



**SURFSIDE BEACH TOWN COUNCIL
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
SEPTEMBER 13, 2011 ♦ 6:30 P.M.
TOWN COUNCIL CHAMBERS**

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1. **CALL TO ORDER.** Mayor Deaton called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. Mayor Deaton, Mayor Pro Tempore Childs, and Councilmembers Blair, Dodge, Johnson, Samples, and Smith were in attendance; a quorum was present. Staff present: Administrator Duckett; Deputy Administrator Fellner, and Police Chief Frederick. Others present: Town Attorney **Smith**, and Town Clerk Herrmann.

Moss (scrivener's error)

2. **INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE.** Reverend Bert Bosworth, Calvary Bible Church, gave the invocation. Mayor Deaton led the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. **AGENDA APPROVAL.** Ms. Dodge moved to approve the agenda as presented. Mr. Childs seconded. **All voted in favor. MOTION CARRIED.**

4. **MINUTES APPROVAL.** Mr. Childs moved to approve the minutes for the regular meeting held August 23, 2011 as presented. Mr. Smith seconded. **All voted in favor. MOTION CARRIED.**

5. **PUBLIC COMMENTS – AGENDA ITEMS.**

“John Ard, Cypress Drive, Surfside. Mr. Mayor, Town Council, and the rest of this administration, I’ve been asking quite a few questions in the last two or three weeks, and if you don’t mind, I would like to clarify (***) . That is, I am a United States citizen, a citizen of Horry County, and a citizen of Surfside Beach, South Carolina. Also...” Mayor Deaton, “Mr. Ard, Mr. Ard.” Mr. Ard, “What?” Mayor Deaton, “This is on agenda items only. If you would like to speak about yourself or any other issues, you can do it in public comments on number nine, okay? This is agenda items. Are you addressing any agenda items that we have for tonight?” Mr. Ard, “I don’t suppose this is like your agenda item, Mayor. “ Mayor Deaton, “Okay, well, if you would take a seat and then you may come back up under number nine. I’ll recognize you, sir.”

“Michael Romano, 13th Avenue North, Surfside. The reason I’m speaking now is because I see that you’re going to be talking in terms of what’s going to happen to 13th Avenue North and the streets adjacent to the west side of the highway. I’ve lived in this town and have owned property here for over 40 years, and every once-in-a-while, we have this same problem come up. I don’t know how many administrations; at least four or five mayors that I have spoken to. We’ve discussed this whole problem. What the highway department wants and what is needed for the town. I understand through the newspaper that if we do not accept a street light, a red light on 13th Avenue North and the highway, then we lose x-number of thousands of dollars for a light or whatever they’re going to do. You’re not going to solve the problem with light at 13th Avenue North in relationship to the highway and the roads that traverse from north to south on the west side. I can stand up here tonight and talk for at least another half hour on what has taken place, what has tried to be done, what has been done, what kind of financial arrangements people have been trying to make, the ins and outs over the last 40 years for that particular corner. For your information, there once was an opening on 13th Avenue into Deerfield. But, a young girl was killed there, and the DOT people wanted it closed. Then when the commercial interest got into Deerfield they wanted us to open up 13th Avenue North to the beach, strictly from my point of view, an economic situation. If you can advertise that you can go straight to the beach in three minutes from where we have our properties that we’re renting to you, well of course, you’re going to rent from us. In the meantime, what happened was Deerfield closed every exit, every single exit but one into their development. On the north, they closed all those three streets. On the south, they closed the street. People, in case you don’t know, there is a street that enters Deerfield from the south. And of course, from the west.” Clerk Herrmann, “Time, sorry.” Mr. Romano, “My point is that, gentlemen, you’re not going to solve the problem by putting a light at that corner. You’ve got to go deeper into this thing.” Mr. Samples,

55 “Mr. Romano, I hope you will stay for the remainder of the meeting so you can get more information on
56 what the proposed idea is.”

57
58 **6. COMMUNICATIONS.**

59
60 a. Volunteer Firefighter Recognition – Victor Woods, 21½ Years of Service. Mayor Deaton
61 congratulated and thanked Mr. Woods for his service to the town and its citizens then presented him with
62 a recognition plaque. Assistant Fire Chief Black recognized several volunteer firefighters whom were
63 present to support Mr. Woods. He thanked them all for serving. Mr. Woods said firefighters were a
64 brotherhood; every time they fought a fire, they each understood that their fellow firefighter’s life was in
65 his hands. Mr. Woods received a standing ovation.

66
67 b. Department Reports

68
69 i. Building & Zoning. Mr. Duckett presented the building and zoning report, a copy of which is on
70 file in the clerk’s office, and is made a part hereof by reference as if fully set forth herein.

71
72 ii. Police. Mr. Duckett presented the police report, a copy of which is on file in the clerk’s office,
73 and is made a part hereof by reference as if fully set forth herein.

74
75 iii. Fire. Mr. Duckett presented the fire report, a copy of which is on file in the clerk’s office, and
76 is made a part hereof by reference as if fully set forth herein.

77
78 c. Administrator’s Report – Update on Current Events. Mr. Duckett presented his report, which is
79 on file in the clerk’s office and is made a part hereof by reference as if fully set forth herein. Mr. Smith
80 asked if any Surfside Drive businesses had made application for a sidewalk license. Ms. Fellner said
81 Surfside Pizza, which was being reviewed. Mr. Johnson asked if the soft barriers photographs were
82 available yet on the internet, as he could not find them. Mr. Duckett said yes. Mr. Samples asked when
83 the post-storm clean up would be completed. Mr. Duckett said staff had worked diligently to clear the
84 debris; overtime was authorized to assist in clean-up. He said council might surprised when it received
85 the next public works report at the tonnage collected. Mr. Samples asked if both trucks were deployed.
86 Mr. Duckett said yes, every day. Ms. Dodge said it seemed that collections were done selectively. Mr.
87 Duckett said in many cities debris will be collected from several areas to fill the truck along with parts of
88 the larger piles. Mr. Samples said this was a good exercise for staff. Ms. Blair urged everyone to be
89 patient, as she too felt like her street debris pickup was missed. There was a lot of debris, and staff is
90 working to collect it.

91
92 **7. BUSINESS.**

93
94 a. Resolution #11-109 – Work Place Safety, Chief Frederick. Mr. Duckett presented Resolution
95 #11-109, explaining that as part workers compensation program administered through the Municipal
96 Association of South Carolina, there are several steps that can be taken to reduce the premiums. One of
97 those is for the governing body to adopt some type resolution promoting work place safety. Mr. Smith did
98 not approve the resolution format or verbiage, although he supported work place safety. Mr. Duckett said
99 the point was to have council endorse work place safety, which could be done without a resolution. Mr.
100 Smith moved to approve work place safety. Mr. Childs seconded. All voted in favor. **MOTION**
101 **CARRIED.** Mayor Deaton asked that the resolution be read for the record. Mr. Smith clarified that his
102 motion *did not* include approving the resolution.

103
104 b. Frontage Road: Replace Yield Signs with Stop Signs – Transportation Subcommittee. Mr.
105 Samples moved to request that the South Carolina Department of Transportation (DOT) replace yield
106 signs with stop signs at the nine remaining in-town openings that do not have stop signs. Ms. Dodge
107 seconded. Mr. Samples moved to call the question. Motion FAILED for lack of second. Council
108 **CONCURRED** to proceed with Ms. Fellner’s presentation, highlights of which are on file in the clerk’s
109 office. Mr. Samples said Highway 17 is owned by DOT; in order to be successful, he believed council
110 should listen carefully to the solutions being offered. Since the Wilbur Smith study was completed in

111 1998, the light at 13th Avenue North has impeded improvements. He applauded Ms. Fellner for
112 establishing dialogue with DOT. He said it was incumbent that the Town develop a compromise solution,
113 and the three-way light with a concrete median to direct traffic north and south would prevent travelers
114 from crossing into town on 13th Avenue North. Ms. Feller said this \$250- to \$300-thousand dollar project
115 was funded, and if the town could not move forward those funds might be distributed to others. If council
116 was amenable to the proposal, this project could be moved forward. DOT was asked if a light at 10th
117 Avenue South could be switched with the 13th Avenue North project. DOT responded that rankings could
118 not be changed. Mr. Smith asked if the frontage road would be blocked if a light was placed at 13th
119 Avenue North. Ms. Fellner said it would be blocked on both sides; it would no longer be a through street.
120 Ms. Blair said if 13th Avenue was blocked on the east side that the residents would be landlocked for two
121 blocks before they could access 17. This also would block access to the bank and the church, and asked
122 why traffic was heavier at 13th Avenue North than 16th Avenue North. Ms. Fellner said DOT performed
123 numerous counts at various times. At the scoping meeting, DOT brought its engineers and designers,
124 and there was no new information that would support moving the light. Ms. Blair said even though it was
125 a high-dollar project, if the residents did not want it, then it was worthless. She said, "I for one cannot and
126 will never support a light at 13th nor closing off 13th on the east side."
127

128 Mr. Childs said the directional islands were used in many places, including at Coastal Grand Mall
129 on Highway 17 Bypass. He could not believe that DOT would object to curbing that would direct traffic
130 north and prohibit traveling straight across. Ms. Fellner said that option was discussed at the scoping
131 meeting, but DOT objected. The proposal could be revisited. Mr. Childs asked Ms. Fellner to follow-up.
132 Ms. Blair agreed, and said she did not believe residents opposed a light that would help them access 17
133 during heavy traffic; the issue was prohibiting Deerfield residents and tenants using 13th Avenue North as
134 a through street. Mr. Smith did not support the suggestion. Mr. Johnson said more problems are created
135 with traffic moving left to right and asked if the engineers could address that. Ms. Dodge suggested
136 another count be taken at 16th Avenue North, as it was also a straight drive to the beach.
137

138 Mr. Samples believed all members shared the same goal of preventing 13th Avenue North from
139 becoming a main thoroughfare. A proposed median design that would prevent crossing traffic from
140 Deerfield, but would require southbound residents to access from 15th Avenue North or 11th Avenue
141 North, was not a perfect solution, but it might be a good compromise. He asked whether council wanted
142 to improve Business 17 or would it rather barricade and get no meaningful progress. DOT owns and
143 controls its roads; each time the town's priority comes up for funding, DOT will take it away. Mayor
144 Deaton said he was correct. To fix the frontage roads would cost between \$2.2 million per mile to \$16.6
145 million per mile. The frontage roads are State highways. State agencies are difficult to deal with; DOT is
146 currently broke. South Carolina is number five in the nation of state-maintained roads; but number 46 in
147 the amount of appropriated funds for road maintenance. He believed the recommendation for stop signs
148 on frontage roads is worthy, but DOT's 18 to 20 engineers will study the recommendation to determine
149 whether the town may install them. Funds were lost for 5th Avenue, and the Greenway bike path; in all
150 likelihood, the town will lose money for this project. Projects are scheduled on a 15-year plan, and other
151 area municipalities are benefiting from funds originally designated for the town. If council has other
152 suggestions to include in the letter requesting stop signs, he would be happy to include them. However,
153 this is a State issue. Mr. Johnson was concerned that this was the first time a restricted turn lane was
154 presented as an option. He was hesitant to make a quick decision. Mayor Deaton agreed, and added
155 that ultimately it would be DOT's engineers decision whether to recommend. Ms. Blair asked for
156 clarification if the request to replace yield signs with stop signs was all that was included in the motion.
157 Mayor Deaton said that was correct.
158

159 Ms. Fellner said boxwoods and Bradford pear trees would be removed and new landscaping in
160 the medians would include crepe myrtles and knock-out roses. Mr. Smith asked who would maintain the
161 landscaping and expressed concern about visibility. Ms. Fellner said staff would maintain the
162 landscaping and that DOT was very concerned with visibility. Ms. Dodge believed the town should
163 demand palm trees. Ms. Fellner said the town specifically requested palms, and the response was that
164 the grant would be rescinded, because DOT's regulations require that any 4-inch plus caliper tree must
165 be in a median more than 50-feet wide. Ms. Dodge asked how much the grant was for. Ms. Fellner said
166 \$40,000 with the town contributing \$10,000. Ms. Dodge was willing to forego the \$40,000 to use palms.

167 Mr. Samples understood saying that palms were his first choice also. However the roads belonged to
168 DOT. And the town must meet its requirements by funding curbing and stormwater if it wants to use palm
169 trees. Mayor Deaton said the City of Myrtle Beach has staff engineers; the town does not, which makes it
170 ***have** to adhere to the complicated state permitting process. Mr. Samples said the town was trying to
171 make improvements that could actually be completed, but it was not being given much assistance. He
172 believed a small improvement would be worthwhile.

173 ***line 170- hard (scrivener's error)**

174 Ms. Fellner said the liquid pavement test area was completed on Pine Drive between Highway 17
175 and North Poplar. That product is being considered because it is one-third the cost of asphalt, and has a
176 similar life expectancy. The 10th Avenue culvert is almost ready to be let for bids; it is expected to cost
177 between \$60 to \$100 thousand. Crosswalks at Surfside Drive business district should begin on October
178 17th.

179
180 Mr. Smith believed the letter to DOT should more clearly define the problem, including that nine
181 yield signs should be identified, and that this is a safety issue. Mr. Smith moved to amend the motion to
182 include that the 'no turn on red' sign at 5th Avenue North and Highway 17 Business be placed at ground
183 level. Mr. Childs seconded. Mr. Smith said that DOT had agreed to relocate that sign from hanging in the
184 air where it is difficult to see and place it on the ground. Mr. Samples moved to withdraw his original
185 motion. Ms. Blair seconded. All voted in favor. **MOTION CARRIED.** Mr. Samples moved to request that
186 Councilmember Smith redraft the draft letter in the manner so stated, and submit it to council for
187 consideration at the next meeting. Mr. Childs seconded. All voted in favor. **MOTION CARRIED.**

188
189 Mr. Samples asked to add a workshop for a north end traffic light discussion on the next meeting
190 agenda. Mayor Deaton asked staff to bring as much information as was available for discussion.

191
192 8. **DISCUSSION.** There was no discussion to come before this meeting.

193
194 9. **PUBLIC COMMENTS.**

195
196 "Tom Dodge. 15th Avenue North. Last week we had that transportation committee meeting. It
197 was an excellently run meeting. There was a lot of interaction between the committee and the audience.
198 The audience could ask questions and get answers. There was a lot of interaction. It was an excellent
199 meeting. It's too bad that council meetings cannot be that way, and I will, I will turn myself in at the end of
200 this meeting, because I watched the Weather Channel, and I like Jim Cantore. So, I will turn myself in at
201 the end of the meeting."

202
203 "Harry Kohlmann. 1610 South Ocean Boulevard. I just have two questions that I'm curious why
204 the council didn't ask. The police report used to have revenue from meters. We don't have that anymore.
205 We have three gentlemen, very nice men, and I don't like to see anyone lose their jobs, but I don't believe
206 that much collected from the meters that we have to have two guys ride up and down Ocean Boulevard.
207 If any of you got off, came down Ocean Boulevard, you would see that 98-percent of the parking spaces
208 are empty. You changed it, I believe last year, from the end of September to the end of October. There's
209 no reason to have these gentlemen. They're running around doing nothing. I don't know why it's not on
210 the police report. I don't know if it's because, not the police chief, but someone else doesn't want us to
211 know we're not getting any revenue. I think we're losing thousands of dollars just having these guys
212 running around doing nothing. That's my first question. And, my next question, I don't understand the
213 council (***). I believe, maybe I'm wrong; I believe Ms. Fellner said there's only one person who put in for
214 an outside café permit. Now when y'all thinking about doing this, there's two restaurants out there with
215 not only chairs and tables, but people sitting out there drinking. Now, I'm not against it. I'm for it. But
216 there's still those chairs and tables outside and there's people in them drinking. No permit. Unless I read
217 the police report wrong, nobody got a ticket for it. There's also the café in the corner. The diner, its also
218 got tables out there. So you're going to have people with permits or just let everyone do what they want
219 to do, and that's fine with me too. But don't have ordinances, which you've got plenty of that you're not
220 going to enforce. Thank you."

221

222 "Hello. My name is Mary Beth Mabry. I live at 517 15th Avenue North. And, I'm coming to talk
223 about the light at 13th. This has been going on long before 1998. This has been going on forever, and
224 the first time DOT wanted to put that light at 13th, they had agreed to do something with the frontage road.
225 We said no, they said bye-bye. We got nothing done. We have turned down thousands and thousands
226 of dollars, because we don't listen to their suggestions. We're going to do it again. When you talk about
227 going down two blocks; I live on 15th, when I want to hit a light, I go to 5th North. That's ten blocks I drive
228 just to get to a light so I can safely get out in the summer time. Don't think about people coming to our
229 beach, think about our citizens coming in and out of their own town. It's not always about beach traffic.
230 It's about us commuting. Don't throw away everything just because you might have to turn off two blocks.
231 I would love to see a light anywhere on that end of town, just so we can get out safely. I don't think
232 people on 5th North appreciate my car riding up and down their road ten times a day either. So we may
233 have some inconvenience, but in the end, it may be well worth it, or else just say forevermore this is a
234 dead issue. Okay."

235
236 "John Ard, Cypress Drive, Surfside. On this, over here on Surfside Drive, where they're planning
237 on doing that work stuff at, and they're planning on cutting the street off over here to do this work seven
238 days a week on each side of it (***) , will that be during daytime hours or will that be at nighttime?" Mr.
239 Duckett, "Seven days, 24-hours." Mayor Deaton, "Seven days, 24-hours." Mr. Ard, "That's a 24-hour job,
240 okay. And a couple of other things I'd like to say is, you know, going back old times here now, (***) and
241 various things that they took the time to do and it didn't work out. This money we're never gone get back
242 again. This money has cost the (***) and right now the way things are out there right now, the citizens of
243 this town is the ones that's going to have to pay for if there's no funds to pay for it with. With the lawsuit
244 that's pending on the pier down here that's going to be one of them, and then there's another lawsuit by
245 the town, and that's going to be another one. I know of two like that. My question is, I don't know
246 whether I can get an answer to this or not, has there been any headway made on the lawsuit on the pier."
247 Mayor Deaton, "I don't think you'll get any comment on a lawsuit, sir." Mr. Ard, "I didn't think I would get
248 one from the council, but I did get one, and I will not comment on that tonight. I will keep that to myself,
249 but I have a comment on it, and I did get an answer. Another thing is, I appreciate your presentation you
250 made tonight, but there was one thing on there that really caught eye the other night, and that was at the
251 end of the street cement there where that tar and stuff is (***) I went back through last week and I think
252 y'all made a mistake, I think, of mentioning the name of the person who could give me an answer. My
253 time got cut like two and half minutes from the time I had, and I do not think for one minute that that was a
254 fair assumption to do somebody that way when the answer could have been right there. The council still
255 yet is taking people for granted. The council is still yet trying to intimidate people, and some members on
256 that council are trying to bully people. Well, I've got news for you, you're barking up the wrong (expletive)
257 tree."

258
259 "Gentlemen, and ladies, I couldn't let this pass in view of what was said a few moments ago
260 about finances." Mayor Deaton, "Name, please." "Oh, I'm sorry, again, Michael Romano, you know who I
261 am. 13th Avenue North. In reference to this whole study that you're making, we're talking in terms of
262 dollars and cents. What we're going to lose, what we're going to lose, what we're going to lose as far as
263 the State is concerned. (***) I'm going to tell you something else you're going to lose. You go ahead and
264 destroy 13th Avenue and make it a roadway (***) talk about it, let's face it. Number one, you're going to
265 destroy a community. When you destroy that community, which is one of the best communities in the
266 town, you're going to destroy property values. I'm going to lead the people of 13th Avenue North to
267 Conway and ask for a reduction in taxes, which in turn is going to mean less money in the town of
268 Surfside. On top of that, you're going to bring in an element on our street that's going to destroy anything
269 that's worthwhile. I have not seen a police car on that street since I don't know when or when a ticket has
270 been written. I can give out tickets right and left right now. We don't have a throughway where we could
271 make an awful lot of money as far as that's concerned. You're talking in terms of dollars and cents,
272 you're talking in terms, long term of losing an awful lot of (***) in relationship to the community. When you
273 lose a community, you've lost something in your town, and that's what we're heading for. Don't let the
274 dollars and cents dictate what's going to happen to us. Another thing, we're talking about traffic counts.
275 When were those traffic counts taken? Were they taken at five o'clock in the evening on a Friday night
276 when everybody was going to the Bank of America to cash their check? Probably that's when it was.
277 Well, in the heat of the summer when all this traffic was not going down 15th, but was coming down 13th

278 and crossing over and going into the Methodist Church, you can get traffic counts that will do anything.
279 You know, figures don't lie, but liars figure. That's how it works. I think we have to take this all into
280 consideration. I'm not going to fight you once more, but it's been going on for forty years, ladies and
281 gentlemen. Forty years, and I've been here all of that time, and I've seen it, and like I said, you're not the
282 first council I've come before, and I'm afraid you won't be the last."

283
284 "Glen Curtis, 257 Palladium. The first thing I'd like to do is say, Mr. Mayor, thank you for being on
285 that council, for tonight for enlightening us on the different monies and things of the way it goes to the
286 streets. There's a lot of things we didn't know about it. The second thing is you talk a lot about 13th and
287 17th Avenue and all for the light. You still have to look, please, at between 8th Avenue, there's a street,
288 10th Avenue rather, you come from the water park, you come from the flea market, you come from four
289 developments back there out between Jammin' Leather and come into that 8th Avenue pit there both ways
290 and trying to get across that crossing right there, people stop and that's where you cross coming in to
291 make a left to go in there and a right at the same at 8th Avenue is one of the most terrible, frightening
292 things you've got to do, and 10th Avenue, especially during tourism time, getting out of the water park, the
293 flea market and those developments back there is another scary thing and it is roads that lead right to the
294 beach, the tourism and all. I don't think you should put that one aside because it's the same type of
295 access that you have on your 13th and I think with 17th that you talk about, and that has to be brought to
296 the DOT in an extreme safety access measure." Mayor Deaton, "It has, sir. It has." Mr. Curtis, "Right.
297 And the other thing is, when you walk the streets every day you see many people waiting for the busses
298 and they're waiting on service roads, they're waiting out in the street on 17 all over, another safety thing is
299 getting bus stops off of 17, getting the busses to stop off of it so people ain't slamming on their brakes
300 behind them, because they're stopping on 17 itself in many places and that's a dangerous situation.
301 Thank you for listening to me."

302
303 "Beth Kohlmann, 1610 South Ocean Boulevard. I feel compelled to get up tonight because I feel
304 that this council has done a great job of this whole transportation thing, and I understand that people don't
305 live in a block or an area that's going to have change, they're upset and riled. I'd like to see them come
306 out to council meetings all the time, and to help this town be better all the time, not just when it pertains to
307 their block or something that affects you personally. I think that's really important for all of us to do. So I
308 just want to say thank you, and I thank the officers also, they're all over the place. Being a former police
309 officer, it's very easy for people to say there's another seat belt violation, there goes a speeder. But it's
310 not all about that. That's a really hard job to do. I see them out there; they're out there all the time.
311 Maybe because I live in a rental area, you know, we're the step children down there in that part, but they
312 give us a lot of attention and I appreciate them. And, I also appreciate the fact that you're doing this,
313 because with time, we're growing, and I'm not going to say if I'm for or against the light, because I think
314 there's a lot more to it and people don't realize. You're not going to tell DOT where to put a light. They
315 aren't dopes. They don't go do a traffic study at five o'clock on a Friday and no other time. They cover
316 their stuff. They know what they are doing. They are professionals, and they help, you just give them
317 some input and they are going to give you their advice and they are professionals at what they do, just
318 like the police are, and hopefully each one of you become that too as you're doing your job, and I just
319 want to say thank you."

320
321 "Gene Maruca, 7th Ave. South, 116 7th Ave. South. Happy to be back. I've been away for a
322 while, health doesn't always allow me. Mr. Mayor, I want to thank you for the subcommittee. I was at that
323 meeting. It was phenomenal. I would like to see this council consider more of that type for our town. It
324 was fantastic. I know, Mr. Mayor, that you have your hands full between the pier and 17, plus the daily
325 stuff. But we're in September. We've gone through a summer that was excruciating as far as our rentals
326 were concerned. We had more traffic, and it appeared we were quite busy, but we made less money.
327 We had to discount to get people here. They basically called the shots. It wasn't as though we could put
328 our price out; I'm speaking now as Old Colony Realty. It wasn't that we could publish a price and finally
329 book it. We had to discount them to get them here. But, as Mr. Johnson will attest to, and Councilman
330 Childs, I see them ride around town, back and forth. We had more traffic here than ever before. Our
331 homes where they were built were built one and a half bedrooms required one parking space. We had
332 six, seven cars, trailers, you name it, boats, everything we could think of and nowhere to put them. They
333 were all over. Being in September now, we have until May, if you can find a way to put it on our plate to

334 come up with something, I don't imagine next year is going to be less as far as that vehicles go, I think
335 our vacationers will be bringing more vehicles, not to mention the golf carts, and the mopeds, and
336 everything else they bring. It's crazy down there what they do. We need a meter solution. I'm sure you
337 can come up with one, if you have the time. If not, we'll go another year and you know, but I believe if we
338 follow the subcommittee format you can pick a committee to at least look at it. I think I heard someone
339 say half a loaf is better than no loaf. Let's get it started. I know Councilman Childs has been an advocate
340 as far as straightening out our parking stuff. I've had numerous conversations with him. Put him on the
341 committee. But, you know, again, I live in a rental district. I own a realty company. I built a lot of the
342 mess that's created down there, and now I guess I'm asking for solutions. Those people that come are
343 not enemies. We shouldn't have to tag them, because they violated an ordinance that didn't know
344 existed. We should try to help them. They are paying 12-percent in tax to be here for that week. Some
345 of them pay more for the week than I pay in tax on my house. Thank you."

347 10. **COUNCIL COMMENTS.**

349 Ms. Blair, "Thank you all for coming. I just kind of want to clarify one thing that was misconstrued
350 a little bit. When I mentioned, when I asked the question if the residents of that northern neighborhood
351 would be landlocked for two blocks, it had nothing to do with getting to a stop light. There's no stop light
352 two blocks north or south of 13th. So, it wouldn't, that was just, the question was just would they be
353 landlocked even to get to 17 to venture out into traffic, not to necessarily get to a stop light. And, I would
354 like to comment that there are two safety factors going on there. Certainly there is a safety factor for all of
355 us trying to get out onto 17 at a non-stop light crossover. But, I think there is also an extreme traffic
356 element or increase in traffic that would be able to speed down that street, and come straight across, and
357 I'm not going to generalize and say that would all be from Deerfield, but certainly it would open it up to a
358 very large and heavily congested community that did not want the traffic through its own neighborhood
359 and did, indeed, block off all of their entrances with gates, gated entries, but would love to have it opened
360 up to come through ours. So I just didn't want any comments that I made or questions asked to be
361 interpreted incorrectly. I was just simply stating that it would land lock that community for two blocks, not
362 to mention that there is a very active and thriving church as well as a business on the corner that would
363 transfer all of that commercial traffic through other peoples' streets and neighborhoods to get to those
364 businesses as well. I'm sure we'll work out something. We always try to; we would have to have a team
365 effort here along with all of your input. I encourage all of you to attend the workshop. Fill the room.
366 We've got lots of sitting area. If we don't have seats, we've got the floor, and we'll fill it up. So, that's
367 what it's all about. When decisions can be this contentious, and affect as many people, we need as many
368 of you here as possible to hear from all of you. So, come back out, hear us. Support us or not, let us
369 know hear your opinions, but we appreciate your being here whether you're with us or not. Thank you so
370 much and hope you have a great week."

372 Mr. Johnson, "Thank you, Mr. Mayor. While there's no down time as a councilmember, just when
373 you think that you would have a not-so-busy meeting, something always comes up and that's part of the
374 job. But heading into the wintertime, and I really do want to take a look at some of these issues that the
375 residents have brought up and perhaps create some committees or subcommittees to tackle some of
376 these issues. In particular, just to name a few, parking, golf carts, so on and so forth. Something that we
377 can go into the next vacation season on the right track, and you know, I certainly will do my best to work
378 with council to get some of these things done. And, I would appreciate some of your input on it as well, or
379 all of your input. Thank you for coming out tonight. It's great to see so many people, and next time bring
380 a friend, please, or an enemy! Thank you."

382 Ms. Dodge, "I'm going to talk about committees. I understand from the town clerk we have a
383 number of official committees and then we have subcommittees and we have also, I really like, are
384 citizens committees. The ones I'm going to talk about are one that are mandated and we have to have
385 people to fill them. Some of them have openings, and I'm hoping that the word will get out tonight. You
386 may not have seen the notices in the paper. They have been in there. Response has been light. We
387 need your help. If you know anybody, grab them and bring them in and make them volunteer. We need
388 them. There, I'm going to read the committees. The accommodations tax committee, advisory
389 committee, and the planning and zoning commission have full compliments. We have an opening on the

390 election commission and that is a mandated commission, and we do need a person to fill that. We have
391 stormwater committee, which is a required committee and which has full compliment, thank goodness!
392 The board of building appeals, which is required by International Residential Code; there are five
393 openings on that committee. It would be imperative to fill that. The town will provide any specific training
394 someone would need. We would ask that you submit an application listing your name, address, and
395 telephone number, and a short biographical sketch which outlines any specific training you might have
396 and it can be submitted to Mr. Duckett or to the town clerk. I know you want the best for our town.
397 Serving on these committees would be one great way to do something worthwhile. Pick up the phone,
398 call the town clerk, 913.6111 by the way, and she can assist you. Remember the slogan from years ago,
399 "Uncle Sam Needs You," this town needs you. Then I have something else further on committees. I
400 strongly urge we bring back the beautification committee and recreation committee. Citizens being
401 involved on committees can work miracles. I've seen it done. They come up with ideas by the bushel.
402 Then it's up to council to do something with them, and we don't always act on them. [I] also wanted to
403 say thank you to the citizens who stood up this evening and talked about various issues. You made good
404 points. We need to listen to you and we need to act on what you say. I think I'm going to stop there.
405 Thank you."

406
407 Mr. Smith, "The reason I asked the question about the sidewalk café is a week or so ago I heard
408 that nobody had applied for a permit or license. And I was going to ask the council to consider waiving
409 the license fee for sidewalk cafés for the first year. Since one has applied, they're probably not
410 interested, but I think we still should consider that, maybe you could monitor it over the next couple of
411 weeks and consider waiving the fee for the license for the sidewalk cafés for the first year to encourage
412 these other cafés to apply for a license. On 13th Avenue North, the signal light I'm not interested in that
413 signal light. I think it would create problems on 13th and other streets in that part of the town, and if they
414 did put that light up, they would plan to block the frontage roads so it would no longer be a through street.
415 They'd block the frontage road on each side, which means access to Denny's and the Wachovia bank,
416 you wouldn't have, just like you don't have it now if you're going straight through. But, it would be a
417 problem, and I think that if we could put, if that light does happen, that Deerfield should consider opening
418 their gates. The other thing that I'd like to mention is in the subcommittee, transportation subcommittee
419 report, the minutes state that the town council objected to the barricades at 5th Avenue North because it
420 blocked access to the post office. Well, that's not true. The plan that had been submitted to the town
421 with the guidance from the previous transportation committee clearly shows that this access to the post
422 office. What I'm doing is holding up the diagram of the streets with all the little arrows showing the traffic
423 flow. Unknown speaker, (***). Mr. Smith, "That's what we talked about, it got defeated in the winter, and
424 so that's a misstatement of fact. It didn't block access to the post office. Thank you."

425
426 Mr. Samples, "Thank you, Mr. Mayor. Mr. Smith, you always give me an opportunity to address a
427 point, and I appreciate the fact that you have corrected a misstatement in draft minutes that were, have
428 not been approved by the subcommittee. But, the fact remains that the original program proposal from
429 SCDOT clearly blockaded both sides of 5th Avenue North and council did vote not to blockade the
430 southbound side of the frontage road. I think you helped make the point that it's very difficult dealing with
431 SCDOT, because they have preconceived ideas and solutions in mind. I am, to quote somebody that I
432 talked to today; I'm not emotionally invested in any solution as it comes to Highway 17 Business. We all
433 recognize that it is certainly outdated. It hasn't been kept up. I merely want to elevate the issue, which as
434 you heard tonight from long-time residents, is the long pole in the tent. The long pole in the tent; it's
435 holding everything else up. And until the town addresses it, it'll hold everything else up. Thank you."

436
437 Mr. Childs, "Thank you, Mr. Mayor. Mr. Maruca, I totally agree with you on subcommittees. I
438 think in the three years that I've been on council, I've had the honor to be the author of all the motions
439 that developed the subcommittees, and I do believe they do serve a purpose, because council people
440 have jobs here, and they're working, and I think when you can get about three members of council to
441 work on any subject and concentrate on it and bring it back to the full council, you can really cut to the
442 chase. You can save a lot of time. A lot of people don't have the hours that they can put into a subject
443 such as, let's take parking for instance, I've been an advocate of eliminating parking on Ocean Boulevard
444 long before I got on council. And it can be done. It's not that big a deal; it's just a matter of getting three
445 members and having a workshop and having yourself and other people from the town come in and hear

446 their complaints and get their opinions and it could be done in a very short time. And on another subject,
447 I do agree with Mr. Samples. We're going to have to work with SCDOT, or we're just going to, as Mrs.
448 Mabry put it, we're just going to lose thousands and thousands of dollars and we're all, all gone and it's
449 still going to be the same way. We're going to have to give a little bit to get a little bit. And, we've got to
450 get our foot in the door and let SCDOT know that we are serious about some of these changes, and Mr.
451 Samples and his committee is working on it. But, we've got to help them. We've got to give; we can't just
452 bury our heels in the ground and say, 'not in my backyard.' You know, we can work something out, and
453 we all agree with [Mr. Romano] on the 13th. Everybody's in lockstep; we don't want traffic going down
454 13th. But, I think that these directive islands can be initiated. They have them on State highways now. I
455 can't imagine why the State is against it now all of a sudden, so, I think something can be worked out.
456 Let's just not drop the ball and forget about it. Thank you, Mr. Mayor."

457
458 Mayor Deaton, "I'd like to thank everyone for coming out tonight."
459

460 Mr. Samples asked if the Beach Sweep was this weekend. Mayor Deaton said this Saturday, the
461 17th.

462
463 11. **ADJOURNMENT.** Mr. Smith moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:02 p.m. Ms. Dodge
464 seconded. **All voted in favor. MOTION CARRIED.**

465
466 Respectfully submitted,
467

468
469 _____
470 Debra E. Herrmann, CMC, Town Clerk

471 Approved: September 27, 2011
472

473
474 _____
475 K. Allen Deaton, Mayor

476
477 _____
478 Vicki W. Blair, Town Council

477 _____
478 Roderick E. Smith, Mayor Pro Tempore

479
480 _____
481 Ann Dodge, Town Council

479 _____
480 Mark L. Johnson, Town Council

482
483 _____
484 Douglas F. Samples, Town Council

482 _____
483 Roderick E. Smith, Town Council

484
485 Clerk's Note: This document constitutes minutes of the meeting, which was audio taped. This meeting was transcribed by Town Clerk Herrmann. In
486 accordance with FOIA, meeting notice and the agenda were distributed to local media and interested parties. A complete list is on file in the clerk's
487 office. The agenda was posted on bulletin boards outside Council Chambers and in the Town Hall reception area. Meeting notice was also posted on
488 the Town marquee. When (***) is used a section of the transcription is inaudible.