

# Planning, Building & Zoning Department

## May 2020

### Monthly Report



#### Permits / Inspections / Plan Review Information

##### **Staff business report:**

- ❖ **158 permits were issued in May, down from last year's 178**
- ❖ **Performed 87 inspections (2019 had 182)**
- ❖ **24 Plan reviews/re-reviews**
- ❖ **Issued 3 new addresses and approved a new street name**

The effects of COVID-19 are evident in the amount of construction currently underway in town (see the number of inspections), but new businesses continue to choose Surfside to begin or expand operations. A number of new restaurants have located in town and are in the process of opening up. The department has fielded calls from a multiple businesses wishing to locate in town as well, and staff is working with them to see if their plans can meet zoning and the requirements of the design overlay. The Planning Commission and the Zoning Board of Appeals have held teleconference meetings and they are transitioning to traditional in-person meetings which meet the CDC's suggestions for social distancing. Public input is taken in the form of emails right up until about an hour before the meetings begin to allow for opinions to be shared with appointed and elected officials regarding potential ordinance changes.

**REMINDER: HURRICANE SEASON IS FROM JUNE 1<sup>ST</sup> – NOVEMBER 30<sup>TH</sup>, 2020.  
Now is the time to get prepared!**

Plan ahead – know what you'll do if a hurricane could impact your area, how to contact your family, and any community emergency plans.

Stay tuned for the latest information. **Follow the guidance of your local officials** and check media and weather reports via official sources, including social media.

Consider purchasing flood insurance to protect your property from potential flood damage. Most homeowners' policies do not cover flood damage.

Flood insurance takes 30 days to become effective – don't wait until the last minute!

Based on your location and community plans, make your own plans for evacuation or sheltering in place.

Become familiar with your evacuation zone, the evacuation route and shelter locations.

**Evacuate if told to do so.** Be aware that traffic and congestion add to travel time.

Gather needed supplies for at least 3 days. Keep in mind each person's specific needs, including medication. Don't forget the needs of pets.

Keep important documents in a safe place or create a password protected digital copies.

Protect your property. Declutter drains and gutters. Install check valves in plumbing to prevent backups. Consider hurricane shutters. Review insurance policies.

Plan how to communicate with family members if you lose power. For example, you can call, text, email, or use social media. Remember that during disasters, sending text messages is usually reliable and faster than making phone calls because phone lines are often overloaded or down.



