



TOWN OF SURFSIDE BEACH ♦ TOWN COUNCIL CHAMBERS

September 28, 2010 ♦ 6:30 P.M.

TOWN COUNCIL
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING

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8 **1. CALL TO ORDER**

9 Mayor Deaton called the meeting to order at 6:30 PM. Mayor Deaton, Mayor Pro
10 Tem Childs and councilmembers Johnson, Blair, Dodge, Smith, and Samples were
11 present. Staff present: Appointed Interim Administrator, Fellner; Clerk Pinnell;
12 Interim Police Chief, Fredericks; Police Captain Miller; Finance Treasurer, Hursey;
13 Public Works Director, Adair and Fire Chief Packard. Attorney Mr. Moss was also
14 present.
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16 **2. INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE.**

17 Councilman Johnson gave the invocation and Mayor Deaton led the pledge of
18 allegiance.
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20 **3. AGENDA APPROVAL**

21 Mr. Smith made a motion to approve the agenda as submitted. Ms. Dodge seconded
22 the motion. **All voted in favor. MOTION CARRIED.**
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24 **4. MINUTES APPROVAL** – Mr. Smith made a motion to approve the minutes from
25 the regular council meeting held on September 14, 2010. Mr. Childs seconded the
26 motion. **All voted in favor. MOTION CARRIED.**
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28 **5. PUBLIC COMMENTS**

29 *Tom Dodge, 15th Avenue N:* “At the last meeting Mr. Childs suggested we have a
30 workshop to answer questions and that different council people sit in the workshop
31 and answer the questions of the public. My wife is a council person; I don’t think
32 she’s qualified to answer questions on her own from the public. I think the town
33 administrator is paid to do that kind of thing and I would hope that you would have
34 the town administrator answer questions and not put that onto a council person who
35 really isn’t qualified; I may get hit when I get home but I don’t think my wife is
36 qualified to answer questions that she knows nothing about and the citizens of the
37 town are hoping to get answers to questions and it would certainly be good if the
38 questions were answered here in council chambers at the meeting following the
39 meeting they were asked by the administrator. Thank you people for giving us the
40 rain today; don’t give us as much tomorrow as they’re saying. Good night.”
41

42 *Ron Ott, 7th Avenue N.:* “Well, I don’t know about the questions and the procedures
43 you’re going to use if you ever get this together; I don’t know if you’ll be able to get
44 it together. Is there going to be a format that we do to have questions asked? What’s
45 going to be approved and what’s not? I mean, I could ask you, well you tell me, who
46 works for Surfside Beach that’s a cross dresser? Can we ask questions like that? You
47 shouldn’t; you have to have some kind of strict procedure and maybe the questions
48 have to be written, I don’t know, but there has to be some kind of procedure because
49 we’re going to ask questions that you don’t want to hear. Be sure of that. The
50 organization for the fire department and the police department, well, they probably
51 know who should be the boss. They’re the people that should be doing it. That’s all
52 for that right now. Thank you.”

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Mary Mikolajczak, 415 3rd Avenue S.: “I have a special problem. For fifteen years we’ve been asking to have something done about the drainage. The drainage ditches; and nothing really was done; I’ve talked to several council meetings to town managers to mayors over time and I think maybe somebody came out and dug a little bit in the ditch or maybe got rid of the rats but nothing really was done and every time it rains, it doesn’t have to be a big rain like last night, but even minor rain it floods, since we’ve been there, which is like 15 years. There were additional buildings built; there’s a six family condo facing Willow and all that drainage goes into the ditch across 17 the two new buildings and then their drainage goes to our ditches; something should be done; maybe now with the money from the government and maybe we can do something about it. Thank you.”

Mayor Deaton asked Mr. Adair to set up a meeting with Ms. Mikolajczak to look at her problem.

6. COMMUNICATIONS: Presented by Interim Administrator Micki Fellner

a. Finance Report

Ms. Fellner reported that Horry County completed its property reassessment for 2010. The towns’ millage rate for 2010 will be rolled back to 40 mills. Business licenses and permits for the month totaled 42 new. The business license revenue is now subject to accrual, \$6,600 of August’s \$15,000 revenue has been accrued to year 2009/2010. Permit revenue is \$5,800 which is down \$900 from the prior year. Hospitality and local accommodations collected in August 2010 were \$166,300 and \$43,100, respectively. This is up approximately 15 percent from last year’s \$137,400 and \$36,000, respectively. Real estate personal property and vehicle tax collections from Horry County for August 2010 were \$13,400 which is down \$7,800 for the same period of last year. July 2010 enterprise fund revenues sanitation fund collected \$119,600 in service charges which is up \$3,100 from the same period last year; the pier fund generated \$50,700 in income which is up \$8,000 from the same period as last year. Auditors have begun drafting our year ending June 30, 2010 financial statements.

Mr. Samples stated that this is not a year to date comparison and added that in the general fund there was only one area where there was an increase in revenue in the month of August which was in recreation; there is no comparison in terms of expenditures to last year. Ms. Hursey stated that this could be added to the schedule. Mr. Samples stated that he is looking for something that would be meaningful to council in terms of their ability to compare one year against another year. Mr. Samples stated that he understands that the town had a 15 month fiscal year. Ms. Hursey stated that also there are several items that are subject to accrual so it is very hard to get a good comparison on year to dates. Mr. Samples stated that it was done in those revenue funds in the accommodations and hospitality tax. Mss. Hursey explained that this is because those funds are not affected as much as the general fund. Mr. Samples stated that he feels that it is interesting that August of last year was compared to August of this year and is making a statement on the information given to council. The revenues are down just in the one month in the general fund. Mr. Samples stated that he knows that

102 this does not reflect the total picture but he does not have any other information
103 which would make him feel “warm and fuzzy”. Mayor Deaton asked if Ms.
104 Hursey could provide those figures to Mr. Samples and the rest of council if they
105 are interested. Mr. Samples stated that he feels it would be easy in terms of the
106 regular reporting which is done every month to council to have something that
107 compares apples to apples. Mr. Samples stated that he had discussed this with
108 councilman Smith and they had agreed that they would like a presentation done
109 by finance to go through the report so that council had the same understanding of
110 what the report meant and currently they do not. Mr. Samples confirmed that he
111 would like the comparison to be linked to the general fund year to date along with
112 the expenditures. The expenditures are being reported for the current month but
113 council has nothing to compare it with; there is no year to date figure to compare
114 it to. Mr. Samples stated that tonight council is going to be asked to increase the
115 budget authority because they have to because the town already spent more than
116 was budgeted and council would like to avoid this in the future. Ms. Hursey
117 stated that she had supplied the over and under budget on the report but the prior
118 year could also be supplied. Mr. Johnson stated that he agrees with Mr. Samples
119 and asked when the audit would be presented. Ms. Hursey stated that she had just
120 received the draft that morning; the auditors have another engagement they are
121 starting which is why the town received it so soon and it should be presented in a
122 few weeks.

123
124 **b. Public Works Report**

125 Ms. Fellner reported that in July the town collected 672 tons of solid waste which
126 is up approximately 70 tons from the prior year. 33.79 tons of mixed debris was
127 collected which is down 6.29 tons from last year. 86.63 tons of yard debris was
128 collected which is up a little over 11 tons for the year. 50.86 tons of recyclables
129 was collected which is up 3.77 tons from the prior year. Crews assisted with the
130 *End of Summer Celebration* set up and clean up; moby and recycling carts were
131 delivered and removed. Tables, tents, supplies, barricades and traffic cones were
132 also delivered and removed. Winter roll out service began on September 14th
133 which means Wednesday is sanitation and Thursday is recyclables. The 50/50
134 ditch piping program will be reactivated next week and anyone interested can
135 check the website for details and download the required form to return to Public
136 Works. Due to the high water levels, saturation in the ditches and expectations of
137 significant rainfall, Public Works staff is lowering the water levels in Dogwood,
138 Elizabeth and Floral Lakes. They began at 6:00 PM tonight coinciding with the
139 low tide; they will leave the weir open just for a couple of hours so a lot of
140 erosion and sediment is not created. The town will repeat this procedure as
141 needed at low tide tomorrow all dependent on the storm turning west or east. Ms.
142 Fellner reported that there are supposed to be some winds associated with the
143 upcoming storm and it would be suggested that people secure or bring in anything
144 loose outside in their yard. Mr. Samples stated that it has been awhile since the
145 town experienced a significant storm and he noted that the town is using its new
146 knuckleboom truck and also noted that there are two older ones and it was
147 suggested that the two older knucklebooms be put up for sale and he suggested
148 retaining one of these as an extra. Mr. Adair stated that the town has 4
149 knuckleboom trucks and the plan was to keep one extra truck. Mr. Adair stated
150 that if he were to pick a third truck to keep it would be the oldest one instead of

151 the one that has been having issues. Mayor Deaton stated that the town has
152 experienced more rain that it did during Hugo; the town has not had the wind
153 event it had during Hugo but the prediction is for 8 to 11 additional inches of rain.
154 The town was ahead of the curve back in 2000, 2002 when it started its
155 stormwater project and dedicated 5 mills toward stormwater and created a system.
156 The town started the project down at the bottom at Murrells Inlet and created the
157 first weir at Oceanside Village and then worked its way up methodically. Mayor
158 Deaton stated that he was in town in 1975 during a similar event with 8 inches of
159 rain and down by the Holiday Inn the water was up to his door handles on his
160 Toyota pickup truck adding that he does not believe this will ever happen again.
161 The town has a good Public Works Director and a state of the art weir system in
162 place which he feels is a model for the rest of the east coast; the town is ready for
163 this type of event. Mayor Deaton stated that it takes awareness and pro-activeness
164 to prevent flooding in the area adding that he feels the town is in pretty good
165 shape. It was commented that wind is a whole other issue.
166

167 **c. Recreation Report**

168 Ms. Fellner reported that the adult softball fall league registration is near
169 completion and the season will begin the first week in October. There will not be
170 a machine pitch league due to lack of response. The *End of Summer Celebration*
171 was held on September 5th, the *Necessary Band* provided entertainment,
172 concessions were prepared and sold by town staff and there were approximately
173 300 people in attendance. Approximately 25 people participated in the Beach
174 Sweep on September 18th and approximately 12 children participated in the
175 bicycle rodeo on September 18th. It was reported that the upcoming events are the
176 *Family Festival* which will be held October 2nd from 10AM to 4PM on Surfside
177 Drive. The *Skyhoundz Disc State Championship* will be held on October 9th at
178 10AM at the Huckabee complex. The Surfside Beach Fire Department will hold
179 its *Open House* on October 16th from 10AM to 2PM at the new fire station. Ms.
180 Blair asked if the response from vendors was good for the upcoming *Family*
181 *Festival*. Ms. Ellis reported that the town is full for vendors; the town has the
182 most food vendors they have ever had.
183

184 **d. Administrator's Report**

185 **i. 1st Annual Regional Sustainable Forum 10/15**

186 Ms. Fellner reported that the 1st annual regional sustainable forum is being
187 held at CCU on October 15th. The goal over the next 20 years is to plan
188 and practice sensible development using established benchmarks which
189 will help achieve a better balance between our economy, social equity and
190 the environment. The contribution to attend this event would be \$200 and
191 it could include 10 delegates from the town. Ms. Fellner asked for
192 consensus of council whether they would like to be a participating
193 organization and attend. Mr. Smith stated that he would withhold his
194 consent "I think this forum is a little bit too progressive for a conservative
195 like myself". Mr. Samples stated that he agrees with Mr. Smith based on
196 his experience with these types of venues. Mr. Childs stated that he feels
197 the same way. Ms. Dodge stated that she does too. Mr. Johnson and Ms.
198 Blair stated that they were unsure. Mayor Deaton stated that he believes
199 the concept is a good one adding that to build a sustainable environment is

200 a good idea but the request for funds is a deterrent. **There was a**
201 **consensus of council to not participate.**

202
203 *ii. Signage on Ocean Blvd.*

204 Ms. Fellner stated that a citizen was concerned about the liability of the
205 town with regards to only striping crosswalks and not placing signage on
206 each crosswalk. The town had examined the issue carefully and had
207 determined that what the town really needs is to have limited signage. In
208 accordance with the manual on Uniform Traffic Control devices used by
209 the South Carolina Department of Transportation it states that if the
210 crossing location is delineated by crosswalk pavement marking, the
211 diagonal signs shall not be required; crossing signs should be used only at
212 locations where the crossing activity is unexpected or not readily apparent;
213 and the use of warning signs should be kept to a minimum as the
214 unnecessary or overuse of them tends to breed disrespect for all signs.
215 Ms. Fellner stated that in view of this staff has chosen to be fairly
216 minimalistic in what is placed. Mayor Deaton stated that he believes there
217 was a consensus recommendation from council to place the signs in three
218 areas. Mr. Samples stated that if other areas come to mind it should be
219 brought up and he recommended adding 10th Avenue South. Ms. Fellner
220 stated that the thought was for the town to look at all through roads.
221 Mayor Deaton stated that each crossroad does not have to come back to
222 council; it should be handled in house. Ms. Fellner stated that she did
223 want to bring this up because a citizen did bring it up and was concerned
224 about it.

225
226 *iii. Correct Venue/Procedure for Questions*

227 Ms. Fellner reported that a citizen had stated to council that they were
228 never able to ask questions regarding town matters and the same citizen
229 has never contacted the administrator to ask a question. Ms. Fellner stated
230 that if citizens have questions or concerns they should contact her adding
231 that she gets approximately 300 e-mails a day; if she does not get back to
232 you the same day she would get back with an answer as soon as she can.

233
234 *iv. County Funds*

235 Ms. Fellner reported that the County had given the town \$30,200 for new
236 scoreboards including the installation at Huckabee and Martin Field and a
237 press box/concession stand at Martin Field. The cost for the scoreboards
238 including the installation for three was \$12,156; the cost for the
239 engineering specs for the press box/concession stand was \$7,225.50. This
240 left the town \$10,818.50 to build the press box/concession stand. The
241 lowest bid received was in excess of \$46,000 and in addition County
242 Councilman Howard Barnard has indicated that there may be some
243 additional money available for “board and mortar” projects; as much as
244 \$20,000. Since Mr. Barnards’ tenure is coming to a close Ms. Fellner
245 asked for direction from council on how to proceed. Is it acceptable to
246 council for staff to ask the County for additional funds and can funds be
247 used to defray costs for a new marquee at town hall or a sign at the pier
248 rather than move forward with the concession stand press box which the

249 town could not be able to close the gap on unless the plans were down
250 engineered. Mayor Deaton stated that for years funds were withheld by
251 the County for the town because the town did not have specific projects
252 that they approved of. The town had come up with brick and mortar
253 projects to utilize funds that were available. Mayor Deaton stated that he
254 is not sure how the press box got involved with the concession stand; it
255 was anticipated that the town would be constructing a concession stand
256 only. Mayor Deaton stated that this is the towns' money; the town pays
257 in. 48 cents on the dollar of funds that go into the County recreation fund
258 comes from municipalities. The town has contributed and it is not as if the
259 town is asking for County money; the town is just trying to get a return
260 from what it contributed in tax dollars. Mayor Deaton stated that he has
261 no problem with staff talking to the County. Mr. Childs stated that while
262 Mr. Barnard is still in office he feels the town should get everything they
263 can. Mr. Smith stated that he feels the funds should be used on a
264 concession stand. Mayor Deaton confirmed that the concession stand
265 would be built at Martin Field. Ms. Fellner added that Martin Field is
266 used one month out of the year. Mayor Deaton stated that it would be nice
267 to have a concession stand there; there have been festivals in that location
268 in the past and it could be used for those. Mr. Samples stated that he does
269 not recall voting on a press box/concession stand at Martin Field. He
270 would like to see a small concession stand and not a press box/concession
271 stand. Ms. Fellner stated that the previous administrator had reported that
272 the concession stand would be built by the Surfside Rotary and the
273 Surfside Rotary does not have the capability to build an involved project
274 such as the press box/concession stand. Mr. Samples stated that he would
275 like to see a modest concession stand built and he agrees with asking the
276 County for additional funds but also feels that the town has other needs.
277 Ms. Blair asked Ms. Fellner to go over the funds already spent one more
278 time. It was confirmed that the town purchased 4 scoreboards and
279 installed 3 of them. Ms. Ellis stated that the 4th scoreboard is in storage; it
280 was to be installed at Martin Field. Ms. Ellis reported that the press box
281 portion came about due to no one knowing where to start with a plan so
282 the engineers were directed to come up with a plan similar to the set up at
283 Huckabee; no one had any idea the cost would be so high. Ms. Ellis
284 reported that the town used to receive free scoreboards from Pepsi but they
285 are no longer providing these. Ms. Blair stated that she agrees to ask the
286 County for additional funds. Mr. Johnson agreed to ask the County for
287 funds and added that he lives near Martin Field and in the summer there
288 are numerous softball tournaments and in the fall there have been Little
289 League football practices, scrimmages or games. Mr. Johnson stated that
290 he feels it would be advantageous to build a basic concession stand at
291 Martin Field and staff it and get all of the revenue that the town can get.
292 **There was a consensus from council to build a smaller concession**
293 **stand.**

294
295 v. *Organizational Chart Presentation Police/Fire*
296 Ms. Fellner presented a PowerPoint presentation on the organizational
297 charts for the police and fire departments. The changes for fire would go

298 from 1 Chief, 1 EOC Manager/Executive Assistant and 4 full time
299 firefighters, one on each shift, to 1 Chief and 6 full time firefighters, 3
300 shifts with 2 on each. Ms. Fellner reported that Ms. Jan Lewis who
301 currently holds the EOC Manager/Executive Assistant position was
302 planning on retiring after the 1st of the year but has elected to take early
303 retirement so that increased shift coverage can begin as quickly as
304 possible. After a discussion with her Ms. Fellner stated that she clearly
305 sees the safety reasons for increased coverage and supports the new plan
306 wholeheartedly. The EOC responsibilities would be reassigned to 1
307 firefighter and the administrative duties would be reassigned to 2
308 firefighters. The inspector would be reassigned to a shift rotation and 1
309 part time firefighter would become full time and 1 volunteer firefighter
310 would become full time for an additional salary expenditure of \$22,000.
311 The police would change as follows: the Director of Public Safety
312 position was already eliminated, an interim Police Chief has been
313 appointed. Ms. Fellner introduced Interim Police Chief Mike Frederick.
314 Ms. Fellner reported that Captain Miller was asked many times during the
315 last few months if he would be interested in the Chief position and he had
316 clearly indicated time and again that he did not wish to be considered for
317 this position. Other changes effective October 1st or 2nd would be the
318 lieutenant position would be eliminated, 1 sergeant position would be
319 eliminated, 1 of the 3 remaining sergeants will oversee training, 2 others
320 will be squad sergeants and the Victims Advocate responsibilities will be
321 reassigned to communications and dispatch staff. Financial considerations
322 would include a salary savings of \$115,000. All effected personnel have
323 been notified and all police and fire personnel have been apprised of all of
324 the changes. The comprehensive financial impact is \$93,000 savings to
325 the town overall per year. Mayor Deaton stated that this was the goal of
326 the council and is well within the range that council laid out for staff. Mr.
327 Samples asked of the savings were salary only. Ms. Fellner stated that,
328 yes, the figures pertained to salary. Mr. Samples stated that the fringe
329 would then include additional savings to the town.

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7. **BUSINESS**

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- a. *First Reading Ordinance #10-0690: Amend Fiscal Year 2009-2010 municipal budget appropriations*

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Ms. Hursey reported that the town does this every year. A lot of the amendments were trying to be captured as the year went along but “as everybody was made well aware of the whole year there were the five positions that were not budgeted so that is our biggest appropriation increase that we’re talking about tonight”. Ms. Hursey stated that the general fund budget was \$6,504,547, the expected expenditures were \$6,890,974; this is an increase in appropriations for \$363,764. The sanitation fund was \$1,153,666 and the expected is \$1,244,400 which is an increase of \$90,734. The pier enterprise fund was budgeted at \$155,153; the expected is \$185,940 which is an increase of \$30,787. The accommodations tax was budgeted at \$587,060 and the town had a decrease in the fund to \$562,189 which is a decrease of \$24,871. The hospitality fund budget was \$2,760,117 and the town expects to spend \$2,711,668 which is a decrease of \$48,449. The local hospitality was

347 budgeted for \$150,000 and the town expended \$159,800 which is an increase
348 of \$9,800. Capital projects fund was budgeted at \$195,690 and the town
349 expended \$277,792 which is an increase of \$82,102.

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351 Mr. Samples: "So, then I'm correct that the net increase in what I'll call
352 expenses was over half a million dollars over budget."

353
354 Ms. Hursey confirmed the amount to be \$503,867. Mr. Samples stated that
355 the town certainly does not want to do this again. Mayor Deaton stated that
356 the town needs to take into account that this has been a very difficult
357 economic period. Ms. Hursey reported that the major items were: Capital
358 projects fund, the increase was due to the Dogwood Lake bulkhead project
359 which the town did receive reimbursement back from Horry County for 70
360 percent of the amount. These just include expenditures and not revenue;
361 revenue came in higher than expected and the town was fully funded for all of
362 the expenditures. Another large one was in the sanitation fund, the majority
363 of that was salary and benefits and the majority of the general fund was also
364 salary and benefits. The salaries and benefits were \$468,406 over budget
365 which was due to the unfunded positions and benefit related items. The
366 operating expenditures within the department actually came in under. Mayor
367 Deaton stated that to get a true picture one would have to balance the two.
368 Mr. Samples stated that this is why the town has an audit and the audit will
369 reflect the actual expenditures and actual revenues. Mr. Samples stated that
370 his point had to do with budget; staff does the best they can in putting together
371 a plan and council has an obligation to ensure that this is what is being done.
372 Mr. Samples stated that the town has written documentation that went along
373 with the budget and there are also minutes from putting together the budget.
374 Mr. Samples asked if the current budget adopted by council budgets all staff.
375 Ms. Hursey stated that all staff is currently budgeted. Ms. Hursey stated that
376 any personnel changes must come before council. Mr. Samples stated that
377 during the budget meeting there were unbudgeted, funded positions and added
378 that cover letters were presented to council with detail that indicated some
379 positions were going to be eliminated.

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381 Mr. Childs made a motion to adopt 1st reading of ordinance #10-0690. Ms.
382 Blair seconded the motion. Mr. Smith recused himself for lack of information
383 from voting since he was not on the council at the time that original budget
384 was adopted. Ms. Blair, Mr. Johnson, Mayor Deaton and Mr. Childs voted
385 for. Mr. Samples and Ms. Dodge voted against. **MOTION CARRIED.**

386
387 *b. Second Reading Ordinance #10-0689: Amend Tax Millage 2010/2011*
388 Mr. Smith made a motion to approve 2nd reading to amend the tax millage to
389 40 mills as presented. Ms. Dodge seconded the motion. Mr. Samples
390 explained that the assessed valuation of properties came out and the Town of
391 Surfside Beach valuations went up so the town is following State law and are
392 rolling back the millage so that not to collect additional taxes. Mayor Deaton
393 stated that a large portion of the State has to raise their millage because of the
394 decrease in property value. Mayor Deaton stated that the town is in a good
395 position since it is able to roll back the taxes from 44 mills to 40 mills also

396 adding that 5 of the 44 mills is designated to stormwater so what the town is
397 actually paying for in taxes is 35 mills which, Mayor Deaton added, is “pretty
398 incredible for any community in this day and time for the quality of services
399 that we provide.” **All voted in favor. MOTION CARRIED.**

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- 401 *c. Decision Paper: TVSS (Transient Voltage Surge Suppression) Amend Budget*
402 Ms. Fellner explained that this is for a voltage surge suppression device for
403 the fire station. The station has experienced a couple of issues with lightning,
404 one knocked out a whole switch and a couple of other devices so the next time
405 there was an electrical storm staff was directed to unplug the panels. Ms.
406 Fellner stated that this would be a \$1,000 hit every time something like that
407 would happen. Ms. Fellner stated that she asked what type of suppression was
408 put into the fire station and the architects told her that in Surfside Beach
409 lightning suppression is not needed. Ms. Fellner stated that they were
410 unaware of the towns needs regarding this; Santee Cooper came in and did an
411 assessment and they suggested a three stage suppression. Ms. Fellner stated
412 that she is asking council for only stage 1 and 2; stage 3, she feels, is overkill.
413 It can be reviewed at a later date if the town is still experiencing problems.
414 Stage I is a TVSS on the DP panel, this protects the building; Stage II is the
415 TVSS which is on panel A and B and this is for the data and communications
416 so this is definitely needed. Stage III is basically a battery backup protector.
417 The cost for stage I, II and III would total \$9,358.45; Ms. Fellner stated that
418 she is requesting funding for stage I and II which totals \$5,916.95. This
419 requires an amendment to the budget. Mr. Childs stated that he feels this is a
420 legitimate request. Mr. Childs made a motion to approve the decision paper.
421 Mr. Smith seconded the motion. Mr. Johnson asked if there are any funds
422 available to help offset this either through Santee Cooper or somewhere else.
423 Ms. Fellner stated that Santee Cooper was asked and they did not believe there
424 was anything available. Ms. Fellner stated that she is not aware of anything to
425 assist the town. Mr. Childs stated that he is surprised that Santee Cooper did
426 not recommend something like this from the beginning. **All voted in favor.**
427 **MOTION CARRIED.**

428

- 429 *d. Decision Paper: JAG Grant Amend Budget*
430 Ms. Fellner reported that this is for the Justice Assistance Grants; it is a
431 reimbursement but staff must ask council to appropriate the funds from the
432 budget. The request is to amend the fiscal year 2010-2011 appropriations
433 budget to include \$32,677 for the purchase and retrofit and deployment of an
434 inmate transport vehicle and to amend the same year appropriations budget to
435 include \$51,600 to the upgrade of an in-car fleet to upgrade it to a digital
436 camera system; the total grant money for reimbursement would be \$80,063
437 and the town would need to match 5 percent which totals \$4,214; this is the
438 non-reimbursable part of the expenditure. Ms. Dodge made a motion to
439 accept the JAG grants and added that she feels it is great and appreciates
440 Captain Millers’ work to get the grants. Mr. Smith seconded the motion. **All**
441 **voted in favor. MOTION CARRIED.**

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- e. *Decision paper: Turkey Trot on November 25, 2010*
Ms. Fellner reported that council had requested this come back with additional information. The event is looking for 3 workers for 4 hours each from Public Works; 5 officers for 4 hours each and possibly 5 at the corporal level for 4 hours each. The total for that would be \$1,323.39 which includes the FICA, retirement and overtime at the higher level. Ms. Fellner ran these costs by the events coordinator, Mike Shank, and he approved covering these expenditures. The event would take place in the morning and everything should be cleaned up no later than 11:00 AM. Mayor Deaton stated that he feels it is a great opportunity to showcase the community. Mr. Smith asked if the town had police officers that would volunteer to do this. Ms. Fellner stated that normally the town has volunteers available. Mr. Johnson made a motion to approve the Turkey Trot. Mr. Childs seconded the motion. Mr. Samples asked if the Turkey Trot was run at Market Commons in years past. It was confirmed that there will be a Turkey Trot in Market Commons again this year and that they are different events. Mr. Samples asked how much would be donated to Red Cross. Mr. Shank stated that it depends upon the amount of participants; it is made on a percentage of applications. Mr. Samples asked if Mr. Shank would mind giving the town council an update after the event. Mr. Shank stated that he would have no problem providing this information. **All voted in favor. MOTION CARRIED.**

- f. *Resolution 10-099: Adopt Horry County All Hazard Mitigation Plan*
Ms. Fellner reported that the Town of Surfside Beach adopted the Horry County All Hazard Mitigation Plan in 2005 and the newly approved FEMA plan has been received by the Fire Chief and is now available and needs to be approved. It is a FEMA compliance plan and in order to be eligible for FEMA reimbursements the town needs to approve this. Clerk Pinnell read the resolution. Mr. Smith made a motion to approve the resolution. Mr. Childs seconded the motion. **All voted in favor. MOTION CARRIED.**

- g. *Decision Paper: Appoint two Additional Members to Underground Utility Subcommittee*
Ms. Fellner reported that the town is currently doing underground utility work with DDC performing the engineering from 3rd North to 3rd South on Ocean Blvd. They need to have a meeting scheduled with Santee Cooper and the town subcommittee. Mr. Samples suggested that the Mayor seek volunteers from council to fill the two vacancies. Mr. Smith, Mr. Childs and Ms. Blair all volunteered. Mr. Samples withdrew his position on the subcommittee so that all three volunteers could be on the subcommittee and suggested that, if the subcommittee did not mind, that he would attend the next meeting to fill everyone in. Mr. Johnson made a motion to appoint Ms. Blair, Mr. Smith and Mr. Childs to the underground wiring subcommittee. Mr. Samples seconded the motion. **All voted in favor. MOTION CARRIED.**

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8. PUBLIC COMMENTS – Agenda Items only – 5 minutes per speaker

Bob Hanson, 15th Avenue S.: “I’d like to talk about the underground wiring project. I’ve been totally against this project from the day it started. I have written white papers and turned them into the town and its aesthetic; it’s a waste of money, waste of time. We could be using that money elsewhere. The estimated cost over the next 50 years is about 50 million dollars; money we don’t have and shouldn’t be spending. This money is coming from the 5 percent tax on our electric bill. They say well it’s only 5 dollars a month or 10 dollars a month but it adds another tax to the taxpayer. When the rates go up, which they do, then we pay an additional tax so if rates go up 10 percent, its 5 and a half percent. Now the State is going to put a tax on utilities and they then put that tax on top of the 5 and a half percent we’re paying already. I have changed my opinion a little bit. I feel that probably Ocean Blvd. is ok, maybe Surfside Drive. We can never do Hollywood and to do 14th like we did is a complete waste of money. If we ever have a hurricane or a tsunami it’s very possible that these boxes, which I don’t like very much, will be flooded and you’ll have to dig the whole thing up. Florida Power and Light is totally against it and they had them and when they had hurricanes it took them months to repair it. When we had Hugo we had electricity on Ocean Blvd. in a matter of days and I just want to speak out against the whole project. I think we ought to put a sunset date on it, finish up Ocean Blvd. and Surfside Drive and then get rid of that additional tax.”

Carrie Johnson, 9th Avenue S.: “There were a couple of people last week that spoke out about the smoking ban, against it; I just want to speak out in favor of it. Councilman Samples voted for the smoking ban and he was the highest vote getter, on the other hand a guy by the name of Skully his whole platform, when he ran this last time, was to rescind the smoking ban and I can count on my fingers and toes the number of votes that he got, so, Councilman Childs mentioned the referendum I think we’ve already had it, the people have already spoken, also, we’ve got a restaurant in town that had another one in Myrtle Beach that allowed smoking; the one in Myrtle Beach has closed, every time I go by the one in Surfside, doesn’t matter what night of the week it is, the parking lot is fairly full. Then they opened up another place just outside the town limits for smoking called *Still Smoking*, it is now closed up. We were in Florida a few weeks ago; the whole State of Florida has banned smoking. We are in the forefront of what’s going to happen everywhere so why digress. I think that to open that back up would be opening up a can of worms. I think it needs to be left like it is and as far as smokers being responsible, if you go down to the beach and see all the cigarette butts on the beach; they’re not very responsible. You can stop at any intersection and look out your window and you can’t see the ground for the cigarette butts, so no, they are not responsible and I think we just need to leave well enough alone. Thank you.”

Kathy Goddard, 320 15th Ave S.: “I would just like to address you and say that I think you’re doing a great job and I just want to tell you that (Ms. Goddard was addressing the interim Administrator, Ms. Fellner). I also would like to; I criticize at times but where just dos are, I will commend. We have the ditch spillway like a California spillway that they put behind our house. We had major, if we had two inches of rain, we had major flooding. I’m telling you I was up in the bedroom looking down yesterday and I was smiling because it just went and worked so perfect,

538 that spillway, between 14th and 15th. It really is doing its job and Allen, you, and
539 Doug were a part of that and I thank you for that because it has saved a lot of property
540 and it works beautifully and I just would like to say that and also I would like to say
541 that we've got a few little buildings being built and unrestrained on 14th Avenue and
542 with the wind coming up now I'm getting worried that they're going to end up in the
543 ditch and block and flood us again and they're being built by the ditch and I think that
544 I have the address that I will leave tonight. Arron, I want to tell you what, you're the
545 man, we had problems on our street and Arron took the time and it's the first acting
546 Chief that took the time after the fact to come and spend time with our neighbors and
547 talk to them and calm their fears and he really did a great job while he was in and I
548 commend you for that Arron and I thank you very much."

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550 **9. COUNCIL COMMENTS**

551 *Ms. Blair:* "I just wanted to say that I think the Public Safety Committee, I wanted to
552 thank them for allowing me to be a part of that and we're glad that one committee
553 assignment is completed and it went very smoothly and big thanks to Ms. Fellner for
554 her assistance and guidance in that whole project and congratulations, Captain Miller
555 also did a great job while he was kind of put out there to lead and we heard nothing
556 but good things about him and to Chief Frederick we know that we have a superior
557 leader in you as well and wish you all the best in your endeavors to lead and take care
558 of all the problems that we hope we don't have and also remember that *Family*
559 *Festival* is this weekend and it's supposed to be great and even though I did, by the
560 way, get an e-mail from Randy Webster who's our County Public Safety Director and
561 since I'm usually assigned to the EOC during any types of problems, we get those e-
562 mails, that he is indeed expecting 7 to 11 inches of rain starting tonight going over the
563 next 2 to 3 days and they do certainly expect flash flooding, so, I sent a PowerPoint
564 from Wilmington and the weather station and it does indeed seem to be on its way,
565 so, but hopefully we'll have a great day on Saturday. It's always a lot of fun out there
566 and I hope to see all of you then. Thanks for coming."

567

568 *Mr. Johnson:* "I would just like to publicly thank councilmembers Smith and Blair
569 for their work on the subcommittee to separate the Police and Fire department. We
570 spoke with a lot of people; had to make some decisions that we were uncomfortable
571 with. We did speak with employees. We spoke with people outside the town. We
572 spoke with a lot of people and did a lot of legwork and I just would like to thank
573 them. Thanks to all the members of the Police Department and the Fire Department
574 for their input and I would just like to let the public know that we are coming up soon
575 interviewing for the Town Administrators' job and that will be held one day soon, I
576 don't recall the date, but I just wanted to let the public know."

577

578 Mayor Deaton confirmed the date would be Saturday, October 9th adding that
579 currently they have 8 responses out of 10. It was confirmed that this was down from
580 160 applicants.

581

582 *Mr. Johnson:* "And thank you for coming out ladies and gentlemen."

583

584 *Ms. Dodge:* "This past Thursday I attended the Zoning Board of Appeals meeting
585 and I was absolutely awed at the professionalism those people showed; how hard they
586 worked and how seriously they take their job. Anybody who has any reservations

587 about usefulness of having citizen volunteers serve on boards and committees can be
588 assured that those people are well trained; they're knowledgeable; they're dedicated;
589 they know they're jobs and they do them and I think this town is very blessed. I
590 personally want to thank every citizen volunteer. I was wondering how many are
591 serving on various boards in the audience tonight."

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593 **Mayor Deaton:** "We really shouldn't poll the audience ma'am."

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595 **Ms. Dodge:** "Oh, I'm sorry."

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597 **Mayor Deaton:** "That's ok."

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599 **Ms. Dodge:** "I would like to though. Presently we have term limits for those people.
600 I was thinking as long as they are willing to serve, sometimes we have difficulty
601 filling positions on various Boards and Committees. As long as someone is doing the
602 job and they are willing to serve. I would like to see them continue but mainly I just
603 want to say thank you. Thank you to all of you who serve."

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605 **Mr. Smith:** "I'd like to thank Bob Hanson for his comments on the underground
606 wiring."

607
608 **Mr. Samples:** "I would like to read something that the interim administrator wrote
609 because it's true and when we were talking about budget and that sort of thing. When
610 we adopted, as we had to, increase the authority, she made a little comment and I
611 agree with it 100 percent and it says 'these should have come before council during
612 the prior year, since they did not, the only way to rectify this is to approve the
613 ordinance amending the budget tonight'. That type of thinking, also the fact that I
614 think we had on the skate park, fact that it was brought back to council because it was
615 over budget and council had to vote on it. Those are the type of things that I think we
616 all want, I mean, as a citizen I would want it out in publicly no, I think it's part of
617 transparency and it also avoids confusion as there was somewhat confusion when I
618 think Micki was trying to explain what happened on the press box and the gross and
619 nobody really knows what happened and I understand that completely. We're a small
620 town, people talk and it's a good thing. Glad you all come out."

621
622 **Mr. Childs:** "I'd like to maybe set the record straight, Mrs. Johnson, I was one of two
623 people when this smoking ban was in its infancy and got up and spoke against it;
624 before I got on council. I ran on the platform of no smoking and I spoke before and
625 Mr. Samples can attest to this. I've got up here before their council, like I say one of
626 two people that spoke against this and the only reason I mentioned maybe we should
627 have a referendum because you always get these groups that always say you're
628 shoving it down our throat well maybe we should have a referendum to prove that the
629 majority of this town is against smoking. I'm against smoking, I've ran on the
630 platform against smoking, I never, ever said that we should have smoking now. The
631 only reason that I said that is to settle it once and for all."

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633 **Mayor Deaton:** "I'd like to thank everyone for coming tonight. We appreciate it.
634 This has been a really productive meeting."

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10. ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Smith made a motion to adjourn. Mr. Childs seconded the motion. **All voted in favor. MOTION CARRIED.** The meeting was adjourned at 8:00 PM.

Approved: October 12, 2010

Sharon Pinnell, Town Clerk

K. Allen Deaton, Mayor

Roderick E. Smith, Town Council

Vicki W. Blair, Town Council

Ann Dodge, Town Council

Douglas F. Samples, Town Council

Mark L Johnson, Town Council

Robert F. Childs, III, Mayor Pro Tempore

Clerk's Note: This document constitutes minutes of the meeting, which was audio taped. This meeting was transcribed by Clerk Pinnell. In accordance with FOIA, meeting notice and the agenda were faxed and/or emailed to local media and interested parties. A complete list is on file in the clerk's office. The agenda was posted on bulletin boards outside Council chambers and in the town hall reception area. Meeting notice was also posted on the town marquee. When (***) is used a section of the transcription is inaudible.