



surfsidebeach.org

Town Council Members

- Allen Deaton, Mayor
- Bob Childs, Mayor Pro Tem
- Vicki Blair, Member
- Ann Dodge, Member
- Mark Johnson, Member
- Douglas Samples, Member
- Rod Smith, Member

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From the Fire Chief *By Robert Packard*

We all hope that everyone had a prosperous summer with many visits from family and friends and now look forward to a little slower pace for the fall. There are still a good number of upcoming events as we approach the holiday season.

The annual Family Festival on Surfside Dr. was on Saturday the 1st of October as was the Annual Fall Bike Rally. Please continue to be aware of the increase in two wheel and pedestrian traffic and remember to share the road.

There are a lot of folks who consider the fall season to be their favorite time here on the beach, especially with the cooler weather. Football Friday nights and Saturdays and the return of good oysters, BBQ and fried turkey not to mention the approach of Thanksgiving, Christmas and the New Year. Again please be aware of traffic in all of these areas and enjoy this special time of year at the beach.

During the month of October the fire department will again be testing and flowing the hydrants in the Town of Surfside Beach. We do this for compliance with ISO (the company that rates fire department capabilities for residential and business insurance purposes) as well as area familiarization. It enables us to make sure that the hydrants and hydrant system is fully functional and that we get the amount of water from the system that is required.

Upcoming Events

November 2011

- ◆ Friday, 11/11 - **Veterans Day Service**- 2:00 p.m. at the Veterans Memorial in Fuller Park.

December 2011

- ◆ Thursday, 12/1 - **Christmas Tree Lighting**- 7:00 p.m. at Town Hall.
- ◆ Saturday, 12/10 - **Christmas Parade**- 2:00 p.m. on Ocean Blvd.
- ◆ Saturday, 12/17 - **Breakfast with Santa**- 9:00 a.m.—10:30 a.m. at Ryan's Steakhouse.

February 2012

- ◆ Friday, 2/17 - **Seniors Dance**- 7:00 p.m.—10:00 p.m. at the Civic Center.

March 2012

- ◆ Friday, 3/16 - **St. Patrick's Day Dance**- 7:00 p.m.—10:00 p.m. at the Civic Center.
- ◆ Saturday, 3/24 - **Surfside Rotary Race**- 8:00 a.m. at the Pier Parking Lot.



Please remember that burning of outdoor debris and leaves is not allowed within the Town limits.

“We would rather respond to you and find out that you did not need us than to not respond when you did.”



Horry County is in the process of preparing various property tax mailings, as detailed to the right.

From the Fire Station

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Please remember that burning of outdoor debris and leaves is not allowed within the Town limits and that the fire department will respond and extinguish the fire if the homeowners are not present or refuse to extinguish it. Be mindful of your neighbors who may have medical issues and are unable to contend with the smoke. Public Works has a schedule (Wednesday's) when they pick up debris that is left at the roadside. All loose debris such as leaves and pine straw must be bagged so that it does not blow out of the trucks.

A Message from Horry County

Property Assessment Notices and Tax Bills to be mailed...

Horry County is in the process of preparing various property tax mailings, as detailed below.

The week of October 3rd, the Horry County Auditor's office will mail approximately 75,000 personal property tax bills.

Bulk items are picked up on Friday's.

For those who burn wood in fireplaces or wood stoves it is never too early to make sure your chimneys and stoves are clean. It does not take long and it is not expensive compared to the cost and inconvenience involved in a chimney fire. For those who may use kerosene heaters make sure that it is actually kerosene in the can and not gasoline. There have been occasions in the past when the wrong fuel was used and the consequences were not good, so please be careful.

By Robert Packard

I do not want to pull the plug to early on Hurricane season since we still have four weeks remaining. Continue to monitor the remainder of the season for activity in the tropics and be ready in the event of late season issues. Please continue to be safe in all that you do and remember, call us if you need us. We would rather respond to you and find out that you did not need us than to not respond when you did.

SB

Personal property tax must be paid on all personal property, including business personal property used to generate business income within Horry County. This includes business personal property, such as furniture, which is located within a condominium or house that is rented to third parties to generate revenue for the owner. If you have questions please call the Auditor's Office at 843-915-5054.

The week of October 17th, the Horry County Assessor's Office will be mailing assessment notices to owners of property if the appraised value of the property in-

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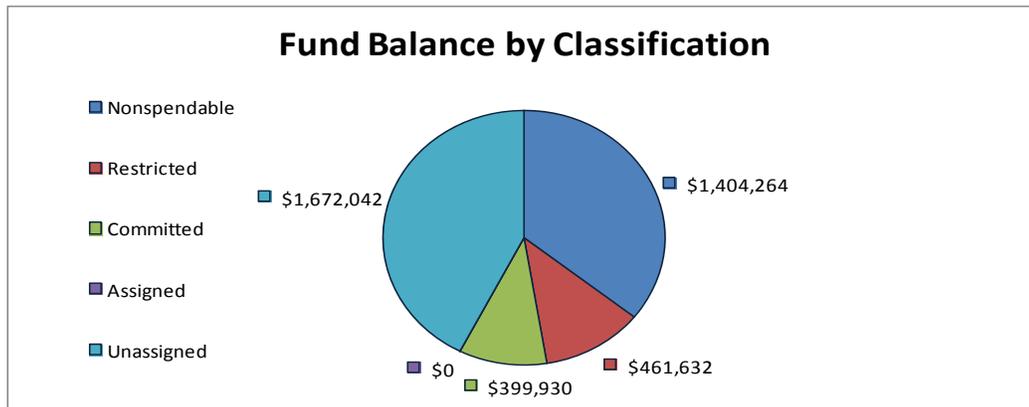
Fiscal Year General Fund Balance

By Kim Hursey

For the fiscal year ended June 30, 2011 the Town of Surfside Beach implemented GASB Statement No. 54 "Fund Balance Reporting and Governmental Fund Type Definitions". GASB is the Governmental Accounting Standards Board. The objective of this statement is to enhance the usefulness of fund balance information by providing clearer fund balance classifications. Here is a summary of how the Town's general fund balances are classified and the year end fund balance amounts:



The Town of Surfside Beach implemented GASB Statement No. 54 "Fund Balance Reporting and Governmental Fund Type Definitions".



The classifications describe the relative strength of the spending constraints placed on the purposes for which the Town's resources can be used:

1. Nonspendable Fund Balance - Consists of amounts that are not in a spendable form (such as inventory) or are required to be maintained intact.
2. Restricted Fund Balance - Consists of amounts constrained to specific purposes by their providers (such as grantors, bondholders, and

higher levels of government), through constitutional provisions, or by enabling legislation.

3. Committed Fund Balance - Consists of amounts constrained to specific purposes by a government itself, using its highest level of decision-making authority; to be reported as committed, amounts cannot be used for any other purpose unless the government takes the same highest level action to remove or change the constraint.

4. Assigned Fund Balance - Consists of amounts a government intends to use for a specific purpose; intent can be expressed by the governing body or by an official or body to which the governing body delegates the authority.

5. Unassigned Fund Balance - Consists of amounts that are available for any purpose. The general fund is the only fund that can report unassigned fund balance.



"The objective of this statement is to enhance the usefulness of fund balance information by providing clearer fund balance classifications."



Kimberly Hursey has been the Treasurer for the Town of Surfside Beach since April of 2007.



For more information concerning your property tax bill or tax payments please contact the Horry County Treasurer's Office at (843) 915-5470.

“Personal property tax must be paid on all personal property, including business personal property used to generate business income within Horry County.”



The Town of Surfside Beach is a participating community in the National Flood Insurance Program. Which means that you can purchase flood insurance to protect your property against the hazard of flooding.

A Message from Horry County

(Continued from page 2)

creased more than \$1,000 as of December 31, 2010 over the value appraised as of December 31, 2009. Such changes that have triggered a new assessment value include: construction activity, a change in use, the property is no longer a part of an acreage parcel but is now a lot, a multiple lot discount has been removed, a review of the prior year's values are now effective for the current year, or the property

has been subdivided or combined. Additionally, parcels that transferred from one owner to another owner may qualify as an assessable transfer of interest, which could result in an increase in the appraisal value for property tax purposes. If you have questions please call the Assessor's Office at 843-915-5054.

Finally, the week of October 24th, the County will be mailing the real property tax bills. Approximately 250,000 bills will be mailed. However,

if you have been making installment payments during the year to be applied against your 2011 real property tax bill, your tax bill will not be mailed to you until November 15th. For more information concerning your property tax bill or tax payments please contact the Horry County Treasurer's Office at (843) 915-5470.



By Sabrina Morris

Flood Hazard Areas

Your home(s), business(s), or property(s) are located in or near FEMA's Special Flood Hazard Area (SFHA). The Town of Surfside Beach is a participating community in the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP), which means that you can purchase flood insurance to protect your property against the hazard of flooding. Flooding in our Town is caused by several sources, including but not limited to:

- Our Town's drainage system is primarily designed to handle up to a 95th percentile rain event, or up to 1.95 inches. Heavier rain storms or a combination of high tides and tropical rain may overwhelm ditch and pond capacity.
- As new development occurs, additional runoff from lots and other impervious areas can add storm water to the existing system.

Homes that were built prior to current elevation requirements may be situated below the proper grade to prevent flooding problems.

You don't need to live near water to be flooded. Here are some facts:

- Floods can be caused by heavy storms, hurricanes, or inadequate or overloaded drainage systems.

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Flood Hazard Areas

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tems.

- Just an inch of water can cause costly damage to your property.
- Most property insurance policies do not cover damage caused by flooding.
- Federal disaster assistance requires a Presidential Declaration, which happens in less than 50% of flooding events. A NFIP flood policy does not.
- The most typical form of federal disaster assistance is a loan that must be repaid with interest.
- The average flood policy from NFIP with \$100,000 in building coverage costs \$400 a year, vs. a monthly disaster loan repayment of \$240. for many years on a \$50,000 disaster loan.
- In most cases, there is a 30 day waiting period after you purchase a flood policy before coverage is in effect, so don't

wait until a flood is threatening.

- Flood insurance can be purchased on eligible residential and commercial buildings and/or their contents, or tenants can purchase contents-only coverage (residential and commercial).

The Town of Surfside Beach is a participant in the NFIP's Community Rating System (CRS), which mean that residents and business owners receive a discount on their flood insurance premiums in recognition of efforts made by the Town of Surfside Beach to reduce the impact of flooding.

Contact your insurance agent for more information about flood insurance or to purchase a flood insurance policy. If you don't have an agent, or your agent does not write flood insurance, the NFIP has a toll-free number for agent referrals (1-800 CALL FLOOD or 1-800-

720-1090 or TDD#1-800-427-5593). You can also get more information about flood insurance at www.FloodSmart.gov or www.surfsidebeach.org.

Please Be Aware: You are the owner or resident of property that could possibly flood should a major hurricane strike this area. It is our desire to inform residents and property owners of the presence of flood hazards in the Town of Surfside Beach, and suggest actions that can be taken to protect persons and property.

Official Flood Insurance Rate Maps (FIRM) offer more details of flood hazard areas and are available for review at the Town of Surfside Beach Building and Planning Department. For any information or answers to questions regarding flood hazards in your area, to review flood maps, or for information regarding building in a flood prone area contact the Building and Planning Department at 843-913-6341.

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Flood insurance can be purchased on eligible residential and commercial buildings and/or their contents.

“Federal disaster assistance requires a Presidential Declaration, which happens in less than 50% of flooding events.”



Official Flood Insurance Rate Maps (FIRM) offer more details of flood hazard areas and are available for review at the Town of Surfside Beach Building and Planning Department.



If your property is located on the waterfront or in an area likely to flood, plan to leave during major weather events. Learn the evacuation route.

“Hurricanes and tropical storms are most prevalent during late summer and early fall in coastal South Carolina.”



During a flood, gas and water lines can be ruptured and power lines downed. Before leaving your property turn off the main electrical disconnect switch. Simple steps can prevent additional losses.

Flood Hazard Areas

(Continued from page 5)



This picture was taken this August after Hurricane Irene. Surfside Beach, SC only received outer bands of the Category 2 Hurricane.

Elevation Certificates are also available for public review at the Building and Planning Department in the Town Hall building.

In the Town of Surfside Beach, areas that are particularly susceptible to flooding include but are not limited to low-lying oceanfront lots, certain properties adjacent to swashes and/or outfalls, and properties built prior to current elevation requirements. There are other isolated areas in the Town that are susceptible to flooding as well. Check the FIRM's and some Elevation Certificates under Flood Information on our website at www.surfsidebeach.org for further information.

History of Flooding: Surfside Beach is a coastal town and there are consequences for being close to the water including increased risks to property and life caused by storm related flooding. Hurricanes and tropical storms are most prevalent during late summer and early fall in coastal South Carolina. Winter and spring storms can bring high winds and heavy rains that can cause high tides and flooding as well.

Flood Safety: During a flood, gas and water lines can be ruptured and power lines downed. Before leaving your property turn off the

By Sabrina Morris

main electrical disconnect switch, shut off gas and main water valves to your property. Simple steps can prevent additional losses.

Most losses caused by hurricanes are the result of flooding. If your property is located on the waterfront or in an area likely to flood, plan to leave. Learn the evacuation route. Please, leave when you are advised to leave. Heavy rain, gale winds and rising tides can be experienced hours before a storm actually makes landfall. Not departing when advised to do so may result in being cut off from evacuation routes by rising water. Don't drive in flooded areas. Know your evacuation route and emergency shelters prior to the emergency. If you can evacuate to an inland location away from the coast that is out of the storm area and safe, it would be far better, because shelters are likely to be crowded, noisy, and uncomfortable.

SB

Service Awards

Tom Nophsker
25 Years



Tom Nophsker celebrated his 25th year with Surfside Beach. He is currently working in the Public Works Department as a Heavy Equipment Operator.



Tom Richards
15 Years

Tom Richards is the Lieutenant for the Fire Department. He has been with the Town for 15 years.

Templeton Blain
10 Years



Templeton Blain is a Light Equipment Operator for the Public Works Department. He has been with Surfside Beach for 10 years.

Inside SURFSIDE

Volume 12, Issue 1



Town of Surfside Beach

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E-mail: Town@surfsidebeach.org

Golf Cart Laws



- Must be driven by a licensed driver
- May not travel along, but may cross primary roads
- Must obey all state traffic laws
- Seating capacity of cart cannot be exceeded
- Daylight operation only
- Operator must have a valid driver's license in their possession at all times
- Operator must have proof of insurance in their possession at all times
- Golf carts must be registered with the Surfside Beach Police Department
- Golf carts must display SC permit sticker

Surfside Beach Town Council Contact Info

Council meetings are held the 2nd and 4th Tuesdays of each month at 6:30 PM in Council Chambers. The public is invited to attend.



K. Allen Deaton, Mayor

Term: 05/13/2008 to 05/08/2012
Phone: 843-222-2652 or 843-913-6330
Email: AllenDeaton@surfsidebeach.org



Vicki Blair, Town Council

Term: 05/13/2008 to 05/08/2012
Email: VickiBlair@surfsidebeach.org



Bob Childs, Mayor Pro Tem

Term: 05/13/2008 to 05/08/2012
Email: BobChilds@surfsidebeach.org



Ann Dodge, Town Council

Term: 05/11/2010 to 05/13/2014
Email: AnnDodge@surfsidebeach.org



Mark L. Johnson, Town Council

Term: 05/13/2008 to 05/08/2012
Email: MarkJohnson@surfsidebeach.org



Rod Smith, Town Council

Term: 05/11/2010 to 05/13/2014
Email: RodSmith@surfsidebeach.org



Douglas F. Samples, Town Council

Term: 05/11/2010 to 05/13/2014
Email: DougSamples@surfsidebeach.org