



**SURFSIDE BEACH TOWN COUNCIL
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
OCTOBER 11, 2011 ♦ 6:30 P.M.
TOWN COUNCIL CHAMBERS**

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9 1. **CALL TO ORDER.**

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11 Mayor Deaton called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. Mayor Deaton, Mayor Pro Tempore
12 Childs, and Councilmembers Dodge, Johnson, and Smith were in attendance; a quorum was present.
13 Councilmembers Blair and Samples were absent. Staff present: Administrator Duckett; Deputy
14 Administrator Fellner, and Police Chief Frederick. Others present: Town Attorney Moss, Attorney Smith,
15 and Town Clerk Herrmann.

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17 2. **INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE.**

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19 Reverend Shane Johnson, Solid Rock Baptist Church gave the invocation. Mayor Deaton led the
20 Pledge of Allegiance.

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22 3. **AGENDA APPROVAL.**

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24 Mr. Smith moved to approve the agenda as presented. Mr. Childs seconded. **All voted in favor.**
25 **MOTION CARRIED.**

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27 4. **MINUTES APPROVAL.**

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29 Ms. Dodge moved to approve the minutes for the regular meeting held September 27, 2011 as
30 presented. Mr. Johnson seconded. **All voted in favor. MOTION CARRIED.**

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

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34 There were no public comments on the agenda.

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36 6. **COMMUNICATIONS.**

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38 A. Employee Appreciation – Tom Richards, 15 Years of Service. Mayor Deaton thanked Mr.
39 Richards for his 15 years of service to the town and its citizens then presented him with a service plaque,
40 anniversary pin, and service award check. He received a standing ovation.

41
42 B. Department Reports

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

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47 ii. Police. Mr. Duckett presented the police report, a copy of which is on file in the clerk's office,
48 and is made a part hereof by reference as if fully set forth herein. Ms. Dodge asked how often the police
49 department monitored the dog park. Chief Frederick said officers drive by an average of 12 times per
50 day; on foot inspections are usually once a day. Ms. Dodge said all dogs in the park must have tags, and
51 asked whether tags could be inspected from vehicles. Chief Frederick said no, but that type inspection
52 would require a new division within the department. Ms. Dodge asked about getting a specific color collar
53 to be provided when dogs are registered that identify them as being registered with the town. Chief
54 Frederick said that was discussed when the parks were being developed; they found additional cost and
55 manpower would not be effective. Dog owners generally police the parks themselves and are quick to

56 report problems. Generally, residents and visitors are very cooperative and are happy with the dog parks.
57 Overcrowding is about the only problem, and that is infrequent. Mr. Childs thanked Chief Frederick for
58 the thorough, complete report. He said the report stated that there were a high number of assaults on
59 officers. Chief Frederick said those numbers were typical of summer statistics.
60

61 iii. Fire. Mr. Duckett presented the fire report, a copy of which is on file in the clerk's office, and
62 is made a part hereof by reference as if fully set forth herein. Mr. Childs said he and Chief Packard had
63 discussed the department's report and said this was a good report.
64

65 C. Administrator's Report – Update on Current Events. Mr. Duckett presented his report, which
66 is on file in the clerk's office and is made a part hereof by reference as if fully set forth herein. Mr. Duckett
67 presented the proposed 2012 Town Council Meeting Date Calendar explaining that the first meeting in
68 February would be on Monday the 13th to accommodate council travel on Tuesday and Wednesday to
69 Columbia to attend the Elected Officials Institute and Legislative Action Day on the 14th and 15th.
70 **COUNCIL CONCURRED.**

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72 **7. BUSINESS.**
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74 First Reading Ordinance #11-0708 §20(b) – Amend Council Travel Per Diem. Mr. Duckett
75 presented the ordinance for first reading saying that several municipalities have adopted a flat rate per
76 diem to simplify accounting and the necessity for members keeping up with receipts. Mayor Deaton
77 asked if the finance department supported this. Mr. Duckett said yes. Mr. Smith moved to adopt first
78 reading of Ordinance #11-0708 as presented. Mr. Childs seconded. Ms. Dodge believed \$100 per day
79 was too much. Mr. Duckett said this amount was adopted by the City of West Columbia about ten years
80 ago and has not changed. Mayor Deaton said this would not amount to very much money as council
81 generally travels twice a year to the Municipal Association annual meetings and the Legislative Action
82 Day. Mayor Deaton, Mayor Pro Tempore Childs and Councilmembers Johnson and Smith voted in favor.
83 Ms. Dodge voted against. **MOTION CARRIED.**
84

85 **8. DISCUSSION.**
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87 There was no discussion to come before this meeting.
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89 **9. PUBLIC COMMENTS.**
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91 “Joe Zoltak, 414 Pine Drive. I have a \$48,000 suggestion for you. The parking study alluded to
92 or recommended at some point that you provide shuttles from Legends or maybe someplace else like
93 that. Has there been any thought given to take that seriously, at least on days of the festival? You could
94 alleviate a lot of the parking spaces down by the, problems down at the beach, okay. Just like putting it
95 around there, keeps going around, whatever (***) Plantation Resort uses. Just a couple hours 4th of July
96 and anytime there is a festival, you know it was a \$48,000 recommendation. The other thing (***) when
97 you brought up the discussion, voted on the \$100 a day for blanket per diem, does that address partial
98 days, and I didn't read the ordinance, but maybe that would be worthwhile considering, cause if you don't
99 leave till after noon, you really didn't spend the whole (***) if you get back before noon on a trip, you're
100 really not spending the whole hundred bucks either, (***) on your per diem, you know, (***) you only get
101 so much, prorated (***) That should be easy to implement, too. Thank you.”
102

103 “John Wright, 710 South Hollywood Drive. Mr. Mayor, Council. October 1 was a beautiful day
104 here in the Town of Surfside Beach. The festival was just fabulous. It was good to walk Surfside Drive
105 and enjoy a family setting, a family beach. Let me encourage you to think about the economy. That is
106 the tradition of Surfside Beach, being a family beach, and that's what that festival was all about, family.
107 We're moving away from that. Let me encourage you to think long and hard about a few coppers that we
108 will make on the sale and consumption of alcohol in our little town. Thank you.”
109

110 “John Ard, Cypress Drive. I'd like to comment about the Surfside Beach town festival. I would
111 like to thank each and every member of staff and all of them that took part in setting it up, tearing it down,

112 making sure everything got where it was supposed to be and everything. They done a wonderful job of it,
113 and I'd also like to thank the police department and the fire department for their participation and
114 everything; they done a wonderful job of it and all. I've been coming to these things a long time, and I
115 want to tell you, I think this was one of the (***) ones that we have had this year. It was just gorgeous to
116 see so many people out having a good time, enjoying their self, it was just wonderful, and I reckon that
117 that is about the second biggest thing that goes on in this town besides the Christmas parade, but I'd like
118 to see more of that, if there's any way possible, and I think we should work towards maybe having other
119 events like that. It draws the community together. It brings in outsiders, visitors, stuff like that, they come
120 down here and they spend their hard-earned money and stuff. They all have a good time, and it's just
121 wonderful for everybody all the way around. That's where I stand on that and I'd like to thank everybody
122 that was involved in it, and also, I did see some town council down there, and we do appreciate y'all being
123 there very much."

124
125 "Hello, Town Council. Charlene Henderson, 612 North Cherry Drive. With all due respect, about
126 the dog park, I might stand alone in this opinion, but I don't feel that it's the police's duty to police a dog
127 tag. I, you've heard what's going on with police. They have a very dangerous, high stress job, and as far
128 as checking for tags on dogs in our parks, I really don't believe that that's; they're here to protect and
129 serve the people, the taxpayers of our city, not check for dog tags. That's all; my opinion. Thank you."

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131 **10. COUNCIL COMMENTS.**

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133 Mr. Johnson, "Thank you ladies and gentlemen for coming out. Thank you for the comments the
134 public has given. The best (***) of the fall festival was really good, I agree was the best that I in my 26-
135 years of being here. There was only one unfortunate incident during the fall festival and I hope that we
136 can alleviate that next year, and I'm referring to the fact that Police Chief Frederick was not in the dunking
137 booth! Thank you very much."

138
139 Ms. Dodge, "I too would like to compliment the town and the staff on the family festival. It was
140 really a wonderful event and we had a great time. Ate too much; but enjoyed it extremely. Thank you."

141
142 Mr. Smith, "I arrived late at the festival, and the first thing I noticed is we didn't have enough blue
143 recycle containers. I picked up a plastic bottle and had to take it about halfway down the street before I
144 found one, and I'd just like to remind staff that we need a blue recycle container by each trash can so that
145 folks that like to recycle can continue doing that, and it certainly was beautiful weather. Thank you."

146
147 Mr. Childs, "I'd like to join the rest of council in commending the staff for a great festival. The
148 weather couldn't have been better, and I also thank the Fire Chief for bringing that big fire truck down
149 there. I know the kids just had a ball with that thing and Chief [Frederick] whether you get in the dunk
150 tank or not, it was very successful. I thought you were going to water log that one guy; he was there all
151 day long. Thank you very much staff, thanks so much."

152
153 Mayor Deaton, "I, too, enjoyed it and I'm sure everyone else did. It couldn't have been better
154 weather and 100 vendors was outstanding. I think we had a waiting list."

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156 **11. EXECUTIVE SESSION.**

157
158 Mayor Deaton explained that council needed to enter executive session pursuant to the Freedom
159 of Information Act (FOIA) §30-4-70(1) to discuss volunteer appointments; pursuant FOIA §30-4-70(1) to
160 discuss routine personnel evaluations and report on merit increases pursuant to Council directives at
161 budget meeting, and, pursuant to FOIA §30-4-70(2) to discuss a contract with town attorney and court
162 reporter in the event of protest hearings.

163
164 Mr. Smith moved to enter executive session at 6:56 p.m. Mr. Childs seconded. All voted in favor.
165 **MOTION CARRIED.**

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167 Mayor Deaton announced a 5-minute recess prior to the start of executive session.

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Mr. Smith moved to reconvene regular session at 7:25 p.m. Mr. Johnson seconded. All voted in favor. **MOTION CARRIED.**

Mr. Smith moved to appoint Mr. Blake Davis to the Board of Zoning Appeals and Ms. Judy Tuttle to the Municipal Election Commission. Mr. Childs seconded. All voted in favor. **MOTION CARRIED.**

Mayor Deaton stated that no action was to be taken on item B; council deliberated on item C.

11. **ADJOURNMENT.** Mr. Smith moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:26 p.m. Mr. Johnson seconded. **All voted in favor. MOTION CARRIED.**

Respectfully submitted,

Debra E. Herrmann, CMC, Town Clerk

Approved: October 25, 2011

K. Allen Deaton, Mayor

Vicki W. Blair, Town Council

Robert F. Childs, III, Mayor Pro Tempore

Ann Dodge, Town Council

Mark L Johnson, Town Council

Douglas F. Samples, Town Council

Roderick E. Smith, Town Council

Approved

Clerk's Note: This document constitutes minutes of the meeting, which was audio taped. This meeting was transcribed by Town Clerk Herrmann. In 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 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.