



**SURFSIDE BEACH TOWN COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING**  
**Civic Center, 115 US Highway 17 North, Surfside Beach, SC 29575**  
[www.surfsidebeach.org](http://www.surfsidebeach.org) - ☎ (843) 913-6111 📠 (843) 238-5432

**TOWN COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES**  
**TUESDAY, MARCH 23, 2021, • 6:30 pm.**

1. **CALL TO ORDER** Mayor Hellyer called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm. Mayor Hellyer, Councilmembers Drake, Holder, Keating, Pellegrino, and Mayor Pro Tempore Scoles were in attendance. Others present Town Administrator Shanahan, Town Attorney Crosby, and Town Clerk Sheri Medina. Absent Councilmember Dietrich
2. **INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**
  - A. Invocation: Councilmember Pellegrino gave the invocation.
  - B. Pledge of Allegiance: Mayor Hellyer led in the Pledge of Allegiance.
3. **PUBLIC HEARING** – None
4. **MOTIONS RELATING TO AGENDA** - Mayor Hellyer motioned to add an action item to item 7.D after the Pier Update presentation. Mayor Hellyer stated an urgency exists due to the project timeline. Councilmember Drake second. All voted in favor. **Motion carried.**

Councilmember holder asked Town attorney Crosby what the rules are for Chapter two because it was previously voted on and turned down. Do we have to approve everything again, section by section?

Mrs. Crosby stated this is first reading of Chapter two to be considered by sections. There has been an intervening meeting, so this would be just a renewal of a motion.

5. **MINUTES APPROVAL** - Councilmember Keating made a motion to accept the meeting minutes for March 9, 2021. Councilmember Drake seconded. All voted in favor. **Motion Carried.**
6. **PUBLIC COMMENTS**
  - A. **Judy Henion, 11<sup>th</sup> Ave North.** I would like to read an email I sent. We, the Voters of Surfside Beach, elected each of you to represent the Town's BEST interest. You were elected to attend a minimum of two meetings per month and vote PUBLICLY before those elected you in an open forum. You should be required to show respect for your office by voting without being under the influence and in person. You were not elected to vote in seclusion. Many of us KNOW that games can be played with voice recordings and other ways to taint the process if NOT in person in a public forum. This has already been voted down at least twice. Why are you continually seeking to hide your actions? Schools are back in in-person learning, and the restrictions due to Covid-19 have been reduced. In addition, there is no reason to claim unusual circumstances due to the availability of the vaccine as well. Please stop attempting to hide behind closed doors and do your elected duty OR have the decency to resign. Surfside Beach deserves proper representation, and if you aren't capable, move over and let someone else serve! Stay sober, vote in public, or allow someone else to represent us honorably. The residents have been embarrassed enough.
  - B. **Veronica Collins, 713 North Ocean Blvd.,** I have severe concerns about the state of our world in terms of locking down and separating us into fearful entities. I think we should all show up and perform our duties and assigned, including us. The power goes from the bottom up.
7. **COMMUNICATIONS**
  - A. **Employee Service Award** – Don Wright, 10 Years. Presented by Mayor Hellyer. Mr. Wright spoke briefly on how he became an employee for Surfside Beach. Mr. Wright stated "I've been here 10 years, and I will be here 10 more."
  - B. **Finance Report** – Director King gave the financial report. Councilmember Keating asked how we for overall funding of the pier are? I know we have been facing many challenges that will likely increase the cost to the town. Even though we're getting some of the hospitality settlement, we've got the bond financing, we've got our pier fund, and the balance of the FEMA grant - do we have enough on hand and in forecasted revenue over the next 18 months to absorb the additional costs we are about to face? I would like to see a forecast of how we're performing against the anticipated burn rate. Since this is one of the biggest projects we've taken on in this town in the foreseeable past, many people are very concerned about how we're managing the project and performing against objectives. We've heard multiple times about the cost of this. So, if we can start showing at least every month when you come forward with the finance report, not only where we've been but where we're going, especially on this project of this caliber, I would appreciate it. And I think most of the residents would appreciate

seeing where we stand. It would be nice to be able to say that we're on schedule. We're on a budget.

Director King stated that in February, we paid for construction, which will be to Consensus, through February, we have paid \$839K. There's a construction payment due in March of \$295,000, and our bond interest payment is due April first of \$20,000. The reimbursement for the design has been \$881,000. The reimbursement from construction has been \$610,000 for a total grant remaining of \$8,455,000. However, we have pending reimbursements for the design of \$54,000 pending for the construction. Our remaining grant will be 7,977,000. Reimbursable costs so far have been 2,000,070. The total Pier costs to date are \$2,179,209.

**C. Planning Building and Zoning Department Monthly Report** – Carol Coleman gave the PB&Z monthly report. Ms. Coleman stated we'd had several inquiries and consultations about opening businesses in Surfside. Some of these are existing businesses that would like to expand their footprint. Some would like to add business. We've got several new businesses to come into town. We've got one that's already in the submitted their building plans. It'll be a family-oriented, fast food restaurant on business 17. We have a regional restaurant group that would like to add on to a couple of their restaurants, and they've been very pleased with the reception they've had in Surfside. They want to continue to support the town. They're very excited to be expanding and offering more services, especially with the new pier. We've got a few things that we're working on right now, like the tree ordinance. Getting ready to start on the Comprehensive Plan toward the end of the year. I want to make sure that we're not making it impossible for property owners, but we also want to protect the things that make Surfside, Surfside, which is important.

We are researching a unified code approach, joining the zoning ordinance and the land development regulations. With a town this size of two square miles, we don't have much raw land up for development. It may be easier for developers and homeowners alike to get through the process of doing something here if it's all in one document, and that's a possibility. I've looked at several other coastal towns that have done this, but again, the town's size and a permanent population, I think it might be a good fit, but I won't put it forward if I don't think it's the right thing.

**D. Pier Update – John Obrien**, Consensus Construction. Mr. Obrien stated, we are here to give you an update on the Pier. We mobilized, and full demolition is complete. The pier is gone and has been disposed of. We are now starting what's called the shop drawing as a middle process. The pier has three major components; the podium (where the buildings will be built), the construction trestle, and the pier. The three test piles for the podium have been driven successfully. The podium is a massive, concrete structure, around 20,000 square feet. It's going to be raised approximately 10 feet more than it used to be. A temporary trestle is needed to construct the pier. The trestle design and construction are underway. Then we're going to address the piles on the actual pier.

Councilmember Keating requested a clarification on the construction of the podium. It was stated that the piles for the podium are going in 23 feet, and there are approximately 100 of them. Each foot penetration takes many, many hits from the pile driver weight, so you might want to quantify what people are going to hear. I just don't want everybody to think that it's 4 or 5 hits per pile and then move on to the next one. It takes some considerable effort, time, and repetitive hits before the pile hits the bedrock.

Mr. Obrien stated that the original contract had a concrete design and an alternate concrete and steel design. I think the contract was written for the alternate steel design to save money. There was a \$1.5 price deduction for the alternate design. Everybody thought that was a good idea. However, we understand that the alternate steel design does not comply with the FEMA grant approval. To seek additional FEMA approval could take another 6 months or more. We have an option to go back to the original concrete design. The engineers (Collins Engineering) are working with our engineers, and they have an option that is less money than the original price deduction and should be a little bit stronger than the original design. With these design improvements, the original all-concrete design would add approximately \$1.3M to the project price instead of the original \$1.5M.

Councilmember Pellegrino stated we approved a project for \$13.3 million. You just said \$15M - 16M dollar project. What does that mean?

Mr. Obrien stated yes, the original amount was \$13.0 million for the alternate steel design. I was including the original design and other design changes being worked on.

Mr. Shanahan stated when the original grant was applied for, it had concrete piles. However, when the contract was executed, it identified the alternate steel design. The \$15M was with the original concrete pile. We contacted the FEMA consultant and asked if we need FEMA permission or use the alternate steel piles? Of course, the answer was yes, you need permission. If you've asked for money for a certain thing and you've changed in that project, you have to get permission to change projects, especially with the significant change. Consensus and Collins came up with another concrete pier that makes the piers a lot bigger. They go from 48 inches to 56 inches in diameter. So, you don't have to put as many out there, and you still get that look that we wanted. The redesign process will take about 60 days, and the price will be \$1,385,000, which is \$150,000 less than what they originally stated.

Councilmember Scoles asked if the pier change's integrity since we're cutting back on the number of piles even though they're going to be larger?

Mr. Sigmon stated it would not change the integrity because the piles will be much more significant.

Councilmember Pellegrino stated I'd like to hear from Ms. King and see our cash flow for another \$1.4 million.

Mr. Shanahan stated we're not anticipating seeing any more upticks in cost at this time from a design perspective issue. So, we're getting a better design for \$200,000 less than what we had initially.

Councilmember Keating asked Mr. Shanahan, where do we stand with FEMA?

Mr. Shanahan stated we are pretty much in line with FEMA since implementing the approved all-concrete design.

Councilmember Scoles asked does anybody foresee that we're going to catch up to that schedule, or are we going to have another issue and fall behind again?

This redesign effort will proceed in parallel with the construction of the podium. We are not anticipating any schedule delay on the construction of the pier.

Councilmember Keating made a motion to authorize the town administrator to approve a change order to the Consensus contract for the pier construction to reflect the original all-concrete design, eliminate the alternate steel design, and incorporate the value engineering improvements in the design, such that the value of the change order should be approximately \$1.3M. Councilmember Drake second. Councilmembers Scoles, Holder, Keating, Drake, and Mayor Hellyer voted in favor. Councilmember Pellegrino voted against. **Motion carried.**

**E. Stormwater Fees** – Director Adair stated we put in your package a modified version of the PowerPoint that was last given to Council in late spring 2019. How this came about was the aftermath of rainstorms and the significant events we've had in 2010 and 2015, it was a notable historical rain event. After Hurricane Matthew, I had gone to Council a couple of times at budget process meetings asking to start having the town get a stormwater utility fee. This would help to pay for large capital projects. We have a backlog of capital projects that hadn't been done. I think late 2019 is when we first put the collections out with the county tax bill, and the fund was designed around \$82 per what's known as an equivalent residential unit or an ERU. The consultant studied the average square impervious square footprint of a single-family house. That was determined to be about 2531 square feet. Based on your capital needs over time, it was determined that our ERU you should be \$82 for a single-family home for a year. Commercial properties are handled a little bit differently. There are many things that the Stormwater Fund pays for. We pay for lake maintenance which we own; we pay for our water quality monitoring program, system maintenance, new infrastructure, and emergency repairs. The fund will raise, as Diana mentioned, about \$450,000 a year in the revenues, that's about \$5 million over 10 years. We have enough money coming in where we'll be able to accomplish these large-scale projects over the next 10 years. In summary, our capital and operating expenses related to stormwater or an obligation of the town, utility fees are an equitable way to charge users for their impact on the system. Our coastal proximity makes the beach vulnerable to storm impacts, and a responsible program for system maintenance, and improvement, must be implemented to satisfy the legal responsibility as a municipality.

**F. Sunrise Service** – Ms. Ellis, Events Coordinator, stated The Gathering Community Church will hold a Sunrise service on April 4<sup>th</sup> at 6:45 am on the Holiday Inn beach. There will not be any parking in the Holiday Inn parking lot. They will also be opening up the restaurant at 7:00 am for breakfast.

Saturday will be Youth baseball opening day at Huckabee Park. The Youth Association is inviting Council to come out and for the Mayor to throw the first pitch.

**G. The Carolinas CAN Ruck for Autism** – Becky Large stated, we have this fabulous gentleman conducting an autism awareness and fundraiser for Champion Autism Network called Carolina's CAN Ruck for Autism. He is starting at the western border of North Carolina and Tennessee, running across North Carolina to the coast, and then down here to Surfside Beach. It is a 750-mile marathon over several days. He will be carrying a 25-pound slam ball in a rucksack. It's quite a feat, and we are looking forward to the opportunity to spread autism awareness. His finish date right now is Wednesday, May 26. It'll probably be late in the afternoon, sometime between 3 and 5. We want to have a big finish line event here in Surfside. We have a PR firm that's engaging in local, regional, and national press. We're working with the chamber as well. Of course, unfortunately, at this time, I can't say exactly what that looks like.

Councilmember Keating asked, what do you expect from this finish line event? I assume you will work with Debbie Ellis as far as the town event, but what do you expect to have happen at the finish line?

Mrs. Large stated I'm thinking of a carnival type of atmosphere at the finish line since our County/town has already branded itself as autism-friendly. So when we have an event like this, I think we know the Town needs to embrace it.

**G. Discussion - Pier Project Manager** Mr. Shanahan stated many there are many things going on with the pier, and one question has been asked repeatedly about having a project manager. I have done some research on it. To do something like that, we're talking about a few hundred thousand dollars because it would be based on and the project's value. So, to hire a project manager would likely be \$250,000 to \$260,000. However, three months ago, I was on board; we thought we needed one. Today, I'm sitting with the engineer, and I sit with the contractor and both John Adair and Jonathan Sigmon. It could be advantageous to us, but this far into the project, I do not believe we need one. We have a weekly meeting with the Engineers and the public works director, and we're identifying things. As we're finding things, we're addressing things. So I'm not sure I'm on board with hiring a project manager anymore. I think, if we find that it's getting bigger or it's getting harder, and we can't keep up with it, then I would come right back and say, yes, we have to do this.

Councilmember Keating asked Director Adair if he agreed since he is part of that team.

Director Adair stated I'm really pleased with our new Administrator. As you know, I was taken out of the pier process for a while, about a year. I've been brought back into it lately, and I think if Bill and I had been involved a little sooner, we would have had caught many issues sooner. But I think that he's absolutely right; we are meeting regularly. The decision that you guys are making tonight on the piles themselves is the final, larger decision.

Councilmember Keating stated, Director King, I think we need to keep tabs on where we stand with our overall project funding. Not only what we've spent and what's left, but forecasting where we're going from here and understanding where those funds come from. FEMA is reimbursing us for the pier's structure, but at some point, we're going to get to the part of this project where we start spending town money. If Can we get some kind of financial reporting every month that shows what we spend, what we spend it on, what we see coming, and where we stand overall on the project budget? I think that will be critical. Now that we've got another \$1.3M that we're going to take on; I think almost every resident in this town will probably want to know where that's coming from.

## 8. BUSINESS

**A. Employee Cost of Living Adjustment (COLA)** – Mr. Shanahan stated that during the Budget Approval meeting in June 2020 for the fiscal Year 2021 budget, it was suggested that the budget be reviewed in late 2020 or early 2021 to determine the actual effect of COVID 19 on the current budget. The Finance Director. I have reviewed the town's current financial position and found it to be in good financial shape, and all staff have reduced material items, personnel, and employee expenditures. The decision to furlough, even though difficult, was very good. If approved, a 3% COLA would start on April 3, 2020. It would cost the Town less than \$30,000 in this budget cycle if approved by the Council.

Councilmember Keating asked, are any of our employees on merit increases as well?

Mr. Shanahan stated, no, not at this time, but that was one of the things we discussed. The goal is, after I've been here six months, I will be implementing an evaluation process for all of the departments that will be evaluated. All my department heads will be evaluating all of the staff. And then, somewhere in the middle of all that, you'll be able to evaluate me as well. From there, we will be able to start the process of creating merit pay.

Councilmember Pellegrino stated to Mr. Shanahan, thank you for moving forward with the evaluations and merit-based raises. We've done that in the past, but it kind of fell off over the years. I appreciate and think that it is important for the employees to know what they do well and what they need to improve on. And also, I think the raises should be given to the people who provide the most of the time versus those just gliding along. So thank you for following up on that.

Councilmember Holder made a motion that we give the employees a 3% COLA increase starting April 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2021. Councilmember Scoles second. All voted in favor. **Motion carried.**

**B. Public Works Equipment** Director Adair stated, as you know, the 2020 budget was uncertain, and many of our capital equipment purchases were deferred until the budget was more clear. And you also know that we came to you a couple of months ago, asking for some of the most important pieces. At this time, I've been asked to come up and present the final two pieces that were not added back in. If we can go ahead and get them now for public works, it's a mower and gator for about \$22,000. The old equipment will be placed on Gov Deals.

Councilmember Keating made a motion to accept the proposal for the z turn mower for \$13,000 and a John Deere Gator for \$9,000 in support of public works. Councilmember Holder second. All voted in favor. **Motion carried.**

**C. Police Vehicle** Chief Hofmann stated, we're so appreciative and grateful that you're considering allowing some of these things back in the budget. We had initially asked for two police vehicles in the original budget this year, which course, they were taken out. One was a marked patrol car, which you were gracious enough to approve in February; that car has been

ordered. This is for the second vehicle, which was taken out is a request for an administrative vehicle. It will be assigned to one of the administrative personnel in the police department. We're asking for \$40,000 for this police administrative vehicle. It would be a police vehicle as typically acquired, but it wouldn't be as much as the last vehicle I asked for because that vehicle needs cameras, cages, and other things like prisoner transport. This one won't need that much equipment, so that it will be significantly less. The vehicle that we're trying to replace has 170,000 miles on it, and it's 2011, so we've been taking good care of it. It will go on Gov Deals.

Councilmember Holder motioned to authorize a police car's purchase for \$40,000 to replace the 2011 vehicle. Councilmember Drake second. All voted in favor. **Motion carried.**

**D. Fire Equipment, Chief Williams,** I come to you with a request to purchase self-contained breathing apparatus (SCBA). The request for \$65,000 is to replace the expired units that are no longer good. Currently we have two different types of SCBA on the firetrucks. Volunteers come in with their equipment; they have to decide which they will use. This equipment has a 15-year shelf life. We can't hydro test them anymore. This was budgeted, and it was one of those items that you took out of the budget last year, but we have money in our current budget.

Councilmember Holder made a motion that we authorize the purchase of the self-contained breathing apparatus for \$65,000. Councilmember Scoles second. All voted in favor. **Motion carried.**

**E. DECISION PAPER – Surplus firetruck** – Chief Williams stated we have a 2000 Firetruck. It's 20 years old. We get ISO credits for anything that's 25 years or less. If we sell it now we can get we can recoup some funds. I'm hoping to recoup 25,000 to \$ 30,000.

Councilmember Keating made a motion to approve the request to declare the firetruck surplus. Councilmember Drake second. All voted in favor. **Motion carried.**

**F. SECOND READING ORDINANCE 21-0922 AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWN OF SURFSIDE BEACH TO AMEND CHAPTER 4, ARTICLE I SECS 4.3 AND 4.4, THE CODE OF ORDINANCES FOR THE TOWN, CHANGING BUSINESS LICENSE ISSUE DATE AND DUE DATE.**

Councilmember Keating made a motion to accept the second reading, the Ordinance 2021 - 0922 for Modifications to Chapter 4, Sections 4.3 and 4.4 of the Town's Code of Ordinances. Councilmember Holder second. All voted in favor. **Motion carried.**

**G. SECOND READING ORDINANCE 21-0923 AUTHORIZING USE OF MEMORIAL PARK FOR CRAFT MARKET SPECIAL EVENT AND APPROVAL OF MANAGING VENDOR AGREEMENT.**

Councilmember Keating made a motion to accept the second reading of Ordinance 21- 0923, authorizing a craft market in Memorial Park and the Managing Vendor Agreement's approval. Councilmember Holder second.

Councilmember Keating stated we have a couple of events that utilize Memorial Park. One pays us nothing. We pay them a considerable sum. It seems that there's another event by an outside managing vendor that we're treating differently. We're charging them a fee to use our property. Aren't we charging the other vendors to use our product?

Mr. Shanahan stated why we're charging the ones now because we were able to negotiate with them. I don't ever want to do something that would cost the town money. I did check with other towns, and they are paying the same fee. I will be looking at that contract when it comes time to renew.

Councilmember Keating stated I think it's just something we need to look at because we're treating different vendors differently, and I don't think that's fair.

All voted in favor. **Motion carried.**

**H. FIRST READING ORDINANCE 21-0921 CHAPTER 2 – ADMINISTRATION –** Move to adopt the proposed amendments to Chapter II, as contained in Exhibit A, to be considered by section, with separate votes for each section, as presented.

Councilmember Keating made a motion to accept the changes to Chapter 2 outlined in Ordinance 21- 0921, and Exhibit A. Councilmember Drake second. All voted in favor. **Motion carried.**

**I. FIRST READING ORDINANCE 21-0925 CHAPTER 2.5 – ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES**

Councilmember Keating made a motion that we accept for first reading ordinance number 21- 0925 modifications to Chapter 2.5 of our code of ordinances. Councilmember Holder second.

Councilmember Keating stated I would just like to share how and why we changed the way we did. If you recall, the last time we looked at this chapter, we asked Chief Hoffman to go and investigate as to what are the governing state laws. State law only governs the sale, distribution, and consumption of liquor. Most municipalities have similar ordinances, also governing beer, ale, porter, and wine. So, we just moved the penalty for violations of this ordinance into the paragraph addressing sale distribution and beer, ale, porter, and wine consumption. We left the paragraph addressing liquor in accordance with state law.

All voted in favor. **Motion carried.**

**J.** Allow free parking on Easter Sunday to accommodate Sunrise service.

Councilmember Keating made a motion to allow free parking on Easter Sunday. Councilmember Scoles second. All voted in favor. **Motion carried.**

## 9. PUBLIC COMMENTS

**A. Gary White**, 315 B Lakeside Drive, Mr. White asked concerning the Utility Fee, how do we control the geese entering into the monitoring at Floral Lake? There is always about 30 geese there.

**B. Ken Laukauf**, 411 7<sup>th</sup> Ave. I bought this property 33 years ago. In front of me is Palmetto Lake. To my right faces the canal. Back then, we even have an ocean view. We never had too much of a problem. Now and then, Public Works would drop the lake level down, and we'd still get a good flow. Then they'd raise it, and we don't get much of a flow. We've had so many animals in that thing. The swans have come there. We have Muskrat, geese; you name it. And now, because there's a bridge being built up in the north, Public Works has shut down the flow and drying up the canal; the canal now smells. You ever smell the back of a garbage truck. It stinks, and the water is stagnant. I have cleaned it out regularly and removed the dead fish and animals to keep the smell down. Somebody has got to come out and clean this thing up; we've got our patio right beside the canal. I can imagine what it is going to be like when we get into the summer. And we've been suffering; we need something done was this can't continue. We're getting into real hot weather. We need help, thank you.

## 10. TOWN COUNCIL DISCUSSION AND/OR COMMENTS

**A. Councilmember Scoles** stated, thank you to residents for coming out and the ones that have called in this evening. I appreciate all the reports done by our departments, all the pertinent information to keep us on track financially, especially with this pier. That is a huge investment, as we all know, for this town. I would like to thank the gentleman that just spoke. That's devastating to me because that should not be happening, that we have wildlife that is dying. So I will be looking into that. I know there's one other situation in town that we have stagnant water. It's been standing there for quite some time. I will get with Mr. Adair on that. Please stay safe, and we will see you in a couple of weeks.

**B. Councilmember Holder** stated, thank you for coming tonight. Thank you to our Administrator for doing a great job. I'm happy that we're going to start seeing a lot of things happening. Finally, go out and get your vaccine. Thank you.

**C. Councilmember Keating** stated I'd like to thank everybody for hanging with us. We had quite the full agenda for tonight but considering everything we talked about and doing that in 2.5 hours, that's probably pretty good. It's a bit disappointing that this late in the pier project after 4.5 years, an error like this should arise that clearly should have been known. We had multiple experts on this project from the beginning. This is an oversight of understanding our FEMA grant. That really should be unacceptable. I commend Councilmen Drake for bringing up the fact that we should be looking at our so-called experts. Look at their errors and omissions policy to recover some of that \$1. 3M cost that we now face. I do commend Consensus and Intercostal for doing everything they can to streamline the design as much as possible to save us as much as possible. So the fact that we can bring this improved original design in less than what it was quoted for last summer is a stellar accomplishment for those gentlemen, and I commend them for that. We still have the open issue on Chapter 5, and as I recall, I believe we were still investigating an attorney general opinion on whether a referendum was going to be required. The opinion we got in 2014 on a similar issue will not require a referendum to change how the election is conducted. We need to issue an amendment with our agreement with Myrtle Beach to eliminate the runoff in our agreement with them, but there was some question as to whether we should investigate an Attorney General's opinion on whether this constitutes a modification to are how we gather votes.

Town Attorney Crosby stated State law says the "method of election." Suppose you change the method of election that requires a referendum. In that case, it says that a couple of different places in the state election law, and I got an Attorney General's opinion several years ago for a client regarding a different issue, and the opinion at the time was that was not necessarily a method of an election like it would be for single-member districts or something like that. It's my opinion that you don't need a referendum. If the council wants me to get an Attorney General's opinion before changing the ordinance, I will be happy to do so. It's my opinion you don't need a referendum. There is no case law on it, but I think the council is fine to move forward. However, you can't do so in light of the inter-governmental agreement, I reached out to the county attorney and County Elections Director, and they are both onboard. We just have to get this Council and County Council to approve an

amendment to the governmental agreement that references the fact that we will have a runoff method instead of the route.

Councilmember Keating stated that I'm very thankful that we've revised chapter 2 and chapter 2.5. We made a considerable improvement to Chapter 17 previously after that had been languishing for about a year. I'm encouraged that PB&Z is looking at some of our other ordinances and get those updated. So, I guess we need to start looking at what's next. Our goal was to address our entire code of ordinances. We're stepping through them one at a time. Some of them are much more involved than the 2.5, where we just needed to provide a clarification. I'm encouraged that we're making progress on that goal. With that, thank you again for hanging with us for a full agenda. I appreciate it, and, as always, stay safe, stay healthy. We'll see you in a couple of weeks.

**D. Councilmember Pellegrino** Thanks for coming. Thank you for participating and make our town better. We covered a lot more today than in other meetings. I won't make it any longer. Have a good night.

**E. Councilmember Drake stated** I'd like to thank everybody for coming out tonight, tuning in on the call-in. I will just remind everybody of the Sunrise Service. Enjoy yourself and stay safe. Thank you.

**F. Mayor Hellyer** stated that if everybody heard, Saturday is the opening day for the Youth Sports Association at Huckabee Park; that's when the first game is, and I hope to see many people out there to support the kids. I will be there at nine o'clock to throw out the first pitch. We have a whole bunch of stuff going on with the pier. You've heard tonight, all the trials and tribulations, and stuff that we have. But we need to work through it, and we need to move on and get this going. We are in the middle of our construction right now. Thank you all for coming tonight. I look forward to our next meeting, and I will see you then.

Mr. Shanahan stated we've taken a section of wood from the pier and made an award, and this is an award to be given to our town employees for good service. So, it's not normal services; it's for going above and beyond. This award is so that we can give them better recognition.

- 11. ADJOURNMENT** Councilmember Keating made a motion to adjourn at 9:10 pm. Councilmember Holder second. All voted in favor. **Motion Carried.**

**Surfside Beach Town Council**

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Robert Hellyer, Mayor

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David L. Pellegrino

\_\_\_\_\_  
Bruce H. Dietrich, Town Council

\_\_\_\_\_  
Cindy Keating, Town Council

\_\_\_\_\_  
Michael Drake, Town Council

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Debbie Scoles, Mayor Pro Tempore

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Paul Holder, Town Council

Attest: \_\_\_\_\_  
Sheri L Medina  
Town Clerk

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