



SURFSIDE BEACH TOWN COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING

Civic Center, 115 US Highway 17 North, Surfside Beach, SC 29575

www.surfsidebeach.org - ☎ (843) 913-6111 📠 (843) 238-543

TOWN COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES TUESDAY, May 25, 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, and Pellegrino, and Mayor Pro Tempore Scoles were in attendance. Others present, Town Administrator Shanahan, Town Attorney Crosby, and Town Clerk Sheri Medina. Absent was 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.
5. **MOTIONS RELATING TO AGENDA** - None
6. **MINUTES APPROVAL** Councilmember Keating motioned to accept the meeting minutes from the workshop meeting on May 6, 2021, and the Town Council meeting on May 11, 2021, as presented. Councilmember Holder seconded. All voted in favor. **Motion Carried.**
7. **PUBLIC COMMENTS** – None
7. **COMMUNICATIONS**
 - A. **Events Report**, presented by Debbie Ellis
 - B. **Finance Report**, presented by Director King.
 - C. **Proclamation - 21-134 Dora Todd Eaddy**, Read by the Mayor. Ms. Debra Hermann stated Mother would be thrilled that she was recognized. May I just take this opportunity to say, there are a few other elderly citizens in town. Do it before they die because it would mean so much more. Thank you to the Council for recognizing Mother during the service. We appreciate everyone for coming and honoring her. Mayor Hellyer stated, Dora will surely be missed.
 - D. **Proclamation - 21-135 Richard Sexton**, Read by the Mayor. Mayor Hellyer stated that Richard would be coming into Town between 3:00 pm and 3:15 pm, and we will all be here to greet him.
8. **BUSINESS**
 - A. **SECOND READING, ORDINANCE 20-0928 AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWN OF SURFSIDE BEACH AMENDING CHAPTER 4, ARTICLES VI AND VII BY REPEALING ORDINANCE NOS. 19-0889 AND 19-0890 AND REVIVING THOSE PROVISIONS OF CHAPTER 4 LOCAL HOSPITALITY FEE AND LOCAL ACCOMMODATIONS TAX AS AMENDED BY SAID ORDINANCES.** Councilmember Keating motioned to accept the second reading of Ordinance 20 - 0928, amending Chapter 4, to re-instate the previous revision and in accordance with the H - tax litigation settlement. Councilmember Drake second.

Mr. Shanahan stated this was initially put forward in October with the previous settlement. Before that was an appeal, Myrtle Beach, and not validated by the judge until recently. And just to let everybody know, that when the lawsuit came for the hospitality tax, that the Town of Surfside Beach made some adjustments to their ordinances so that we could benefit more

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from the hospitality fee during the fact now that negotiations have been done. There's been a settlement on it. We need to revert to the way it was before the lawsuit. All voted in favor. **Motion Carried.**

B. FIRST READING, ORDINANCE 21-0929 AN ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR THE RECOVERY OF COSTS BY FEES FROM USERS OF FIRE PROTECTION AND EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES Mr. Shanahan stated Several months ago, and we were asked to look at the profitability, getting the insurance company to pay for some of the responses that the fire department. And by doing that, we save taxpayers money in the end. This affects the insurance company and not the citizens who are actually in the accidents. The goal is to bring back some of that money into the community that we're spending. We don't have to tax you in the future. Many other Municipalities do this.

Councilmember Keating motioned to accept the second reading of Ordinance 21-0929, providing for the recovery of costs associated with emergency services. I would make that predicated on that; we make it clear that the recovery is from the insurance companies only. It would not go back to the individuals obtaining the service. Councilmember Drake second. All voted in favor. **Motion Carried.**

C. FIRST READING, ORDINANCE 21-0930 AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND AGREEMENT FOR MANAGING VENDOR MEMORIAL PARK CRAFT MARKET Councilmember Keating motioned to accept ordinance the first reading of ordinance 20- 0930, amending the agreement for the Craft Market in Memorial Park to include the specified Sundays. Councilmember Drake second.

Mr. Shanahan stated, Council let it be known that you all would like to see something offered over the weekend. Based on that, a lot of the visitors leave, and that is kind of opens up something for our citizens. We checked with the Waccamaw Market, and they're booked out on weekends, so they couldn't do it. The Events Coordinator checked around to see if we could get any other local folks that would do it, and they couldn't do it. We then went with My Olive Shack who is doing the Thursday Craft Market, and they agreed to extend the Craft Market to June 20th, July 11th, August 8th, September 12th, October 24th, November 21st, and December 12th dates.

All voted in favor. **Motion Carried.**

D. FIRST READING, ORDINANCE 21-0931 AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWN OF SURFSIDE BEACH TO AMEND THE FISCAL YEAR 2020-2021 MUNICIPAL BUDGET Councilmember Keating motioned to accept ordinance number 21 - 0931, modifying the current year municipal budget to include previously authorized expenditures and additional revenue that's been realized. Councilmember Holder second. All voted in favor. **Motion Carried.**

E. RESOLUTION 21-0136 – SURFSIDE BEACH VISION STATEMENT Councilmember Keating motioned to accept resolution 21 – 0136, establishing the town of Surfside Beach Vision Statement as, "The Town of Surfside Beach is the number one family destination in South Carolina." Councilmember Drake second. All voted in favor. **Motion Carried.**

9. PUBLIC COMMENTS – None

10. TOWN COUNCIL DISCUSSION AND/OR COMMENTS

A. Councilmember Scoles, I would like to thank everyone for coming. I thought we would have a packed house now that we have more seating and all of those individuals that called in. Everyone, please stay safe, and we'll see you in two weeks.

B. Councilmember Holder, I want to thank everybody for coming out tonight. I want to thank our police department for the efforts they made during the bike week. They did a great job. It was a good week, and it was a lot quieter than I thought. It's good to see the work they're doing. So, thank you for that. Thank you all for your support.

C. Councilmember Keating, thank everybody for coming out and for tuning in and watching live. We're getting really good at these meetings. We're cutting them out in length 30 minutes or so. We do have a couple of things coming up on the horizon. One is Chapter 4, our business license ordinance. We'll need a public input about some of the proposed changes that we may want to make. Next, on the list after that becomes Chapter 9, which is the motor vehicles and traffic patterns, there are certain provisions there that seem to be a little burdensome. We'll be looking at that as well. I also understand that our Planning, Building, and Zoning Department is looking at our tree ordinance and a few other stipulations in the permitting that we have going on that are creating some problems. All in all, I think the town is actually doing much better than it used to in its customer service and hopefully we're improving our image as we go along. Hopefully as we continue through the process and continue to whittle away at some of our challenges, things will start looking brighter for us. As always, thanks for your

feedback, your comments on Facebook and your messages I receive. I appreciate it! I try to respond to everyone that comments. We will see you again in a couple of weeks. Thank you.

D. Councilmember Pellegrino, thanks for coming tonight. I got asked to write a little blurb for the newsletter, so I enjoyed doing that. It's easy write about when you're having a good time, good staff, and now everything's neat and clean. You can drive north and south of us, and you see a different world. That's nice. I would like to, personally thank the administrator, because he follows up on all kinds of stuff all the time. He follows up to everyone very quickly, so I do appreciate that.

F. Councilmember Drake, thank you everybody for tuning in tonight, coming out here, and thank you, everybody. Just remember the Memorial Day weekend and it's for all the military service people and what they sacrifice so we can go lay on the beach, and we can go celebrate with our families. Don't forget about them, say a prayer for them.

G. Mayor Hellyer, there's been a lot going on in the last couple of weeks, there is alot going on this week. Tomorrow, we have that Richard Sexton with the ruck ball coming in to Town hall and that's at three o'clock. Saturday, we have the Memorial Day Golf Cart Parade, and Monday, we have the Memorial Service. The next Council meeting on June eighth,we're going to have a public hearing at that council meeting that is about Ordinance 21-0932 to set the fiscal year 2122 tax milage. Hopefully, that won't change. I want to thank everybody for coming by. I think it's miraculous that we took 6 votes tonight on Council and they were all 6 / 0. We appreciate that.

- 11. EXECUTIVE SESSION** pursuant to the Freedom of Information Act §30-4-70(a)(1) to discuss employment, compensation, demotion, discipline, or release of an employee.
Councilmember Keating motioned to enter into executive session at 7:05PM. Councilmember Holder second. All voted in favor. Motion carried.
Councilmember Keating motioned to resume the regular session at 7:46 PM. Councilmember Holder second.
Mayor Hellyer stated there was no action taken from executive session.
- 12. ADJOURNMENT** Councilmember Keating made a motion to adjourn at 7:47PM. Councilmember Holder second. All voted in favor. **Motion Carried.**

Surfside Beach Town Council

Robert Hellyer, Mayor

David L. Pellegrino

Bruce H. Dietrich, Town Council

Cindy Keating, Town Council

Michael Drake, Town Council

Debbie Scoles, Mayor Pro Tempore

Paul Holder, Town Council

Attest: _____

Sheri L Medina

Town Clerk

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Town Council Chambers. Meeting notice was also posted on the town website at www.surfsidebeach.org and the Town's LED marquee.