matter fact, I think Surfside, even distributes plastic bags at most of the public access
659 is to beach. The doggie bags. So we need to look at this comprehensively, and not something that just gonna be a
660 bumper sticker approach towards things. It makes us feel good, but it doesn't do a (*expletive*) thing. Businesses
661 already have plastic bag recycling. How many people here that have spoken up for this bring their recycled bags to
662 work, to the shopping? How many do that? And yet we say we have to ban these for businesses. I'm not a business
663 person. I'm fearful that this will be another government restriction or infringement on businesses that's gonna affect
664 doing business in Surfside. There's a couple of things I would suggest. Volunteers patrolling the beaches each day to
665 pick up these bags; if you're very concerned about this, do a little action. Don't just pass a law that you're not going
666 to enforce and that is unenforceable. I don't see any signs posted at the beaches next to the riptide about the dangers
667 of plastic bags on the wildlife in the community. There's not a sign there. People don't know this. They should, but
668 they don't know it. There's another thing. My wife and I have tried to find who to call if we see an animal in
669 distress. There's no signs that tell me where to call. I called the police department. They don't know where to call.
670 We need to inform the public on what to do here. We need to inform the public of what we want to try and do. We
671 want to take some action. Maybe have some volunteers walk, like my wife and I do, walk the beaches. We had what,

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672 almost 60 some bags picked up in the front of this building. It took 'em less than 20 minutes. We go out and count
673 turtle eggs. Why don't if we're so concerned about this, get out there and pick up those bags. I also think that there's
674 probably a litter law in this town. Every bag that's out there has been a violation. How many litter law violations
675 have been cited? We need to look at this comprehensively, and not to say goody two shoes, look what Surfside is
676 doing. Let's mean it. Let's mean it, and write something on the books that's gonna affect us and that's gonna effect
677 reducing the bags on the beach. What you have written now does not do this.

678
679 Ms. Kelly Thorvalson, South Carolina Aquarium: I actually have some data from Folly Beach. The
680 Charleston Surfrider Foundation has conducted beach sweeps on Folly Beach in the same area on Folly. Pre-
681 ordinance data on four sweeps, there were 30 single use plastic bags, 12, 1, and 88, which is a total of 131, and post
682 ordinance, 0, 17, 1, and 10. The town administrator from Folly Beach and the mayor they all recognize that there is a
683 dramatic reduction of plastic bags in their community. I was at that Town Council meeting when this ordinance was
684 passed, and they said the same thing: we can't do it, and James Island right across the bridge not do it, because
685 they're just all bringing bags onto our beaches. They said the same thing, and they are all recognizing the dramatic
686 difference of the less plastic bags in their community. In fact, this whole ban on, bag ban is in the House right now. I
687 believe the mayor of Folly Beach, don't quote me on this, but I am pretty sure he's actually speaking to that ban on
688 bag bans, because they've seen such a positive change. I think signage is important. I do think litter laws need to be
689 enforced. Maybe that fine should be reduced so you don't feel so horrible about imposing a \$250 fee or whatever it
690 is on a cigarette butt or a piece of plastic. Certainly, single use plastic bags are like the gateway drug of single use
691 plastics and one of the easiest things to reduce. By doing away with them in your community, you'll heighten the
692 awareness of single-use plastic use of all the plastics, and hopefully they will reduce all of the different types. When
693 I did a pickup for 20 minutes today, I picked up Styrofoam, and plastic bottles, and lots of food wrappers, and lots of
694 different plastics, But plastic bags are something that can be taken out of commission, and help people understand it
695 just is important help you understand that plastic is a detriment to our life as we know it here on the coast.

696
697 Ms. Kate Jensen, McMaster: For the last three years, I go over to California, and visit my kids, and they've
698 enforced \$0.10 back for every plastic bag that you use at a retail operation. I don't know where the \$0.10 goes to.
699 But, at least do that can't do anything else, and that's a detriment, you know, when people have to pay \$0.10 for their
700 plastic bag, they'll start using the cloth ones.

701
702 Ms. Mary Mabry: 15th Avenue North: I would expand a little bit on the PPI committee or the CRS
703 committee. We were never disbanded. That's another myth that you have been presented with tonight. FEMA
704 requires that we meet once a year, unless there's going to be a change, then we get our ordinance together, because
705 sometimes FEMA does come in and ask us to make changes, and so we look at it. We make those necessary
706 changes, and before council gets it goes to the stormwater committee, because it has to incorporate into their
707 ordinance. We can't have conflicting ordinances going around. So that ordinance would be written. It would be
708 approved by the district FEMA director. It would go to stormwater. They would approve it; look at it, but, I mean
709 they always say okay this is what we have to do, this is what we have to do. They still have to know so they can
710 change their ordinance, and then council gets it that time with that decision paper of why things on there have been
711 changed and who has reviewed it and why. So it was a process. As far as thinking that a bunch of people sit around a
712 table that have not been trained, I alone had to attend two webinars and I had to go out for four classes. I had to read
713 a number of books and study, as well as being trained during the class time. So it's not something that was taken
714 lightly that we're not informed. FEMA sets a guideline of who they want to sit on that committee. There are some
715 that are citizens that represent the town, as I was. There are real estate agents. There are mortgage lenders. They
716 have a big stake in seeing the reduction of flood insurance and having a more sustainable community. Although
717 CRS is wonderful, you do get a big reduction, especially if you live in the Coastal A and the V zone. You're going to
718 get the 25-percent. Homeowners now are getting up to 10-percent off their flood insurance. That's a huge benefit,
719 especially when you say you want to bring businesses in. But it's more important that we remain sustainable. That
720 we don't have the flooding issues that we would have to deal with later. We would actually have people that can
721 remain in our home. One of the prime examples is during our rain event, the actual meteorologist said Surfside will
722 not flood. Everyone around it is gonna flood. But, we're not gonna flood. And you know what? We didn't flood.
723 Why? Even though we were taking the water from county, why didn't we flood? Because we had over the years
724 with a strong tree ordinance, with a strong ordinances [sic] in place had protected our town. When you protect your
725 town, you protect your citizens. The residents benefited from that. If they had not saved a dime, they benefited from
726 our work, and the work of the previous councils down the road. So when you talk about this committee as if it didn't
727 exist, if they're not knowledgeable, if they don't understand what's going on, let me tell you, I know more about

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728 FEMA than I ever wanted to know. We have three people sitting in the audience today that are on that CRS
729 committee. They spent a tremendous amount of time and effort trying to get it right, and you know when we got it
730 right, when Maryland and FEMA said you're the example for a small town. Your ordinances is [sic] perfect. So I'm
731 sorry you got the misinformation. I am, because I know what it's like to set up there, and not get the whole story. So
732 I want to make sure you have it tonight. Thank you.
733

734 Mr. Bill Doggett, Dogwood Drive: I was at the pier the other day after the ice storm. We spent a lot of
735 money building a new handicapped ramp. It goes nowhere. When it gets to the top the door is locked. You can't; I
736 don't understand why you would have it so if a person went up that ramp, I didn't go up it, someone had a yellow
737 tape across it. But if somebody had been there with a wheelchair, they would've had a heck of a time going up the
738 old ramp. The federal government says that you've got to have that handicapped ramp. If you build a handicapped
739 ramp why wouldn't you build it so you could open the door and get off of it? If you go up there now, the door
740 locked to the ice cream place. You cannot go through. So, the people in the restaurant are really illegal. Everybody
741 is illegal down there. That's a federal law. Thank you.
742

743 Mr. Harry Kohlmann, South Ocean Boulevard: I just want to talk again about the E district, the parking.
744 You're correct, Ms. Samples, that the planning commission a year and a half ago they did discuss this, and it was
745 also brought before the parking committee, and where it was presented that every building if it was torn down they
746 would still have to replace every single parking space that was there. That's the way it was written. That's the way it
747 was presented. Why didn't go anywhere for a year and a half? Well, I was told because the person brought that to
748 the administrator and was told that would not go. I don't like it. We can't have these parking spaces. So a year and a
749 half later, you present it to a semi-different planning commission by a different person and he neglects to include the
750 parking provision that every establishment would still have to keep their existing parking, and it came before you
751 and I came up here and I brought it up. Now, Mr. Harrah gives you all these crazy numbers; 376 parking spaces
752 down there includes 61 parking spaces on Surfside Drive that no one is ever gonna use. Maybe six small spots. Says
753 you're only losing 28. You're losing 55, and you only keep it 82. Now, Mr. Ott said that in the ordinance is an
754 existing property if it's torn down at have to keep it. I believe that's what he said. But it doesn't say that. It says any
755 lot containing parking areas for existing businesses that doesn't have a structure, doesn't have a structure that's, that's
756 the key word. So it's like Bubba's parking lot. If they want to put a building there, they'd have to have, say if they
757 have 40 spots there or 20 spots there, they would have to have that with the new building. Same with River City
758 Café. But if you go to like Surfside Realty, he has 16 parking spots there. He has to have zero. Zero, because he has
759 a building there already. The Scalise building, he has ten parking spots. Six of those, half of the parking spots, their
760 property is in our parking lot. That's why they get to keep it when they sold their business. So that's another ten
761 spots you're losing. So, why are we doing this? Why are we rushing this so much? Why are we getting rid of the
762 parking? I mean Mr. Scalise came here at the last meeting and he told you about if you don't do this, the taxes in
763 town are gonna be raised. Well, about 10 years ago, his family came in and said if you don't buy the pier, we're
764 gonna put condos up there, and we bought that black hole. Really, we literally bought a black hole. You didn't get it
765 inspected. You bought it without getting it inspected. The pilings are going. The bolts were going. The decking was
766 going. It's a black hole. This is, now we have, he was in the audience. He's gone now. But, he was here. It's because
767 he was gonna tell you how great a deal it is for the town. As Mr. Harrah said at the planning commission [meeting],
768 when they said what about this building, it's not in the zone. Well, they can always get in it and they probably want
769 to, because their real, their value on their property is gonna skyrocket. This is what it's about, folks. No parking. I
770 can build a building from plot line to plot line, and I can get top dollar for it. This is what it's about. So slow down
771 and look at it. Make sure there's still parking there, because you want to put more stuff on the pier. There's not
772 enough parking now. I love the idea of an entertainment district. But, you've gotta think about it. You've gotta put
773 parking. The thing about the pier, too, like Ms. Magliette said, we should seriously, if we don't get \$10 million from
774 the Feds, think about selling it. Government has no business being in the business. It's crazy. We're losing all this
775 money. Thank you, I think.
776

777 Mr. Don Reed approached the podium. Mayor Childs: Didn't you speak one time, sir? Mr. Reed: I think I
778 have 45 minutes left. Mayor Childs: No, sir. Your time's expired. Sorry. Mr. Reed: Are you sure I don't have (**).
779 Please pass the (**), but let's brainstorm and come up with some viable good ideas. It's very important.
780

781 Ms. Gottlieb McClaran, Pawleys Island: Pawleys Island is very adjacent to Surfside, and I have to tell you
782 that I am very proud to live beside this very progressive, finely clever little city. I think tonight you have made a
783 giant step forward for mankind. Plastic is such horrendous issue facing our planet that even the smallest, smallest

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784 little bit of support that we can get to stop this plague is to be commended. I'm so proud of all of you. Thank you so
785 very, very much. I personally suffer from 'PIS,' plastic intolerance syndrome, (*laughter*) and I go to bed thinking
786 about it and wake up thinking about it. There is no question. There is no doubt at all that plastic is destroying our
787 planet, so we have to do something. I thank you, again, each and every one. Thank you.
788

789 Ms. Beth Kohlmann, South Ocean Boulevard: It's kind of difficult when you only have three minutes to
790 talk about the important things on the agenda and then five you can stand up here and talk about the wind. But, I'm
791 not gonna use my five minutes. I'll spare you all. First, I want to say two things on the record and a request that the
792 copy of the community assistance flood mitigation form that South Carolina DNR sent to the town, I would request
793 that not only does the council get a copy of that, but can it not be published on the webpage, because I spoke to
794 DNR. They said that's a readily available document. So when you go into town and ask for it, you're supposed to
795 receive it. That did not happen in the Town of Surfside Beach. They were turned away. Nope, we don't have the
796 document. Well, then if town hall does not have the document, who has the document? There is another myth that
797 goes around. And the other thing was when I had this problem with the fill and again, it was December 1, what we
798 on now, January 9th? And that dirt that was dumped there was then leveled, and according to you ordinances and
799 everything else and I met with [Ms. Fellner.] I appreciate your time. However, the words used, I call it
800 wordsmithing, and I don't appreciate it. Once the fill is leveled, the natural landscape of that lot is forever changed.
801 So the reason that the flood ordinance was written the way it was written that no fill can be used in that location, it's
802 written that way because you specifically have to have a stormwater plan and a permit before you can do anything
803 on that property, because they come in and you have to put the pilings in; the columns have to be in place before
804 they do their survey, because that's how they're gonna find out where the natural plain is, and then it goes by
805 hundred year floodplains and 500 years and again like, Ms. Mabry said, it's really involved, and that's why I was
806 upset when I saw you only got 8 pages. What I did do was I remember distinctly Town Council back a few years
807 ago said when somebody has an appeal to the, to a decision made by the town in regard to the flood ordinance can
808 they appeal? And I remember was [Mr.] Stevens actually who said is there a fee involved. No fee. You can appeal
809 the administrator's decision. I called up and I asked for that form. I was sent a form. The first form I was sent was a
810 board of zoning appeals form. I'm reading it and it says \$200 for each complaint you have or each ordinance you
811 think you think was violated. Well, I have five that I found so far. I'm paying a thousand dollars to go to the zoning
812 board of appeals to be told by the town that oh, well, we're gonna do it anyway or we're just gonna change the
813 ordinance. So that form is really nothing. And I sent back and I said no, I want the flood appeal form. I get
814 construction board of appeals form; \$175. That's not what I'm asking for. I was then told there is no such form.
815 Well, me being me, I have it, because I have my records, and it says right on the form no fee. So if you would like a
816 copy of that for your office for future people that call up, it's right here and it says no fee required and it's
817 application for flood appeal. So I don't appreciate spending a lot of time going in town hall, emailing and writing,
818 and I really hate doing it, but like I said, if I get misled, then I'm like a dog with a bone. Don't lie about things. Give
819 us the facts. Let us work with this. And I want to commend all of you up there today, especially you, Mark, I have to
820 tell you I think that you have done more tonight than you've done in a very long time, and I commend you. I never
821 had the problems I have been had...don't laugh (*addressing Mr. Johnson*), that's a compliment. I have never had as
822 much problem dealing with P&Z as I have since [Ms.] Morris has left. And I want to for the record to say that I
823 agree with you all, and I hope that y'all stand by your word and bring her back.
824

825 Mr. Boyd Sadler, 10th Avenue South: Good evening, Council, Mayor, public. I heard a comment from an
826 11 year old kid one day. She said in jest, she did a good job. Tonight reminded me of that. There was a bag floating
827 across the sidewalk at a Walmart, she said, 'Wow, look. There's a city tumbleweed.' And unfortunately that's what
828 we really looked the things for so many years. It's something that needs to be addressed; it really does. A lot of
829 people are outspoken. A lot of people are reserved. It's; I know it's gonna be mixed. But, like everything else in this
830 town, it's gonna be a mix of picking, and I guess that's what this country is all about. But back to the problem with
831 the E district. I think the E district is a great idea, if we had parking to cover it. We don't. Our deputy administrator
832 said we're 159 parking spaces short for our own ordinance. So we're in violation of own ordinance already and
833 that's just for the pier. We're back to like what are you gonna do? There's 303 vacant lots in this town and how
834 many do we as a town own? Well, I mean we paid \$300, what was it almost \$400,000 for that 3rd and Willow, I
835 mean, my gosh, how much are our parking spaces gonna cost around that area? It's gonna be phenomenal. But,
836 you're gonna need satellite parking. If that's going to pass, you'll bring in the business there, you're gonna have to
837 come up with a lot of parking. A lot of parking. A lot of satellite parking, and a conveyance for people to get there.
838 Maybe we're gonna have to buy a train set and go pick it up to run through town and carry all these folks. Good
839 luck. Standing golf carts, great. You know they're like buses, and they do have the slow motion ones that you can

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840 license and run at night. But, you need to think about it. Really need to think about it hard and you need to think
841 about it for a long time to get to down to the road before bringing it across. You're the magnificent seven. You're
842 the ones here representing us. It's in your hands. We have a lot of really interested people in this town. A lot of them
843 been involved in transportation most of their lives. Might be able to help coordinate something. But you got to come
844 to an agreement that are you going to have satellite parking or are we gonna have a major traffic jam and a traffic
845 light at Ocean Boulevard and Surfside Drive? It's gonna really create havoc. Have fun with that one. Good night.
846 Thank you.

847
848 Mr. Tom Dodge, 8th Avenue South: [Ms.] Beth and [Mr.] Harry [Kohlmann], don't you just love 'em? I
849 mean let's face it, these are two good citizens of this town. As I've said before at these meetings, sell the stinking
850 pier.

851
852 Mr. Lee Zulanch, Benjamin's Bakery, 3rd Avenue South: I'm gonna take about 30 seconds. I have no idea
853 where this fits into it, but I've got to thank [Ms. Cribb]. Single use bag, reusable, recyclable, bio-degradable (held up
854 bag). I was socially pressured into doing it. *(Laughter.)* I have in here the straws and wooden stirrer that kind of
855 follow it. I'd like to leave this with you. This is just a sheet of who sells these. They're available. I've done a cost
856 analysis. It cost a little over penny more than a single use bag. I have no idea whether a turtle eating this will ever
857 digest it or not. It doesn't cure the wind problems and the littering. But is available and if we do ban single use, you
858 may want to just kind of address whether this is banned as well or part of a possible solution. Thank you.

859
860 **10. TOWN COUNCIL COMMENTS.**

861
862 Mr. Ott: I appreciate every comment. This is who we are. The family beach. We work together for all
863 citizens. We're all the same. I'm in a different chair than I used to be. I was back there all the time (indicated back of
864 the room) for the past 18 years. Now, I'm sitting here. Maybe next time you'll be sitting here. I need to have your
865 input. As you say it the input helps us, and I appreciate every comment that was said. Thank you.

866
867 Mr. Courtney: Plastic bags; I have to say I went home back to Long Beach, New York for Thanksgiving. It
868 is a heck of a ride with two kids in the car. Not fun; next time we'll fly. They had implemented no plastic bags. This
869 is the city of Long Beach that has 38,000 full-time residents. I couldn't believe it worked. It works. Some people
870 complain; some people made a big deal of it, but before you know it, I was only one that was lost, because I went to
871 the grocery store and didn't bring a bag with me. I ended up walking home with the groceries in my hand. It's a
872 good thing it was a short walk. As far as the town, I bought my house here April 10, 2009. I moved my wife, [and]
873 my children. I have a 10-year-old. I have a 16-year-old. This is our town. Okay, we will moved here for a reason.
874 We all came down here because it was paradise. It was gorgeous. Things were kept in check. There were balances.
875 I've never seen it in this mess as it is now. Our employees are great employees. They make good money. They get
876 paid. They get to go home to their homes. My home is here, right down the block. This is my town. Our town.
877 There's gotta be a balance in government. I don't want overregulation nor do I want less regulation. There's gotta be
878 a balance in government. So this is where we need to be, and we need to take back our town. This is ours. It belongs
879 to us. Thank you very much. God bless you. Have a good night.

880
881 Mr. Johnson: Thank you all for coming out and staying for the duration. Just one quick comment, I am still
882 amazed that the flood damage ordinance was not sent to planning and zoning instead of sending it straight to Town
883 Council. That troubles me a lot. So, that's all I have to say. Thank you for coming out.

884
885 Mr. Pellegrino: Thank you very much for coming. Surfside Beach is a great town. Tonight was a great
886 example. I think it's great that all of you came out here and gave your comments. Sometimes I'll agree; sometimes I
887 won't. But, it's nice to see people who are passionate about what they think is good for the town; what they think is
888 good for everyone around us. So, I do truly appreciate that. Have a great night.

889
890 Ms. Samples: First, let me say that I don't think we're a mess at all. I think we're a great town, and this
891 council and this council chambers is; we do good. We don't always agree, and that's okay. If there are those if you
892 who think we are mess, let me say this, we are in the middle this week of filing for elections. We have an election
893 coming up in April. This is the week to file to serve on this council. There are three seats that are up for grabs, and I
894 encourage anyone out here who thinks we are a mess or who thinks you can just add to the happiness that is this
895 council, I encourage you, I seriously encourage you to pay your \$25, sign-up, run, it's fun. We get to do a lot of

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896 good. (*Laughter.*) You're laughing down at the end, but you know how serious I am. I am very pleased that this
897 council saw fit to pass first reading on the plastic ban. It is important that even though were small, we can be very
898 mighty in our result to do good. I'm grateful. I appreciate council's support, and thank you all for your comments
899 tonight. I appreciate it. Hope you have a wonderful evening.

900
901 Mr. Stevens: I want everybody that was talking about the plastic bags just remember, if you buy a pizza,
902 what does it come in? A cardboard box. You go to Aldi's to shop, you've got to bring your own box or bags. It's
903 taking a step. I understand people like Kmart, Walmart, and Kroger. I can guarantee you my wife came home with a
904 bunch of groceries last night from Kroger, and they were all in plastic bags. I stuck 'em in a thing we keep them in
905 the house. But, this is what I want to point out to you, we are one step in a long series of steps. If you're gonna run a
906 mile, you gotta make the first step. I understand that some people might say y'all are just doing this for publicity.
907 But, if we do it, and another town does it, and another town does it, maybe somewhere down the line people will say
908 let's get rid of plastic bags completely. They'd be off the beach, they ought to be out of the dog park, they ought to
909 be out of everything. As far as the town ordinances, I heard Mr. Kohlmann, Ms. Kohlmann both speak on the town
910 and trying to get something back from them. Let me say when I first moved to this town, I didn't have no intention
911 of running for council at all. But the town violated their own town ordinances for four years. They ran an illegal
912 dumping site, commercial dumping site, in a residential district for four years, until I asked the courts just to stop
913 'em. Not no [sic] money. Just to stop, and they did 30 days later that lot was cleaned up. Now they made it into
914 green space, made it into the dog park. I'm happy with that. Nothing will ever be built around me. They wanted to
915 put a parking lot. Mr. Johnson, I would love to get that list that you were talking about. If you would make me a
916 copy of that, I would love to have that because I see so many times that the town breaks their own laws, and that's
917 unfortunate. The CRS committee, I was told it was a focus group. I was told it was a committee. I was told it was a
918 this or that and everything [sic.] I knew this committee, because I actually went to about five of their meetings, and I
919 sat in. There were some very intelligent people and they were discussing, and flood, and FEMA. I want to see the
920 FEMA people here. I know the South Carolina DNR. You go out hunting, you're gonna meet their game wardens.
921 But that ain't all they do. The fact is I would like to hear from the FEMA people. I'm glad we postponed the
922 ordinance on the C3, because we do have some questions. My understanding is that if somebody tears down a
923 building and they build up, they have to build up a certain height according to the FEMA. They have to have parking
924 underneath. I would like to know some more information. I think we're doing the right thing with the flood
925 ordinance, and also I think we need to make sure we do have the parking the C3. As far as this town, this is a great
926 town. That's the reason I moved here. My daughter told me years ago, we were down the beach, 'one day, daddy,
927 we're gonna have a house here.' We do, and I'm glad I live here. We've got a lot of great people, from all walks of
928 life, from all over the country. I want to thank all y'all for coming out here and speaking up. Really, that's what it's
929 all about. We don't know what you want unless you speak up and you tell us. Believe me, I like to know about what
930 the town is doing wrong, and I will thank [Chief Hofmann] for running one of the best police department's anywhere
931 in this area, and also [Chief Otte] for running a great fire department. (*Applause.*) Thank y'all for coming out. I hope
932 there's somebody out that wants to run for office. There's three seats up and we can always use some help. God
933 bless y'all all. Have a good week, and may everything go right for you.

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935 Mayor Childs: I want to thank everybody for coming tonight, and I agree with everything that was said on
936 the plastic bag ban, and I totally agree.

937
938 **11. ADJOURNMENT.** Mr. Johnson moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:54 p.m. Mr. Stevens
939 second. All voted in favor. **MOTION CARRIED.**

940 Prepared and submitted by:

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945 Debra E. Herrmann, CMC, Town Clerk

946 Approved: January 23, 2018

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948 Town Council Signatures on page 18

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Surfside Beach Town Council

VOTE:	Yes	No
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Robert F. Childs, III, Mayor

Ron Ott, Mayor Pro Tempore

Timothy T. Courtney, Town Council

Mark L. Johnson, Town Council

David L. Pellegrino, Town Council

Julie M. Samples, Town Council

Randle M. Stevens, Town Council

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