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Inside this issue:

| | |
|--|-----|
| A Message from Mayor Doug Samples | 1&4 |
| Public Works—Doing What They Do Best | 2&3 |
| Fire Dept. Looking for Administrative Help | 3 |
| Changes in Sanitation Rates and Policies | 4 |
| Parking and Golf Cart Registration Changes | 5 |
| Historical Board Looking for Items | 5 |
| Improving the Appearance of Commercial Areas | 6 |
| Service Awards and Recognitions | 6 |
| Highway 17 Improvements | 7 |
| Newsletter Distribution Policy | 7 |

A Message from Mayor Doug Samples

“The Family Beach” philosophy is not to change what we have but rather to enhance it. In other words, we will build upon our strengths, while retaining the small-town neighborly qualities that we all enjoy. In this edition, are some of the improvements that have been completed and the plans for some improvements to come.

Our beachfront, the lakes and ponds, our system of parks, the Veterans Memorial, and the library are attractive public settings for our residents and visitors. Our roadways must be maintained, and we continue to dedicate resources to that end. The underground wiring of 3rd Avenue South to 3rd Avenue North along Ocean Boulevard will be completed in early spring, along with repaving of the area. Work on the pier, to meet all American with Disabilities Act (ADA) requirements, continues with a modest expansion of the deck adjacent to the restaurant. This work is scheduled for completion before Easter.

A goal of Town Council is to build upon these public works and enhance private sector opportunities by addressing a longer term commitment to public infrastructure and our businesses. Specifically, the Highway 17 Business Corridor through Town – which is really the Town’s “front door” – needs attention to remain economically viable and to be safe all year long. Accordingly, our Public Works Department recently completed cleanup and edging of existing medians along all sides of the two-plus mile highway. Additionally, Town Council recently adopted an “overlay” ordinance which will result over time in aesthetic improvements to road frontage properties. In conjunction with this, the Town and SCDOT are working together to improve Highway 17 Business. The median landscape project, while modest, is a big step for the Town in establishing a successful working relationship with SCDOT. In December 2012, the SCDOT governing body approved a grant re-

(Continued on page 4)

Upcoming Events

2013

- ⇒ Mar 9 - BBQ/Bluegrass Festival
- ⇒ Mar 15 - St. Patrick’s Day Dance
- ⇒ Mar 30 - Easter “Eggstravaganza”
- ⇒ Apr 13 - Pet Fair
- ⇒ Apr 20 - Surfside Rotary Race
- ⇒ May 3 - Beach Music Party
- ⇒ May 26 - Memorial Day Cookout
- ⇒ May 27 - Memorial Day Service
- ⇒ Jun 10 - Kids Fair
- ⇒ Jul 4 - July 4th Celebration
- ⇒ Sep 1 - Endless Summer Celebration
- ⇒ Sep 21 - Beach Sweep
- ⇒ Sep 28 - Skyhoundz Disc Contest
- ⇒ Oct 5 - Family Festival
- ⇒ Nov 11– Veterans Day Service
- ⇒ Nov 28 - Turkey Trot
- ⇒ Dec 5 - Christmas Tree Lighting
- ⇒ Dec 14 - Christmas Parade
- ⇒ Dec 21 - Breakfast with Santa



The town has received critical area permitting to create five larger dune walkovers, approximately 12'x12' with seating.

“The town plans to pave a portion of our roads each year. Money comes from County Transportation Committee.”



Due to the presence of mold and air quality concerns in Council Chambers, the town contracted for renovations.

Public Works Doing What They Do Best



Street Paving

The town plans to pave a portion of our roads each year. Money comes from County Transportation Committee (CTC gas tax). The CTC approved \$200,000 for the town in October 2012, which will pave about 2 miles during the spring and fall of 2013.

Dune Walkovers

The town has received critical area permitting to create 5 larger dune walkovers, approximately 12'x12' with seating. The first three are expected to be completed during this off season and will be located at 14th & 6th Avenues North, and at 12th Avenue South.

Council Chambers Renovation

Due to the presence of

mold and air quality concerns, the town contracted for renovations that included complete drywall replacement and HVAC replacement. The Public Works Department completed additional recommended tasks such as roof and flashing repairs and relocating irrigation heads away from the building. This work was completed in time for the Town Council meeting on January 22, 2013.

Street Signage

Replacement of street signs by 2018 is necessary to comply with federal highway standards. The new blue signs with high reflectivity through prismatic film are being installed during a 6-year program. The lettering is larger and studies have

shown that upper and lower case lettering processes more quickly in the human brain. The town is ahead of many municipalities in this effort which will include stop and other regulatory signage. There are 315 intersections in Surfside Beach that require the new signs. Surfside Beach has completed about half of the project.

50/50 Drainage Ditch Program

This cost-sharing program is offered to residents every winter. Residents pay for the materials and the town supplies equipment and labor. This year 7 applications were received. The process begins with Public Works providing a cost estimate; then the resident decides whether or not to proceed based on the projected cost of the materials. Projects are scheduled in the order checks are received from the residents who applied.



(Continued on page 3)

Public Works Doing What They Do Best



(Continued from page 2)

The Town Pier

Surfside Beach is currently in phase 3 of a 3-phase plan to improve the pier. Phase 1 replaced the hardware under the restaurant area (bolts, straps, etc.). Phase 2 was the wrapping in a protective membrane of 10 repaired pilings. Phase 3, for which a contract was recently awarded, is to build an ADA (Americans with Disabilities Act) compliant ramp. The deck on the ocean side

of the restaurant area will be expanded to approximately 35' x 30'.

Beach Recycling

The town's leadership in recycling has attracted positive attention from local news media and is becoming a model for the region. The city of Myrtle Beach recently made inquiries about our program. During the first two seasons of implementation, more than 42 tons of recyclables that otherwise would have ended up in

the landfill were recycled from our beach.

Miscellaneous Beautification Projects

Many smaller projects have been completed, some of which were suggested by the "Keep Surfside Beach Beautiful Committee." Tree plantings, sidewalk repair, edging of Hwy 17 Business, flower bed enhancements at Fuller Park, and the installation of a drinking water fountain at Passive Park are only a few of the projects recently completed.



The town's leadership in recycling has attracted positive attention from local news media and is becoming a model for the region.

"Many smaller projects have been completed, some of which were suggested by the "Keep Surfside Beach Beautiful Committee.""

Fire Dept. Looking for Administrative Help

The Surfside Beach Fire Department is looking for retired individuals who would like to work in the fire station as a receptionist. The position will entail the answering of phones and

assisting in other administrative duties.

The work schedule will be Monday through Friday with hours between 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. and will be based on the

time that volunteers have available

Anyone interested should contact acting Fire Chief Dan Cimini at 843-913-6352 for more information.



Interested individuals should contact acting Fire Chief Dan Cimini at 843-913-6352 for more information.



Hazardous Household Waste & Unwanted Electronic Drop Off

Event:

April 26th - 28th

HHW Items Accepted:

- ⇒ Paints
- ⇒ Pesticides
- ⇒ Solvents
- ⇒ Gasoline Mixtures
- ⇒ Batteries
- ⇒ Cleaning Products
- ⇒ Fluorescent bulbs

HHW Items

NOT Accepted:

- ⇒ Medical Waste
- ⇒ Explosives
- ⇒ Radioactive Materials

E-Waste Items

Accepted:

- ⇒ Computers
- ⇒ DVD Players
- ⇒ Printers
- ⇒ Fax Machines
- ⇒ Stereos
- ⇒ Televisions

E-Waste Items

NOT Accepted:

- ⇒ Large Appliances
(including refrigerators
& air conditioners)

Changes in Sanitation Rates and Policies

The changes coming to Town trash collection are not without a cost. The good news is that Surfside Beach prices are still among the lowest in the area, and the increase should keep the Sanitation Enterprise Fund in the black for the next decade. "Without the changes, we would have been looking at serious problems within two years," said John Adair, Director of Public Works. He noted that while communities throughout the area have routinely raised rates for service, Surfside Beach residents have had their rates the same for the past eight years.

In January, the Town Council approved a roughly 25-percent rate increase for residential pickup from \$15 to \$18.75 per cart per month. The fees for many of the extras remain the same. There is no increase for summer roll-out curb service, recycling, yard waste, bulk waste or for

the twice yearly household hazardous and electronic waste drop-offs.

An increase was approved for bulk container service: 25 percent/ \$26.25 for 6-yard containers and 35 percent/ \$31.75 for 8-yard containers.

Seasonal Rollout Service:

There are also some changes in roll-out service rates and policy. (Rollout service is when town employees roll carts to and from the curb in short-term rental areas.) Applicable dates are contained in the full text of the ordinance, available on the town website or at Town Hall.

- ⇒ Summer rollout service is optional under certain circumstances. Please refer to the ordinance for details.
- ⇒ Winter rollout service also has an opt-out policy which is contained in the or-

dinance. The cost for the winter roll out service will rise to \$30.75 per month -- \$18.75 per cart plus a \$12 fee for the rollout service.

In recently revised opt-out policies, is a provision for the town to reinstate the rollout fee without notice in cases where the containers are not removed from the curb in a timely manner or if waste or garbage becomes a health or safety hazard.

Electronic Waste:

Residents may not knowingly place or discard a television, computer, computer monitor, printer or components of any of the afore, in any waste stream that is to be disposed of in a solid waste landfill. The town will not collect these items with regular refuse. This policy is necessitated by a State law that went into effect in 2011. The Public Works Department offers several E-waste recycling opportunities each year.

A Message from Mayor Doug Samples

(Continued from page 1)

quest by the Town to repave and restripe the Town's Highway 17 Business. The Town is working with the SCDOT

to schedule the work outside of our summer season.

We, the Council staff, and volunteers, are com-

mitted and remain steadfast in ensuring our town is safe and clean and that the great services we expect are delivered affordably, transparently, and in a sustainable manner.

Parking and Golf Cart Registration Changes

Town Council recently voted to contract with Lanier Parking to manage the town's pay parking areas. They also revised two related ordinances:

Ordinance 9-7 No Parking Spaces: Has been amended to prohibit parking within ten (10) feet of any beach access, driveway and entrance or exit to any parking lot. The full text is available on the town website or at Town Hall.

Ordinance 9-16 Decals and Exemptions: This ordinance addresses two kinds of town-issued decals – 1) Free parking decals for motor vehicles and golf carts and 2) Registration decals for golf carts. The full text is available on the town website or at Town Hall

1. Free parking decals allow motor vehicles and

golf carts to park in paid parking areas without charge when space is available. These decals are available (one per vehicle) at no cost to residents and nonresident owners of residential property. The \$40.00 charge for nonresident owners of residential property has been removed. Anyone who does not have a free parking decal on their car or golf cart must pay in paid parking areas. These decals are available at Town Hall after verifying current vehicle registration or presenting proof of residential property ownership.

2. All golf carts must be registered with the town. Effective immediately, all owners of golf carts, including commercially-owned golf carts, must register them with the Surfside Beach Police

Department. Proof of ownership and of liability insurance are required. This registration requirement has nothing to do with free parking. It is to help law enforcement identify the owner in case of theft, towing or ticketing, and to provide the owner or operator with town and state regulations pertaining to golf cart operation.

⇒ For residents and non-residential property owners the fee is \$2.00 per year. These decals are blue and white.

⇒ For nonresidents who do not own residential property and for commercially owned golf carts, the fee is \$5.00 per year. These decals will be red and white and will clearly state "Pay Parking Only."



Town Council recently voted to contract with Lanier Parking to manage the town's pay parking areas.

"For residents and nonresidential property owners the golf cart decal fee is \$2.00 per year. These decals are blue and white."

Historical Board Looking for Items

The Surfside Beach Historical Board would like to have any pictures or stories residents may have about the town's

past. If you have items to share with the Board, please bring them to

Town Hall, marked to the attention of "PL Mabry" or email Mary Beth Mabry at marybethmabry@surfsidebeach.org.



If you have items to share with the Board, please bring them to Town Hall.



An example of a proper end cap.

“Adopting what is called an “overlay district” to the existing zoning ordinance will benefit business, tourism, and residents by creating a more visually inviting atmosphere to retain and attract “quality” businesses.”

Improving the Appearance of Surfside Beach Commercial Areas

The Town Council took a giant step in January 2013 that will gradually but steadily improve the appearance of the Town’s primary commercial corridor. Adopting what is called an “overlay district” to the existing zoning ordinance will benefit business, tourism, and residents by creating a more visually inviting atmosphere to retain and attract “quality” businesses. The overall effect will maintain or

increase property values and ensure a viable economy.

This plan for long-range beautification of the town was developed by Sabrina Morris, the town’s Planning, Building and Zoning Director, and was enthusiastically recommended by the Planning Commission. It was reviewed by the “Business Committee” and “Keep Surfside Beautiful Committee.”

Town Council, after considering all committee comments and extensive public hearings, unanimously adopted the “overlay district” concept.

The full text of the ordinance can be viewed on the town’s website at surfsidebeach.org or at Town Hall. Watch for changes as, little by little, our commercial areas take on a modified and modern look that will make us proud.

Service Awards and Recognitions



Fire Lieutenant Tom Richards has retired. Richards joined the Surfside Beach Fire Department Volunteers on April 24, 1992 and was hired as a career firefighter/engineer on October 3, 1996. The Town



Willie Myers
20 Years



Patrick Ryan
5 Years



Lynn Frick
5 Years

of Surfside Beach thanks Tom for faithfully serving the Surfside Beach Fire Department, the Town’s citizens and the community for 20-plus years.

Thank you also to Willie Myers for 20 years of ser-

vice in the Streets Department of Public Works; Patrick Ryan for 5 years of service in the Sanitation Department of Public Works, and to Lynn Frick for 5 years of service as a dispatcher in our Police Department.



Thank you from the Town to these employees and the years of service they have given .

Highway 17 Improvements



The recent landscaping projects along Hwy 17 Business are intended to improve the looks and promote safety. The Town of Surfside Beach, South Carolina Department of Transportation (SCDOT), and the Grand Strand Area Transportation Study (GSATS) finally “got it done” after nearly three years. Safety concerns, specifically line of sight issues, are why the landscaping was updated and some bushes and trees were trimmed or removed. The Town

edged the medians to clean up, widen and re-take up to three feet in some places. Upgrading and modernization are a long term effort, but one the current leadership takes seriously.

You can ask just about anyone who has lived for a while in the Town of Surfside Beach “When was the last time Business 17 was repaved?” The answer is typically “I can’t remember.” US Hwy 17 Business is a federal highway and is con-

trolled by SCDOT. In December 2012, SCDOT approved a grant request by Surfside Beach Town Council to repave and restripe the two mile stretch of Hwy 17 Business that runs through the Town. SCDOT administers the federal dollars and requires a 50/50 funding match by the town. This project is a first big step toward improving, if only through needed maintenance. This will result in a \$1.56 million project with the town contributing up to \$780,000. The town is working with SCDOT to establish a start date which does not interfere with the summer season.

The town will continue to make improvements as allowed by the SCDOT. Public safety is paramount – fixing our confusing frontage roads and improving the appearance of the business corridor are priorities for all of us.



Five plant beds were replaced with indigenous plants because the Bradford Pear trees were too large and presented a safety hazard.

“Safety concerns, specifically line of sight issues, are why the landscaping was updated and some bushes and trees were trimmed or removed.”

NEWSLETTER DISTRIBUTION POLICY

Inside Surfside Beach will continue to be mailed to everyone on our list unless you ask to have your name removed. The town is, however, trying to conserve resources so you

have a choice whether to have the newsletter sent to you by USPS, e-mailed to you or just to view it online. If you prefer to go paperless, let us know by sending an e-mail to newsletter@surfsidebeach.org

Please include your full name, address and ZIP code for record purposes, and indicate if you want an email when new publications are issued or prefer to view “Inside Surfside Beach” online.



The town newsletter is distributed four times a year.

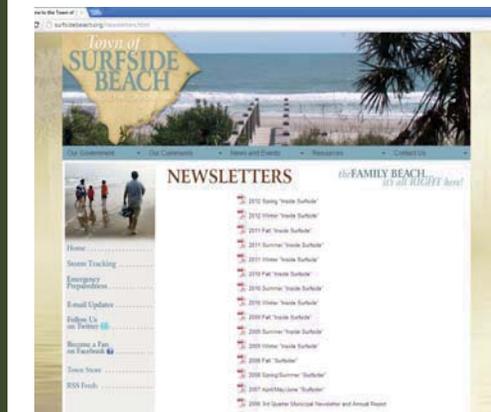
Inside SURFSIDE BEACH

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“Inside Surfside Beach” is also published on the Town website at www.surfsidebeach.org.

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|--------------|--|
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| 843.839.8337 | Town Administrator, Micki Fellner mfellner@surfsidebeach.org |
| 843.913.6337 | Court, Municipal Judge Valerie Wentz vwentz@surfsidebeach.org |
| 843.913.6336 | Finance, Director Diana King dking@surfsidebeach.org |
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| 843.913.6351 | Police Department, Interim Chief Rodney Keziah rkeziah@surfsidebeach.org |
| 843.913.6361 | Public Works, Director John Adair jadair@surfsidebeach.org |
| 843.650.9548 | Recreation and Events, Supervisor Debbie Ellis dellis@surfsidebeach.org |

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