



MUNICIPAL MESSAGE

Dedicated People Providing Quality & Responsive Service to our Community.

A free "by subscription" publication for residents and friends of Surfside Beach. (See article this page.)

TOWN OF SURFSIDE BEACH
TOWN COUNCIL

Roy Hyman, Jr.
Mayor

Term: 05/11/2004 to 05/13/2008

James S. Truett
Mayor Pro Tempore

Term: 05/14/2002 to 05/09/2006

Rebecca J. Hiatt
Town Council

Term: 05/11/2004 to 05/13/2008

Joseph P. Martin
Town Council

Term: 05/14/2002 to 05/09/2006

William M. McKown
Town Council

Term: 05/11/2004 to 05/13/2008

Douglas F. Samples
Town Council

Term: 05/14/2002 to 05/09/2006

Judith K. Tuttle
Town Council

Term: 05/11/2004 to 05/13/2008

All Town Councilmembers may be contacted by calling 843.913.6111 or email Town@surfsidebeach.org.

General Municipal Election Tuesday, April 4, 2006

The Town of Surfside Beach General Municipal Election will be held on Tuesday, April 4, 2006. Polls will open at 7:00 a.m. and close at 7:00 p.m. This is a nonpartisan election. No reference to party affiliation will be placed on the ballot.

Three (3) council seats are to be elected, each with a 4-year term beginning May 9, 2006, and ending May 11, 2010. Candidates are (in alphabetical order): Bill Blankenship; J. D. Lee; Joe Martin; Doug Samples; Sammy Truett, and Darrell C. Willm. The South Carolina State Ethics Commission certified the candidates to be on the ballot.

Polling Locations: **Precinct #1:** Dick M. Johnson Civic Center, 829 Pine Drive directly behind Town Hall; and **Precinct #2:** Calhoun Hall, Surfside United Methodist Church, 13th Avenue North, Surfside Beach.

Qualifications for Voting: To vote in the upcoming election, a voter must have been duly registered on the Horry County Books of Registration by March 3, 2006 (30 days prior to the election.) Citizens must present either a voter registration certificate or drivers license showing an in-town

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Newsletter by Subscription For Non-Residents Beginning Summer '06

The *Municipal Message* is currently published four times annually at a cost of about \$17,000 that includes printing approximately 3,700 copies and postage.

Beginning with the summer 2006 edition, the newsletter will be mailed to non-resident, out-of-town addresses **by subscription only**. Please send an email message to town@surfsidebeach.org with your name and mailing address, if you wish to continue receiving the newsletter via United States mail. The subscription only mailing will drastically reduce printing and postage cost paid by your tax dollars.

Residents living within the Town of Surfside Beach corporate limits will continue to receive printed copies. The *Municipal Message* is published on the Town website. Please visit www.surfsidebeach.org to view the latest edition.

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Planning, Building & Zoning

☎ 843.913.6340 ✉ building@surfsidebeach.org

As spring approaches, the PBZ Department has finalized the R-2 moratorium issues with the Town Council passing new regulations. This resulted in changes to setbacks, building heights, and lot coverage. Before planning any additions or new construction, please call or visit the building department at Town Hall for clarification of the new regulations. The department is very accessible and resident assistance is one of our top priorities.

The 2005 Comprehensive Plan, a guideline for Town development, was adopted and is available online. The plan gives a general plan for the Town of Surfside Beach during the next 5-years.

The tree survey volunteers were recognized at the December 13th Town Council meeting for the outstanding job done counting trees located in the town easements. This was the first step towards a complete tree inventory and management program to keep Surfside Beach green! This was also a step towards the goal of becoming a "TREE CITY!" Thank you to Andree Scherer, Gordan Clarke, Frankie Clarke, Laden Lawrimore, J. R. Lawrimore, Robert Childs, Nancy Childs, Bob Hanson, Al Stein, Etta Stein, Guy Lanham, Joe Martin, and Lynn Livesay.

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Dick M. Johnson Civic Center & Special Events

☎ 843.650.9548 ✉ DebbieEllis@surfsidebeach.org

SPECIAL EVENTS

Spring is around the corner and events for the coming year will soon begin.

The 2nd Annual Beach Music Festival will be held **Wednesday, April 26th** at the Surfside Beach pier parking lot from 4:00 p.m. until 8:00 p.m. Entertainment will be provided by Sea-Cruz.

The annual Easter Egg Hunt will be on Sunday, **April 16th at 2:00 p.m.** at the Huckabee Complex on Spanish Oak Drive. Children ages 10-years old and under are welcomed to join the hunt. Free admission.

Hyperflite from Atlanta will conduct a local competition for children, which consists of disc throwing for accuracy and distance, at the Huckabee Complex on Saturday, April 22nd. Ages include children 14-years old and under. Free admission.

Upcoming Dances: Mothers Day: Mother/Son Dance Friday, May 12th from 6:30 p.m. until 8:30 p.m. at the D. M. Johnson Civic Center on Pine Drive.

Fathers Day: Daddy/Daughter Dance on Friday, June 16th from 6:30 p.m. until 8:30 p.m. also at the civic center.

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3rd Annual Surfside Rotary 10K Race/Walk

The 3rd Annual Surfside Rotary 10K Race/Walk was held February 4th. There were 148 runners and 29 walkers that started on Ocean Boulevard at the Surfside pier parking lot and followed a track throughout the town ending at the starting point.

Many participants use this event as a preliminary to the "big" race in Myrtle Beach held later in the month. For more information on this year's race or to inquire about next year's race, contact Surfside Rotary at www.surfsiderotary.org or DebbieEllis@surfsidebeach.org.

Public Safety Praises

Emergency Calls Dial 9-1-1

VOLUNTEER FIREFIGHTERS

Police Business ☎ 843.913.6368 ★ Fire Business ☎ 843.913.6369

✉ publicsafety@surfsidebeach.org

"Our Volunteer Firefighters"

The citizens of the Town of Surfside Beach enjoy the protection of one of the finest fire departments along the Grand Strand.

The town's department is a combination department, which means that it is comprised of both career personnel and volunteer personnel. The town's volunteer firefighters are the backbone of The Town of Surfside Beach's Fire Division.

The volunteer firefighter and support members respond to calls at all hours of the day and night. These calls interrupt daily chores, family events, and employment obligations. Many of the volunteers are trained firefighter-emergency medical technicians (EMTs). All firefighter-EMTs in the department must complete 240 hours of training annually.

Some of the town's volunteers are certified as aircraft rescue firefighters, dive rescue, high angle rescue, and hazardous materials control. Many also serve as instructors. Although the volunteers train weekly, many of them give up additional hours toward training at local fire stations and the State Fire Academy in Columbia.

The support personnel assist with on-scene safety, air tank refilling (SCBA), traffic control at motor vehicle accidents, and other critical duties.

The volunteers also assist in many town organized events such as the Christmas Parade, Family Festival, Christmas Tree Lighting, and other events. The volunteers are a highly trained, committed, and responsible group of people who are a critical part of the public safety team for the town.

Surfside Beach volunteer firefighters come from many walks of life. Many were firefighters in other areas of the country and come to serve you with a great deal of training and experience. Some were looking for a way to serve their community, while others hope to someday achieve their goal of becoming a career firefighter.

Some of the town's volunteers are housewives, executive assistants, career firefighters, or EMTs in other departments. Several volunteers were fire chiefs in departments up north. Some are local business owners

or managers. The town demands that its volunteer firefighters use the utmost caution when responding to emergency calls. Treat them as you would any other emergency vehicle and help them arrive safely and quickly.

October is designated the official "Fire Prevention Month." During October the department focuses on ways to educate and remind the community to always practice home safety and workplace safety. Remember to never leave candles burning unattended. Check your smoke detector monthly and change the batteries twice a year when you change your clocks. The lives of you and your family may depend on those little batteries in the event of a fire.

Occasionally, go through the garage, storage shed or other storage areas, and properly dispose of old paint, dangerous chemicals, and oily or paint soaked rags.

Please call the Fire Division at 843.913.6369 for a burn permit prior to burning leaves. Always practice fire safety, and contact staff any time with your questions and concerns.



Volunteers check fire hydrants during night training.

BUSINESS LICENSE RENEWALS DUE BY JUNE 1, 2006

The Town of Surfside Beach Code of Ordinances requires that every person engaged or intending to engage in any activity with the object of gain, benefit, or advantage (make money) pay an annual license fee and obtain a business license.

According to the Ordinance, any business or individual furnishing short- or long-term rental space for a fee is considered a business and is, therefore, required to obtain a license based upon the gross receipts from such rental.

A separate license is required for each location. The license period runs from June 1st through May 31st.

Renewal notices will be mailed in late April. Contact the business license inspector with questions or for more information, 843.913.6342 or send an email message to sleahey@surfsidebeach.org. Renewal forms are available on-line, www.surfsidebeach.org.

2006 Town Council Meeting Schedule

January 10, 24 ♦ February 14, 28 ♦ March 14, 28
April 11, 25 ♦ May 9, 23 ♦ June 13, 27 ♦ July 11, 25
August 8, 22 ♦ September 12, 26 ♦ October 10, 24
November 14, 28 ♦ December 12

Town Council meetings are held the 2nd and 4th Tuesdays monthly, except the 4th Tuesday in December, in Council Chambers, at Town Hall, 115 US Highway 17 North, Surfside Beach, SC, and begin at 6:30 o'clock p.m. The public is invited to attend all meetings. Time is allotted for public comments on agenda items prior to business discussions, and for general comments after business discussions at every meeting.

Visit www.surfsidebeach.org to view agendas and meeting minutes. To subscribe to the mailing list to receive public notices that include agendas and minutes, send a blank email to add@surfsidebeach.org. For more information, call the town clerk, 843.913.6333 or send an email to dherrmann@surfsidebeach.org.

The Town of Surfside Beach will not share, sell, or distribute your email address.



Municipal Elections

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residence at the polling place. To receive a duplicate voter registration card, or to obtain an absentee ballot, please contact the Horry County Election Commission at 843.915.5440. Requests must be made by the party wishing to vote by absentee ballot. Absentee ballots are *not* available from Town Hall.

Challenged Ballot & Certification Hearing will be held Thursday, April 6, 2006, at 10:00 a.m., at Surfside Beach Town Hall. Any protest must be filed by 7:00 p.m. on Thursday, April 6, 2006. A run-off election, if it is determined that a run-off is necessary, will be held two weeks after the election on Tuesday, April 18, 2006.

Councilmembers-elect will be seated at the May 9, 2006 regular Town Council meeting (see meeting schedule on this page.)

Please contact the town clerk with questions, telephone 843.913.6333, or email dherrmann@surfsidebeach.org.



Veterans Brick Pavers

Honorarium or memorial brick pavers for placement at the Town's Veterans Memorial are for sale. Cost is \$50 each. Contact Debbie Ellis at 843.650.9548, or email DebbieEllis@surfsidebeach.org for more information.

Thank you to all those who have served and who continue to serve to preserve our freedom!

The Veterans Memorial is located at the Fuller Park Complex on Surfside Drive.

PUBLIC WORKS

☎ 843.913.6360 ✉ publicworks@surfsidebeach.org



Public Works exists to proactively manage the town's resources in a manner to benefit the town, its residents, businesses, and visitors. By implementing Town Council directives the department provides safe streets, sidewalks, beaches, lakes, parks, walkways, recreation and civic activities, in addition to sanitation services to preserve and enhance the quality of life in this "Family Beach" community. The department also strives to represent and promote the town to the greater Grand Strand community through coordination and support of intergovernmental relationships and activities for the benefit of all.

Departmental priorities include, but are not limited to, improving the condition of town lakes; preserving the town's beaches, while protecting the dunes and participating in beach restoration and renourishment; enhancing the "Family Beach" image through street beautification and upkeep; increasing town sponsored events and activities for the benefit of the community; maintaining, repairing, and improving the town stormwater system, and incorporating all town lakes into the maintenance system; continuation of town sidewalk projects; maintaining and improving swashes and drainage ditches; meeting current sanitation needs, while increasing awareness and education in the area of recycling, and providing scheduled, preventative fleet maintenance that includes all town vehicles and motorized equipment.

Public works currently has twenty-eight full time employees. In December 2005, the public works director position was vacated when Bobby Radford left to pursue a job in the private sector. The new director, Brian S. Kirk, began the first week in March. The town and staff welcome Brian.

The sanitation section is gearing up for the summer roll-out service that begins on Sunday, May 14th and continues through Sunday, September 10th. Exemption forms will be mailed for completion and return, which is required annually by Town Code.

With the onset of spring comes the seasonal yard clean up. A reminder: all leaves must be bagged and pampas grass must be tied or contained. Town Code requires professional landscapers performing yard work in the town to remove all debris from the job site. Bulk item pickup continues to be done on Fridays. Place items for pickup curbside on Thursdays. Questions or comments regarding sanitation services should be directed to T. R. Grady, supervisor, at 843.913.6362 (office phone) or 843.222.2655 (cell phone.) The infrastructure services section continues to perform

scheduled clean up and maintenance of the drainage ditches and catch basins throughout town. A specific monthly schedule was developed, which will be utilized by staff to monitor the condition of the formal drainage system for both routine cleaning, maintenance and repair. Staff has enhanced contact with Horry County public works staff to finalize a drainage solution to the Sandy Lane flooding, and to drainage and debris problems that plague the 'Bi-Lo' ditch (near 10th Avenue North) and Lake Elizabeth. The solution involves a variety of measures from enlarging retention pond capacity in Horry County west of Azalea Drive, stabilizing the erosion of the bank along the 'Bi-Lo' ditch, and other measures still being discussed.

Staff continues meeting with Earthworks Group about the drainage and outfall solutions for Myrtle Basin and to obtain advice and direction to resolve a number of issues involving sinkholes, area specific flooding, and drainage complaints.

Trees along Surfside Drive were trimmed so that the business signage can be easily seen. Repairs were made to bricks encircling the trees to alleviate safety hazards. Staff awaits information from an arborist to develop a replacement and repair plan consistent with the 2005 Comprehensive Plan. Questions or comments regarding infrastructure services should be directed to Willie Myers, supervisor, at 843.913.6363 (office) or 843.222.2658 (cell number.)

The Town renewed the permit issued by Ocean and Coastal Resource Management (OCRM) allowing it to continue to repair, replace, and add sand fencing and landscaping on the dunes and beach. Inspections of each beach access from street to beach-front were completed. Recommendations are forthcoming for Town Council's consideration.

Scheduled trash maintenance continues on lakes, coinciding with brush trimming performed by staff using the pontoon boat. Estate Management is checking the lakes conditions on a bi-weekly basis and applying treatments if and when necessary.

The reconstruction of playground equipment in All Childrens Park recently began and should be completed well in advance of the much anticipated warm weather. Public restrooms were checked and necessary repairs made.

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Fleet maintenance completed an inventory of all town

Public Works

Continued from page 5

vehicles and equipment and compared it to work orders for the past three years to establish the town's first "preventative maintenance program."

Scheduled maintenance will result in better performance, longer life span, and less down-time for most, if not all of the town's vehicles and equipment, thus saving the town money...your tax dollars. Having the necessary vehicles and equipment available in proper working condition is essential to productivity and service.

Much time and energy were expended by the two staff mechanics assembling the new bucket truck. Once the bucket apparatus was attached and wired in, they fabricated a steel and wooden platform deck, welded in stabilizers and repainted the truck body. Purchasing a lift mechanism and having an outside vendor install it on a town truck would have cost approximately \$24,000. Staff mechanics, Barry Hartman and Kevin Leonard assembled the truck in-house utilizing an existing cab and chassis. Cost for materials was \$14,503 plus 160 man-hours saving approximately \$9,000. Thank you Barry and Kevin for the excellent job!

All public works department employees will attend a traffic safety program entitled "Work Zone Safety" being offered free of charge by South Carolina Department of Transportation. The presentation is designed to educate participants on how work zones operate, and the dangers for both the workers and motorists. Remember, "Let Them Work, Let Them Live!" Be courteous and stay legal—slow down when you see workers along the roadways!



RECYCLING SAVES MONEY!

During the months of January and February 2006, the town collected 23.74 tons of recyclables. The next time you start to throw away that glass, plastic, or paper—STOP a moment to consider if it could and *should* be recycled. Every time you recycle an item instead of throwing it in the trash can, it saves YOU money. The Solid Waste Authority does not charge the town to dump recycled materials, but the Authority does charge to dump trash.

Free recycle bags are available at town hall and will be delivered to you upon request. **Free** postage-paid mail bags are available for empty toner cartridges. Telephone 843.913.6360 or email publicworks@surfsidebeach.org. Recycling is picked up town-wide every Thursday.

REDUCE - REUSE - RECYCLE...Some things are worth preserving...this slogan and practice is a good thing. The Town challenges you to increase the 23.75 ton collected in January and February to 30-plus tons during the coming months! Show your concern for the town's future—reduce, reuse, recycle!

Planning, Building & Zoning

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The department has a new home page on the town website, www.surfsidebeach.org. Links can be found to the IBC, the Town Code, building permit requirements and forms, department contact information, the 2005 Comprehensive Plan, and meeting minutes and agendas.

The Planning, Building & Zoning Department is interested in your ideas and thoughts! Check out our web page for monthly survey questions, updates, and current news.

For more information, please contact 843.913.6340, or email building@surfsidebeach.org.

Civic Center & Special Events

Continued from page 2

The Sun Fun Festival will kick off the first week of June. Sun Fun Super Sunday is June 4th on the beach at 1st Avenue South, and has a variety of events scheduled including a volleyball tournament, sand sculpture contest, bocce ball, horseshoe tournament and relay games for children. The opening ceremony is at 10:00 a.m.

Sun Fun Kids Fair is Monday, June 5th at Fuller Park on Surfside Drive from 4:00 p.m. until 7:00 p.m. with lots of activities for the children including a Lego building contest and inflatable rides.

All events for the Town of Surfside Beach are listed on the town's website, www.surfsidebeach.org. For more information, please special events coordinator, Debbie Ellis, email DebbieEllis@surfsidebeach.org or telephone 843.650.9548.

Boards, Commissions, and Committees Volunteers Sought

The Town of Surfside Beach appreciates and thanks the numerous individuals that serve on the various boards, commissions, and committees that are required to successfully operate the town, and also those who volunteer to work during special events such as those held on Valentines, Easter, Sun Fun and Christmas, and the polls on election day.

A list of boards, commissions, and committees follows for your information and consideration for service. If you would like to serve on a particular board, please send a statement of your applicable experience, with your name, mailing address, telephone number, and email address to Town of Surfside Beach, Attn: Town Clerk, 115 US Highway 17 North, Surfside Beach, SC 29575, or email your information to Town@surfsidebeach.org.

Seats become available throughout the year due to resignations, relocation, or other obligations, in addition to terms expiring. Your information will be kept until a position opens where you have indicated interest and then presented to Town Council for consideration. All terms are for four-years, and you may serve two consecutive terms before being required to take a two-year break from that committee. You may only serve on one committee at a time.

If you are appointed to serve an unexpired term, it will be considered a full term as long as you serve at least two years. Some committees have particular guidelines that are set out below. The number of members is noted in parenthesis by each name.

Accommodations Tax Advisory Committee (7). State law stipulates representation for membership: two members represent the community at large; one member works for or is involved in culture and arts; two members work for or are involved in the hospitality industry, and two members work for or are involved in the lodging industry. This committee generally meets 3- or 4-times a year between May and September to make recommendations to Town Council for expenditures of accommodations tax revenue.

Building Board of Appeals (7). This board meets when appeals are filed against the building department.

Election Commission (3). This commission oversees municipal elections; tallies ballots, and holds challenged ballot hearings.

Grand Strand Water & Sewer Authority Advisory Board Representative (1). Meets quarterly. This representative reports GSWSA board actions to Town Council.

Planning & Zoning Commission (7). State Law mandates this commission, which makes recommendations to Town Council on matters of planning and zoning.

Stormwater Advisory Board (7). This commission reviews stormwater and drainage problems in the town and makes recommendations to Town Council.

Zoning Board of Appeals (7). This board meets when an appeal is filed to request a variance from zoning codes.

Contact town@surfsidebeach.org or call the town clerk at 843.913.6333 for more information about serving on a board, commission, or committee.

Contact the special events coordinator at 843.650.9548 or email debbieellis@surfsidebeach.org to volunteer to help with any of the numerous special events sponsored by the town (*see related story on page 2.*)

ELECTION DAY

TUESDAY—APRIL 4

**POLLS OPEN
7:00 A.M.**

**POLLS CLOSE
7:00 P.M.**

Bring your voter registration card or South Carolina drivers license to the polling precinct for identification.

Precinct #1 is the Dick M. Johnson Civic Center on Pine Drive behind Town Hall, and includes residents from the middle of 2nd Avenue North southward to and including Melody Lane.

Precinct #2 is at the Surfside United Methodist Church at 13th Avenue North. and includes residents from the middle of 2nd Avenue North northward to 17th Avenue North.

(See related story on front page.)



Town of Surfside Beach
115 US Highway 17 North
Surfside Beach SC 29575-6034

Debra Eaddy Herrmann, CMC, Town Clerk, Editor

Postmaster, please deliver to addressee or current resident.

First Class Mail

EMERGENCY CALLS Dial 9-1-1

Any Emergency, Fire/Rescue/Police Dial 9-1-1

843.913.6111	Town Hall-Main Number
843.238.5432	Town Hall-Fax Number
843.913.6111	Building-Planning-Zoning Department
843.650.4131	DM Johnson Civic Center
843.913.6337	Municipal Court
843.650.4131	Parks & Recreation
843.913.6369	Public Safety-Fire (<i>non-emergency</i>)
843.913.6368	Public Safety-Police (<i>non-emergency</i>)
843.913.6360	Public Works

Mailing Address: Town of Surfside Beach
115 US Highway 17 North
Surfside Beach, SC 29575-6034

INTERNET ADDRESS: www.surfsidebeach.org
E-Mail General Mailbox: town@surfsidebeach.org



GOLF CART USE REGULATED BY SOUTH CAROLINA STATE LAW!

SC Law states that **ONLY LICENSED DRIVERS** may drive registered and licensed golf carts on a secondary highway or street within 2-miles of his residence only during daylight hours.

Golf Carts must be registered with the South Carolina Department of Motor Vehicles. The nearest office to Surfside Beach is located at 1200 21st Avenue North, Myrtle Beach. ☎843.448.9957



NEW PUBLIC NOTICE MAILING LIST SUBSCRIPTION SERVICE

The Town of Surfside Beach now offers a mailing list for individuals desiring advisory notices for meetings, special events, emergency events (i.e. hurricanes,) and meeting minutes. To add your email address, send a blank email message to add@surfsidebeach.org or visit www.surfsidebeach.org. (To remove your address, send a blank email address to remove@surfsidebeach.org.) The Town of Surfside Beach will not share, sell, or distribute your email address.

The Town's website now hosts a variety of information including agendas, minutes, and current events. Visit www.surfsidebeach.org often to view the latest updates.