



SURFSIDE BEACH TOWN COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING
Civic Center, 115 US Highway 17 North, Surfside Beach, SC 29575
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TOWN COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
TUESDAY, April 13, 2021, • 6:30 pm.

1. **CALL TO ORDER** Mayor Hellyer called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm. Mayor Hellyer, Councilmembers Dietrich, 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, none
2. **INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**
 - A. Invocation: Okey Landers from Pine Drive Gospel Church performed the invocation.
 - B. Pledge of Allegiance: Mayor Hellyer led in the Pledge of Allegiance.
3. **PUBLIC HEARING** – None
4. **MOTIONS RELATING TO AGENDA** - None
5. **MINUTES APPROVAL** Councilmember Keating made a motion to accept the meeting minutes for March 23, 2021. Councilmember Holder seconded. All voted in favor. **Motion Carried.**
6. **PUBLIC COMMENTS**
 - a. Becky Large, 13 South Meadow Drive, and I just wanted to thank you in advance for celebrating the fifth anniversary of Surfside Beach, being an autism-friendly travel destination, and for all of your support. Thank you very much.
 - b. Garrett Todd, I represent Beach Services Limited. We provide the Lifeguard Service for Surfside Beach. I just had some concerns about the canopy use on the beach. The safety of the people in the water is the primary concern. It's not only a safety issue but a liability issue as well. When you have a wall of canopies, finding your victims in the water or on the beach is very difficult. You lose too much time navigating around the canopies with the pier construction and the primary access being blocked. This is only going to add to the problems this year. That being said, many times, we try to help and aid the EMTs. We'll meet them and accesses and try to get them down to the beach with their equipment, and many times we have issues getting to that access because of the canopies. They are distracted most of the day with questions about the tent.

And with the ambassadors and Chief Hoffman, who have done an outstanding job, they just can't be there all the time. The same spot, because they have to be up and down on the beach all day long. But just enforcing that Ordinance has become more of a problem for beachgoers, I think, and the ambassadors, where I think they were assigned to meet and greet. And welcome people to the beach. Now it's more or less they are having to talk to them about moving. Replacing their canopies has become a more significant issue, and everywhere along the grant strand, they have been banned, except Surfside Beach.
7. **COMMUNICATIONS**
 - A. Rotary Awards**
 1. Police - Jessica Kirby
 2. Fire - James Behrens
 3. Public Works – Chris Bolster,.

Cindy Kropp, Surfside Beach Rotary Club, stated our Rotary Club's motto is Service Above Self; it is my pleasure and delight to award outstanding community members. First is Chris Bolster from Public Works. John Adair, Public Works Director, accepted the award for Mr. Bolster. Mr. Adair stated he is an outstanding employee. He's been with us since 2007, fleet shop supervisor. If you see garbage trucks rolling or police cars rolling, or lawnmowers rolling, it's because of Chris, and I feel that he saves the town more than his salary every year with his innovation and work ethic. He'll be pleased about this, and we thank the Rotary Club for that.

This agenda is published pursuant to the Freedom of Information Act Section 30-4-80(A) and (E). The public is invited to attend all meetings and events.

Next, I'd like to call Corporal Jessica Kirby, and She is with the police department. Ms. Kirby stated It's definitely an honor, I really appreciate this, and I wasn't expecting it, so thank you guys so much.

And my last award is for James Behrens, and He is with the Fire Department. Mr. Behrens stated, thank you.

Mrs. Kropp stated I would just like to say that the City of Surfside Beach has been wonderful to the Rotary Club. Without you, we couldn't have done the turkey trot, and it was a success this year, smaller, but a success. So thank you so much, and we look forward to working with you.

B. Police Department Monthly Report – Chief Hofmann gave the Police Department report. On February 27th, I'm pleased to announce that the police department received notification from the South Carolina Law Enforcement of Credit Accreditation Board that we had met the 2020 presidential Executive Order's requirements on Safe Policing Safe Communities. We did this by demonstrating our use of force policies and other practices that met or exceeded the U.S.'s standards. Department of Justice and the U.S. Attorney General Certification ensures that the police department will be eligible for state and federal grant funding. So if we hadn't met those requirements, we wouldn't be able to apply for grants. For example, the Bulletproof Vest program and other federal grants that we apply for throughout the year.

In February, I meant to mention was, was my fourth year as your Police Chief, February 17th. I was given the Honor by Council to be appointed as the police chief. And I'd just like to let you know that I'm honored to be a police chief and the Community's Police Chief.

Councilmember Keating stated I noticed that we had another resignation in the last couple of months. I think February was the first mention of it. Do we typically do an exit interview to understand why the police officers are leaving the town?

Chief Hofmann stated that human resources offer an exit interview to any person who leaves, so they do have that opportunity. Are there any commonalities? Do you know of anything we can start addressing to try to improve tenure within the departments?

Chief Hofmann stated those exit interviews are not made privy to me, so I'm not sure exactly what the contents of those are. I will tell you that this is an unprecedented, challenging time for law enforcement across the country, with events going on nationally. We are struggling to find candidates that want to be police officers right now. So that's one reason why we keep the poll open on the town's website so that we're continually taking in applications for our positions. It's just it's a struggle.

I talk with my colleagues all the time, they're facing the same struggles, and then we also see a generation of police officers whom we'll shift departments for 50 cents an hour. So, it's, it is not easy right now. I will say that the turnover, historically, the police department and Surfside, turned over about three police officers a year. And that's something that I've come to counsel about in the past to reduce that number down through some of the benefits that Council has approved, for example, to take old cars, the education, military incentives, and other small incentives that we have for pay. And I believe that it has had a positive effect on turnover. I'm good at recruiting certified candidates, which was really what I was trying to catch because certified candidates save taxpayers a tremendous amount of money.

Councilmember Pellegrino stated It's good to cover those points because we talked about it not long ago, but I think the idea you brought to us or when you came on basically four years ago is paying off because we were before you were here. Even your first couple of years. We were always three or four officers down. And now, we're maintaining. And we were a second person in a car for a long time. Now, we're getting people who are already certified. So, so again, I'll say I didn't agree with you upfront, but they were good decisions. So thank you, I appreciate it.

Chief Hofmann stated I know that poor Kirby's left already. But I do want to brag on or just for a minute, on the record. Corporal Kirby is just an absolutely amazing supervisor in this department. And she was certainly very worthy for the award. And great officers come in small packages, so to speak. But she does; she is one of the top officers in the department, and hopefully, you have had an opportunity to meet with her. So she's one of your superstars of the police department.

C. Planning Building and Zoning Update – Mitch Combs, Building Official, stated we've been reviewing our ordinances, trying to distinguish some idiosyncrasies between the various ordinances, making sure that we catch some holes. We see some contradictions. We have put the tree ordinance as a top priority. And that

has then presented to Carol Coleman. That will probably be going to the Planning Commission in May; depending on what type of revisions and the discussion that comes out of that, she anticipates possibly having that back to the council, June or July.

Councilmember Pellegrino stated when we talked earlier, and thank you for pursuing this and seeing that there's a gap and working with Ms. Coleman to get it to the Planning Commission is an important step. But until June, like we talked about before, we need to use our existing ordinances to focus on the key enforcement side. Because I think even with our existing Ordinance, we have tools for enforcement. I know people do stuff on weekends, and you don't know about it until someone says something to you, and then you can go check it out .

But we need to move down and start moving through the enforcement process and start penalizing some of these people. We've had more like we were talking about; we've had more in the last 3 or 4 weeks. Huge oak trees go down. It's been unbelievable. We'd made a lot of progress working with the citizens, keeping track of the tree ordinance, and just managing when someone's approved to remove a tree, but has to replace trees. Because of that, how to manage that down the road.

Mr. Combs stated we had started spreadsheets and various things to track who has replaced the removed trees. Unfortunately, I'm going to have to get somebody and get them trained up and start the process over, but it's definitely a priority for our department.

Councilmember Drake asked about property owner's rights that should they want to cut down a tree.

Mr. Combs stated it's a fine line. And we all understand this. We have discussed when we have a code enforcement officer that we're going to start looking for some things on Saturdays. We're being told that things are getting done on Saturdays and weekends when the eyes are not watching. Also, the last meeting that we had with builders, you know, it came out that they were tired of being told, no, with no explanation. That is something from the past, but we are trying to address it now.

Councilmember Drake stated if I need to trim a tree because it's overhanging my gutters and whatever, I should be able to do that without coming back and asking. So I'm hoping that some of those property rights types will be relaxed a little bit.

Councilmember Scoles stated I would like to thank you for the job you do. I know it's very, very hard. I see it every weekend: someone's building something or doing something, and I've approached several of them and ask them if they've gotten a permit, they said, No, that's why I'm doing it on the weekend, because no one is watching. And that's a shame. And I want to thank you, especially for the incident that happened on 15th Avenue South with a tree and the company that was there doing that. So I really appreciate the way you handle that much.

Mayor Hellyer stated I go out on Saturday morning, and places are rock and rolling, our contractors and everything else, but I see no permits, and today, we've had some, some issues with trees that were down, and we had three companies cutting these giant oak trees and everything. They didn't have permits. If people had to display their permit, everybody would know whether you have a permit or not.

Mr. Combs spoke about a parking situation that's been discussed. Carol wanted me to let you know that it will be looked at; it's part of the General Code, not part of the zoning code.

And the last thing I had was just, Please, bear with us. As you know, we have had some positions that have remain vacant for a while. We're doing our best to hold everything together. We are working on all of our policies and procedures. We're trying to identify overlap and gaps.

D. Pier Update – Mr. Shanahan stated we want to let our citizens know that safety is becoming a major about that area. We've got signs out there. I saw for myself, two days ago, what was someone telling the children to stand underneath a big eight-ton piece of metal. We do not want anyone to be injured. So, we're going to enforce safety there, but please watch your kids, make sure they don't get out there because we just don't want anything bad to happen.

I was asked about the ongoing building going out there; that big piece of metal is part of the tressal that will hold the crane to build out in the water.

We've been talking about Value Engineering. Things have been removed, and later should we need them, we can put them back in. We're looking at a metal frame for the building for a couple of reasons. It will stay standing with winds up to 180 miles an hour. It also lowers your insurance costs. This will save us approximately \$25,000.00. We think that it's important to look at some siding changes, combining what we had initially been approved with some other stuff. I think that's very important that you all see what you're paying for, and so that will happen.

We're slowing down the speed limit for the elevators. That will save money. You are only moving one floor.

The important thing is the public works director, me, the engineer, and Consensus, and we meet every Friday outside of all the other meetings.

Councilmember Pellegrino asked if we are going to hit our target completion date?

Mr. Shanahan stated that based on what I'm getting off all Contractors, the rain pushed it out 20 days. But I feel that we will make our date.

E. Discussion – Stormwater fee penalty – Mr. Shanahan stated at the last meeting you asked me to look at the stormwater fee, the late fees, and the penalty fee. I spoke to the County Treasurer. If someone requests a waiver from late fees, they would have to pay it. But then they could request it back. We could bring that before the council. You'll have the ability to return that money.

Councilmember Keating stated I recall reading the provision of our Ordinance, the fee in the late fees or the penalties has to be paid first. And there is a time limit on when you can appeal to have that penalty fee waived and therefore, reimbursed back. So, the situation presented to us, the 2019 fees had not even been paid yet. And we're certainly well beyond the 30-day limit of the Ordinance; where do we stand with this particular instance? We have many other 501 C3 in the town that have paid. So I just wonder, where do we stand on this particular one, about that?

Councilmember Pellegrino stated, keep in mind that this already came up in front of the council; we agreed to reimburse the late penalty for this situation. Even though it was 2019, I talked to Mrs. King last weekend. She told them that they have to pay the bill to the County, and then the town will reimburse the late fees. So, they've already been told that they're going to get reimbursed for the late fee, so the council agreed on an answer. Mr. Shanahan stated he would look into that and get back to the Council.

F. Community Garden Update – Mr. Shanahan spoke about the Community garden. We now have 23 plots. And all 23 are filled. It looks good, people growing things, and as Councilman Drake said, as you drive by. You see different people at different times standing around talking to each other and having fun with it, I think, it's going very well. We have had many compliments, and I think the big issue will be in a year; when this is successful, we will need another spot. Sheri has done an amazing job keeping them in the loop.

G. Discussion – Tents on the Beach – Chief Hofmann stated Ambassadorships would kind of help people understand the ordinances that you can't drink on the beach, can't smoke on the beach, or glass bottles. They're also coordinating with safety, working as a team with the Beach Services company with the lifeguards and ocean rescue people.

Tents became more popular; around 2014, 2015, residents began expressing their concerns about beach tents and canopies. Our lifeguards are constantly fighting to push the tents back because they were pushing forward of the visibility line. So we created this Ordinance to try to help control this problem.

Tents can only be 10 by 10, 10 feet apart, and 8 to 10 feet off the beach or the dune line. So we could get emergency vehicles behind if we needed to get up and down.

I Have always been a supporter of canopies on the beach as someone who's had skin cancer myself. I know the dangers of the sun and exposure. We have elderly visitors. They want to spend time with their families on the beach. We have families with young children that just can't be out there, but they want to be out there so that the canopies provided a perfectly safe, shaded place for people to enjoy our beach. However, the enforcement of the current Ordinance, now that it's been in place for over two years, has changed the nature of the beach services program. Our beach services officers are no longer ambassadors, and they're no longer keeping an eye out for those other violations and safety things that are going on. They are tent patrol. That's all they do.

From early in the morning, when visitors come over from Ocean Lakes, stake their claim in front of the Holiday

Inn, set the canopies up, and maybe never even come to the beach that day.

Two folks were coming down from beach houses. They don't know the Ordinance. They set their tents up too far forward. Our guys have to move them back, or they're too far back. We have to move forward and too close together, or there are six canopies put together. So I feel obligated to let the Community know, and Council knows that our number one objective is safety and creating a safe, friendly, healthy, crime-free environment on the beach.

But some of the challenges these are creating, particularly for our emergency personnel, are getting down there and being able to maneuver around. So I would like to get Council's direction. We have three options: leave it just the way it is, and we continue to do our very best, or we can deregulate tents and just let the tents be as long as they're behind the lifeguard line., or prohibit them. No other beach on the Grands Strand allows tents. That is what makes our beach unique.

Councilmember Scoles stated it was my understanding that someone would make sure that the hotels, that the beachfront home, these people were giving a copy of this Ordinance, and a copy was to be posted in the rental property. Was that ever that?

Chief Hofmann stated Yes, ma'am, all the rental companies that do weekly rentals received copies of the Ordinance, and of course, we asked them to post them in the units; I don't know whether they did or not make them do that, but we did do that. So, I'm doubling back on what I'm suggesting, but I almost think we have a challenging task to continue to police this regularly. But we will, if that is the will, of the council, and we'll find a way to push more social media may be out or tried to get the word out a little bit more, but it just hasn't had any impact.

Councilmember Pellegrino asked that Chief Hofmann come back with a creative solution where we can maintain them.

Councilmember Keating asked what about signage that says no tents beyond this point. I mean, if they're just a single line of them, even if they're not full 10 feet apart, if they're, within, 10 feet away from the Beach Access, and only a single row of them, it probably won't be as intrusive. Also, maybe a flyer that summarizes what the Ordinance tells you, that most people will not read the legal ease of knowing what's in the Ordinance itself?

Councilmember Scoles stated two years ago when I was walking that morning on the beach, the officers explaining to some older adults and tourists, they were starting to put their hands up. It was before the time that they could put them up. And they help them take them down, and then went back and help these people put them up. So I was impressed. And I think that just kept things calm. They do a good job. Thank you, I appreciate it.

8. BUSINESS

A. WACCAMAW MARKET COOPERATIVE CONTRACT

Samantha Tifton, Executive Director of the Waccamaw Market cooperative. I manage the operation of last year with the Farmers Market. We strongly rely on the financial support of the municipalities where our markets are located. And I would urge you to continue to support our market with our contract and continue to lead our farmers, and our artisans, and our food makers. I'm here to hopefully answer any questions or concerns that you guys may have.

Mayor Hellyer asked it says here sponsorship resources and the amount of \$7500 directly related to market management, detailed in a sponsorship fee invoice, supplied by the Waccamaw Market cooperative, and then on the first page, there's nothing on it.

Ms. Tifton stated I do have that detailed on a report that I've shared with Miss Ellis at the end of each season in the past year, and I also shared it with Mr. Shanahan.

Councilmember Keating stated just based on how we're treating other events in that location.

We don't pay any other vendor two to access our property, to conduct their markets.

We also require that each vendor has a business license. Nothing in here says anybody obtains a business license, are guidelines go over all the licensing that vendors are required to do, and it is the burden of the vendor, So we aren't personally checking to see if they have it, and we don't do that at any of our locations as well. I mean, we have just initiated a craft market by a third party that is conducting, then each vendor must have a business license issued by the town.

Ms. Tifton stated within our guidelines, on our vendors agree and find our agreement, and they agree that their responsibility for each of those municipalities has their proper licensing.

Councilmember Keating stated that I'm still concerned about the \$7500 that just seems a little steep.

Ms. Tifton stated it is the same amount that some of our other locations pay.

Councilmember Keating asked how flexible you would be to one week, do a Saturday or once a month, do a Saturday or stay until seven o'clock on Tuesday?

Ms. Tifton stated at this point for this season, Saturdays wouldn't be an option. But we are open to looking at changing times or staying open later or whatever we can do on that Tuesday to accommodate.

We allow our vendors to set up between the hours of 8 am and 10 am. And we ask that they don't sell anything until 10 am. It has been an issue that they're making sales, which causes what time shoppers are coming. That is an internal issue that we've been trying to figure out how not to allow shoppers to come because you don't want to turn them away once they're here and ready to purchase. That, then, they're not going to come back as well. People wanted to get to the beach.

Councilmember Drake asked what is the rule about locally grown merchandise at the Farmer's Market? Does everything have to be locally grown?

Ms. Tifton stated our farmers are certified for an extension because they are growing their table and 50% or more of what they are personally growing within their location. And then for our artisans, they are locally making items with their hand. They're not purchasing something and reselling it there. They are curating that item with their hands and personally processing and altering that food with their own hands to show the fruits and vegetables sold. If they are supplementing, it is usually coming from the South Carolina Farm as well. It's not coming from Texas or somewhere else. We ask everybody to be honest, and we try; we do have one market manager on staff there that's trying to oversee all those things. But if you see signage on there, we will have resellers from time to time. And that means that their table is more than 50% of what they did not grow. And they should know they should have signage designating them as a reseller and not a grower.

Councilmember Drake stated I really would like this to hold off on that if we could. I think we got a couple of different alternatives to save the town \$7500 and still get the same result.

Councilmember Keating made a motion to accept this contract for the Waccamaw Market Co-operative to manage the farmers' market for this year, and I think we need to take some time to evaluate going forward with such an expense. Because, as I mentioned earlier, I think it's a bit steep for just managing farmers to come in. We have others managing other artisans and vendors to come in as a group and have their festivals on the same piece of property. And they pay us for the privilege of being there. So, I have a problem treating vendors differently. For this year, I'll make the motion that we approve it. Councilmember Scoles second. Councilmembers Scoles, Holder, Keating Pellegrino Drake, and Mayor Hellyer voted in favor. Councilmember Drake voted against.

Councilmember Keating stated I would like to see at least one week a month that we extend the Tuesday hours to allow some of our working residents to participate, maybe move it to six o'clock or seven o'clock, at least one week a month.

B. SECOND READING ORDINANCE 21-0921 CHAPTER 2 – ADMINISTRATION

Councilmember Keating made a motion to approve the second reading of Ordinance 21- 0921 Chapter 2 Administration. Councilmember Drake second. All voted in favor. **Motion carried.**

C. SECOND READING ORDINANCE 21-0925 CHAPTER 2.5 – ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES

Councilmember Scoles made a motion to approve the second reading of Ordinance 21- 0925 Chapter 2.5 Alcoholic Beverages. Councilmember Holder second. All voted in favor. **Motion carried.**

D. FIRST READING ORDINANCE 2021-0926 - AN ORDINANCE APPROVING AMENDMENT OF INTERGOVERNMENTAL AGREEMENT WITH HORRY COUNTY.

Councilmember Keating made a motion to approve the first reading of Ordinance 21-0926 that makes the appropriate modifications to the inter-governmental agreement that we hold with the Horry County Elections Commission that will be in concert with the proposed changes to our Code of Ordinance Chapter five elections.

E. FIRST READING ORDINANCE 2021-0927 AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWN OF SURFSIDE BEACH TO AMEND CHAPTER 5, ELECTIONS, OF THE CODE OF ORDINANCES FOR THE TOWN OF SURFSIDE BEACH.

Councilmember Keating made a motion to approve the first reading of Ordinance 21-0927, making modifications to Surfside Beach Code of Ordinances, Chapter five, Elections, and specifically removing the run-off set of elections in favor of just a majority vote, a single election. This should ultimately save the town about \$2400 each election cycle. It also makes other clarifications and language changes just for clarity and consistency. Councilmember Drake second. All voted in favor. **Motion carried.**

9. PUBLIC COMMENTS – Town Services or Business Conducted (5 minutes per speaker)

a. Anousha 23 North Ocean Boulevard I support Chief Hofmann's efforts about the tents. I live right on the beach and then during summer, and I get up early, and I'm having coffee; I see people usually the first couple of days of new renters; they have difficulty too. It is just because they don't know where to put it. It's not like they want to do violate the Ordinance. I found it much easier to explain them ahead of time than ask them to move to back every time.

Regarding the co-operate market, they came up with a way to help early shoppers because I go early to in the morning and cannot sell to you. They tell you whatever you want within the basket come back later to help us get what we want.

We never get a chance to thank what our Town Clerk does. Most people don't know what is involved. It is good for us to be educated about what is involved. So, I came here to thank her, the services that Sheri provides. I am one of those customers that call at least twice a month, and every time I call, she can see my number, which is not a local number. She answered the phone. And she presents the answer. My questions usually help me navigate the website to get to where I want to go. I appreciate what you do, and I want you to know that if there's a lot more than just typing, it is a lot more involved in being a Town Clerk.

b. Chris Stamey, 715 Cedar Drive, my concern is on this pier. Chief Hofman put out a notice that we have problems with people walking around the construction site. Is it not a Consensus problem to put up a bigger fence to keep these peoples out or look at doing something to keep people off that site. As our administrator talked about, these things that we're cutting back on. Are we cutting back on the integrity of the pier? Are we getting the same quality stuff that we had to start with? Are we saving that much money, or should we just go ahead and spend the money to get the stuff done right the first time? Are we going to have a problem with it down the road? Are we changing stuff around as it goes?

10. TOWN COUNCIL DISCUSSION AND/OR COMMENTS

a. Councilmember Scoles I want to thank everyone who came into Chamber this evening, and those who have called in and are watching. I appreciate everyone that presented tonight and all their good information and support that they're giving this town and keeping us safe. That's huge to me. And I do want to say a bit of the pier. I understand the residents' concern when we start changing things that Mr. Shanahan and his people have looked into the changes' quality. Some of these changes that are being made are going to be better than what we already had. They will withstand higher winds. So, I think we're on the right track, but I appreciate you keeping us honest. Never, never, be afraid to call counsel out or to question them. That's what you put us up here for. So, everyone, please continue to stay safe and have a great evening.

b. Councilmember Holder, thank you, everybody, for coming out tonight. It was great to see the rotary award we had for our staff, and we have a great staff. Thank you, Chief Hofmann, for your work on several different areas. They do a good job for us. I believe that we will have a lot of people to come to this summer. I'm sure the turnout will be fantastic. Have a good night.

c. Councilmember Keating Yes, as with everyone else, thanks, everybody, for taking your time, and being here in person, and also listening in. I appreciate that we are challenging ourselves. We are not buying into the status quo that this is what we've always done. Therefore, this is what we will always do. I appreciate that Mitch's questioning attitude has brought forward from PB and Z that we're looking at our ordinances to make sure they make sense in today's world. Many of the things that we have seen, as, we go through the ordinances and, you know, Chief Hoffman has brought a few forward that may have made sense 10, 15, 20 years ago it doesn't make sense today.

So I appreciate that all of our departments, under the leadership of Town Administrator Shanahan, are being creative and using that questioning attitude to challenge ourselves to do better. I think that will benefit all of us in the long run. I'm also very happy to see that our community garden surpassed our expectations. Being a person who is not a gardener, I've never met a plant I couldn't kill, and I look forward to anybody who wants to donate fresh tomatoes. I'll be happy to take them off your hands, but I admire those that do that. With that, I look forward to what our next ordinances are. We're going to challenge ourselves, and hopefully, we'll be bringing those forward in the next several weeks as well. So, thank you all for coming. We'll see in two weeks.

e. Councilmember Pellegrino thanks for coming in. I appreciate the town's concern and your involvement with the town. And, again, our staff. Thanks to Mitch because I think he did a good job on the zoning by far, our most challenging department right now. So, there's a lot on his plate, especially since we just lost someone, that department, again. On Thursday, we're meeting for a budget workshop. We will talk about the upcoming budget, and, well, what we're going to do to manage all these peer expenses, so should the interesting part, should that part be interesting. Thank you for coming. Have a great night.

d. Councilmember Dietrich, good evening. Everybody. It's good to see everybody again. I want to start by thanking everybody for coming out tonight. It's always good to hear from you. We're getting there. I can say it's going to be a long road, but we're getting there, we're getting it done. We're just getting started now. See you again in a couple of weeks. Thanks again for coming out. Please be safe, getting home tonight.

f. Councilmember Drake, I'd like to thank everybody for coming out tonight to join us and thank Mr. Shanahan for leadership with the Pier. Let the public know that we appreciate their efforts in the garden, and I went, but it looked really good. Maybe we can get some produce over to the farmer's market and **make** some sales. It would be real nice on Saturday or something like that to have the market. So really looking forward to it. Thank you very much.

g. Mayor Hellyer, I'm really glad to see that we're doing many things from our barbecue festival to our Community and gardening. And hopefully, that we can do that. We have had some complications with: code enforcement, and our tree ordinances, and everything else. Hopefully, we're going to work on that to get that together and make it. So I thank everybody for coming out tonight now.

Town Administrator Shanahan stated at the last council meeting, during the public comments, there were some comments made about believe in being down in stagnant water; not only did staff go out there and take a look to meet with the people, but half of the council were out there talking to the same people and making sure that we've done. And for those that didn't get to the sunlight, it was amazing. Awesome words that were given from the Gathering Community Church, pastor.

11. EXECUTIVE SESSION

Councilmember Drake made a motion to enter into executive session at 8:22 pm pursuant to the Freedom of Information Act §30-4-70(a)(1) to discuss employment, compensation, demotion, discipline, or release of an employee, and section 30-4-70-(a) (2) to: discuss negotiations incident to proposed contractual arrangements for Risk Insurance. Councilmember Keating second. All voted in favor. Motion carried

Councilmember Dietrich made a motion to re-enter the regular session at 9:10 pm. Councilmember Pellegrino second. All voted in favor. Motion carried.

Mayor Hellyer stated there was no formal action taken.

12. ADJOURNMENT

Councilmember Keating made a motion to adjourn at 9:11 pm. Councilmember Dietrich second.