



TOWN OF SURFSIDE BEACH
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PUBLIC NOTICE

Pursuant to §6-1-80 of the SC Code of Laws public notice is hereby given that the Town Council for the Town of Surfside Beach will hold a public hearing on the Fiscal Year 2013-2014 Municipal Budget on Tuesday, June 25, 2013 at 6:30 p.m. in Council Chambers.

TOWN COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING COUNCIL CHAMBERS

TUESDAY, JUNE 11, 2013 ♦ 6:30 P.M.

A G E N D A

1. **CALL TO ORDER** – Mayor Douglas F. Samples
2. **INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE** - Pastor Tom Wallace, Journey Church
3. **AGENDA APPROVAL**
4. **MINUTES APPROVAL** - Regular Meeting May 28, 2013
5. **PUBLIC COMMENTS – Agenda Items Only.** (3-minutes per speaker)
6. **COMMUNICATIONS**
 - A. Department Reports
 - i. Planning, Building & Zoning
 - ii. Police
 - iii. Fire
 - B. Administrator's Report - Update on Current Events
7. **BUSINESS**
 - A. Proposed Tax Millage Increase, Mayor Pro Tempore Mabry
 - B. Fiscal Year 2013-2014 Municipal Budget, Councilmember Smith
 - C. First Reading Ordinance #13-0749 to adopt FY2013-2014 Tax Millage Rate, Administrator Fellner
 - D. First Reading Ordinance #13-0750 to adopt FY2013-2014 Municipal Budget
 - E. First Reading Ordinance #13-0751 to add §17-417 Docks on Town Lakes, Planning Director Morris
 - F. Amend Resolution #12-117 to reorganize *ad hoc* Recreation/Special Events Committee and change membership to 5 members, Administrator Fellner
 - G. Resolution #13-137 to Allocate 1 Mil to Stormwater during FY2013-2014, Administrator Fellner
 - H. Accommodations Tax Committee Recommendation to Fund the Purchase of Beach Cameras, Administrator Fellner
 - I. Pier Encroachment Permit Consensus, Administrator Fellner
8. **DISCUSSION** – Any matters of concern or information to be discussed by Town Council.
9. **PUBLIC COMMENTS – General Comments.** (5-minutes per speaker)
10. **COUNCIL COMMENTS**
11. **ADJOURNMENT**



**SURFSIDE BEACH TOWN COUNCIL
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
JUNE 11, 2013 ♦ 6:30 P.M.
TOWN COUNCIL CHAMBERS**

1. CALL TO ORDER.

Mayor Samples called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. Mayor Samples, Mayor Pro Tempore Mabry, and Councilmembers Dodge, Johnson, Kohlmann, Smith, and Stevens were in attendance. A quorum was present. Others present: Town Administrator Fellner; Finance Director King; Planning Director Morris; Police Chief Keziah; Fire Chief Cimini; Recreation Supervisor Ellis, and Town Clerk Herrmann.

Mayor Samples reminded everyone that hurricane season had officially begun. He encouraged everyone to create a plan and be prepared to protect their families and pets in the event of a storm.

2. INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE.

Pastor Tom Wallace of Journey Church gave the invocation. Mayor Samples lead the Pledge.

3. AGENDA APPROVAL.

Mr. Smith moved to approve the agenda with an amendment to allow Mr. Howard Barnard to make a presentation from the Surfside Rotary Club after public comments. Mr. Johnson seconded. All voted in favor. **MOTION CARRIED as AMENDED.**

4. MINUTES APPROVAL.

Ms. Dodge referred to line 55 and said that Mrs. Mabry [sic] talked about a luau, but she knew nothing about it and asked if that should be in the minutes. Ms. Ellis said the luau was mentioned by Ms. Crone as having already occurred, but it is not scheduled until August 12th. Ms. Dodge said thank you.

Mr. Smith moved to approve the minutes of the May 28, 2013 meeting as submitted. Mr. Stevens seconded. All voted in favor. **MOTION CARRIED.**

5. PUBLIC COMMENTS – Agenda Items (3 minutes.)

"Mary Ellen Abrams, 311 13th North. I'd like to talk about Agenda Item 7.A. I support a tax increase as being in the best interest of the town. The mule is in the ditch. Wondering how the mule got in the ditch doesn't change the fact that that he's in the ditch and it's your responsibility to get him out of the ditch. Please put away the drama. Get out of the weeds, and look at the big picture. And a short-sighted attempt to claim you didn't raise taxes you're not seeing what this drastic cost cutting is really doing. It's throwing away progress. Some of you like to brag about all the wonderful committees that have been established. I say put your money where your mouth is. There will be no point in citizen committees, if council responds to all their hard work with we can't afford to do that. You will be throwing away the contributions of the citizens. You cut back the newsletter, but what you really cut is information to the citizens. The town finally has a forward looking, professional staff. They are capable of leading us into the future. If you tie their hands, you will be wasting their capability and their salary. (**) Just a few months ago, this very council spent over six hours in vision workshops. Two days of great ideas. Was that lip service? Again, I say put your money where your mouth is or you'll be throwing away your own vision. I am deeply disappointed that a few councilmembers have completely closed their minds to a tax increase. Unwillingness to raise taxes is disrespectful to the hardworking citizens, staff and council. At election time you can claim you didn't raise taxes, but don't forget to say that that's going to be your only accomplishment, because you made sure there won't be any more money. This discussion of a tax

55 increase is not about you, councilmembers. Please focus on the good of the town as a whole. I'd like to
56 see less self-serving politics and more responsibility for the future of Surfside Beach. Thank you."
57

58 "Ann Wescott, 413 Cedar Drive North, and I want to talk about cameras on the beach. We all
59 know that this will be sold as a safety issue. We all know the drill about that one. As a citizen of still
60 relatively free country, I do not want the government snooping on me while I'm at the beach. I do not
61 want to live in a police, a police state or a police town. A government that spies on everyone every day
62 for everything for no reason with no control is not the kind of country that I want to live in. The story goes
63 that it's the surveillance equipment available to our federal, state, and local people were available during
64 the Second World War by the time it was over, there would not be a Jew, a gypsy, or a special needs
65 child left alive in Europe. All I ask is that you think of the ramifications of this; throwing away part of our
66 freedom before you vote on this. Thank you."
67

68 "Tom Dodge, 14th, 15th Avenue North. I wasn't gonna say anything tonight, but ah, I, I feel that
69 cutting expenses is what we need to do. We do not have to operate like Washington, DC where you tax
70 your way into prosperity. I think that anybody that wants a tax increase has the right to write a check to
71 the town for any amount they want to give the town. Don't burden the people in town. Cut expenses.
72 Thank you."
73

74 "John Ard, 612 Cypress Drive, Surfside. I'd like to say that I'm totally against this tax increase.
75 We need to find out where all the money has been spent and its going. The town's almost in a deficit
76 situation now and on account of money just being throwed [sic] away. Throwed [sic] to the wind; lawsuits,
77 whatever else had, and here you are now wanting \$55,000 for one thing, and \$5,000 for another thing.
78 This is stuff that we can do without. We spent 55,000 extra dollars on parking meters. We still haven't
79 figured out yet how a [sic] 136 parking meters got authorized when the parking committee did not
80 recommend but 30. Somebody went over somebody's head as usual, and we don't have the answer to
81 these questions, and seems like no one wants to come up with 'em. So if you quit spending money
82 foolishly, you don't have to raise taxes, and that was it."
83

84 "Gene Maruca, 116 7th Ave. South. I live in the R-1 district."
85

86 Mayor Samples said R-3.
87

88 Mr. Maruca: "R-3, excuse me, the rental district. It's getting extremely heavy having to burden
89 the people who support this town. The people who make your expenses, your household expenses what
90 they are. A tax increase will only hurt the people in the rental district, and then in turn, they'll turn around
91 and give it to our tourists who eventually will find somewhere less expensive to vacation. That seems to
92 be what we're heading towards. But having to support the residents in the residential district is really
93 heavy. Stop and think about a \$600 thousand home. What's four mils gonna cost them? And then, look
94 at \$150 thousand home. If we're gonna do, let's find an equal. Let's take every household in the town
95 and charge 'em equally or live within our means. There's no need to raise taxes. Let's take the time and
96 go through our budget. Thank you."
97

98 Mayor Samples reminded the audience to allow the speakers to speak and to maintain order.
99

100 **6. COMMUNICATIONS.**
101

102 **A. Surfside Rotary Presentation, Mr. Howard Barnard.**
103

104 Mr. Barnard thanked all the members for serving on Town Council. He said that Mayor Samples
105 attended the Wednesday Rotary meeting when Ms. Debbie Ellis was presented with the Rotary's highest
106 award, the "Service Above Self," which is the most outstanding citizen award. Ms. Ellis demonstrated
107 selfless effort in assisting the Rotary with its annual road race. The Rotary appreciates her efforts. Ms.
108 Ellis said thank you. (*Standing ovation.*) Mr. Barnard said the Rotary had partnered with the town for the
109 past 10 years for the road race, which is its largest fundraiser. Every dollar raised is invested in the
110 community. The Rotary has raised over \$30,000 for the Surfside recreation department. He presented a

111 \$5,000 check to Mayor Samples on behalf of Surfside Rotary for the town's recreation department.
112 Mayor Samples thanked the Rotary and Mr. Barnard.

113
114 **A. Department Reports.**

115
116 **i. Planning, Building & Zoning.**

117
118 Ms. Morris presented the written report, a copy of which is on file. Staff issued 117
119 permits in May compared to 112 last year. There were 116 inspections made, 16 plan reviews,
120 and 158 business licenses were issued, which includes renewals. Two structures were removed;
121 one demolition at 318 16th Avenue North, and the house 410 Ocean Boulevard North was moved
122 outside the town limits. Numerous signs were removed from the town rights-of-way. Residential
123 and business owners were advised that signs cannot be placed in rights-of-way. The owners of
124 the property at 633 East Sparrow Drive were contacted. They have turned the house over to a
125 realtor. It will be cleaned up and placed on the market soon. Staff will continue to monitor the
126 progress and advise council. The building official attended the stormwater plan review class and
127 is scheduled to take the stormwater plan review test this month in Columbia. There are lots of
128 things happening in the overlay district. Two restaurants are being up-fit with landscaping in the
129 parking lots. Some businesses have volunteered to remove parking to make room for
130 landscaping. JerriBob's actually cut the pavement to meet the landscaping requirements even
131 though it was not required to do so at this time. Staff is very excited about those projects along
132 Highway 17.

133
134 Ms. Dodge said she goes past 410 Ocean Boulevard North. When that house was
135 removed they did a marvelous job clearing that lot and grading it. It looks great. She was still
136 complaining about the awful pole on Ocean Boulevard. She said get her a can of paint, and she
137 would go paint it. A citizen gave her a note; there are two abandoned properties at 516 and 711
138 5th Avenue North that need to be mowed. She asked if there were regulations to require vacant
139 property to be maintained. Ms. Morris said if the land is in a natural state, there is no requirement.
140 If it was developed or if there was a house or structure on the property, there are maintenance
141 regulations. Ms. Dodge asked what could be done if it was a vacant, overgrown lot, because it
142 makes the whole town look bad. Ms. Morris said the town complies with the Property Maintenance
143 Code. If the property in its natural state, that was had never been developed, it is left in the natural
144 state, the town can require that the owner clean any debris on the lot, but the owner cannot be
145 required them to take it down. Ms. Dodge said wow; they need to do something. Ms. Morris said
146 she would inspect the properties.

147
148 Ms. Kohlmann said for clarification if a lot is cut clear down; just mowed and there is no structure
149 on it, still they have to maintain that. Ms. Morris said exactly. Once an owner improves a lot in any way,
150 which means if they clear the lot, they have to maintain it. But, if it is in a natural state, they do not.

151
152 Mayor Samples said such as the lot next to her.

153
154 Ms. Kohlmann said yea, exactly.

155
156 Mayor Samples said for clarification purposes on undeveloped lots where a tree may be a safety
157 hazard the town, in fact, if need be, will go in and mitigate that safety hazard. Ms. Morris said that is
158 correct. Staff would make every effort to reach the owner and have them perform the work; but, if those
159 efforts fail, the town would do it.

160
161 **ii. Police.**

162
163 Chief Keziah presented the written report, a copy of which is on file. In May of this year there was
164 a 33-percent increase over the previous month. There is a decrease of 7-percent for the same period last
165 year. A South Carolina certified officer from the Columbia police department was hired to fill a vacant
166 position. He has years of experience; several advanced certifications; served on the Columbia

167 community teams and brings a philosophy that is in line with the town's, and is very community oriented.
168 There was one very short motorcycle pursuit. The motorcycle was going over 100 miles an hour down
169 the highway. He commended the supervisor that called off the pursuit for safety reasons. The same
170 motorcycle was spotted later on by Horry County police, who also attempted to stop him. The individual
171 crashed and our officer was able to identify him as the individual that sped through town. The individual
172 was subsequently charged with multiple charges by the county and also by our officer for the pursuit that
173 occurred in town. Beach officers received training and updates on jet skis and were certified in water
174 rescues using jet skis, which considering the recent drowning tragedy in North Myrtle Beach, was timely
175 and beneficial. There was a joint meeting with the fire department command staff, and joint training for
176 handling beach emergencies is planned with the two departments. It was a good, cooperative effort with
177 everybody involved. Participation with the US Marshall Task Force continues to have unbelievable
178 results. This benefits reaped from having one officer assigned to the task force resulted in collecting over
179 \$6,700 in bonds and fine money this past month. Over 40 outstanding warrants were cleared. He was
180 very proud of that work. There was a case in which the US Marshall Service was very, very important in
181 assisting the department in bringing three home invaders to justice. Chief Keziah expressed appreciation
182 to Town Council for its support in allowing the department to participate in the Marshalls Task Force. The
183 month of May is always busy for the department; the three busy weekends were worked with increased
184 staffing to deter and enforce criminal violations. There was a small decrease in some calls for service. A
185 proactive approach was taken this year that included home visits at the beginning of the bike week to
186 explain the town's codes and which behaviors were not tolerated. It seemed to work according to the
187 numbers and feedback received from some local residents. The plan is to continue that process as much
188 as possible during the summer. On May 24th he and Lieutenant Hofmann attended the South Strand
189 Senior Center cookout luncheon. It was a good opportunity to interact with the seniors; two ladies
190 "schooled him up" on Wii (*an interactive video game*) bowling! (*Laughter.*) On May 29th, a press release
191 was sent to Town Council and then published to the media reporting the close of a case with
192 approximately 14 charges. Most of them were felony charges, and again, the Marshall Service was very
193 helpful in that case. On May 29th they attended a luncheon sponsored by the 15th Circuit Law
194 Enforcement Network when the department was presented with an in-car video camera valued at about
195 \$3,000 to be used for law enforcement purposes. The town will host an annual checkpoint in September
196 with participants in the Network. It is a popular event; everybody likes to come into Surfside. On May 31st
197 two presentations were made at St. James Middle School. Many of those students visit the town during
198 the summer. It was a good opportunity to interact with them and resolve some of the skate park issues.
199 The first semi-annual neighborhood and community watch information meeting was held with residents
200 interested in the Community Watch program. Many positive comments were received. He believes the
201 community members' and the department's plan will merge well as some positive changes were made. A
202 town-wide town hall meeting will be Thursday, June 27th at 6:30 at Journey Church. Comments were
203 received from residents and visitors that many times they are not familiar with the beach ordinances,
204 especially when they go onto the beach at night when the beach accesses are dark and they cannot see
205 the signs. A pamphlet was designed that has all the beach rules and regulations that will be delivered to
206 the rental companies, which will help educate the public.

207
208 Mr. Stevens said it was good to see Chief Keziah again and he was doing a great job. He wanted
209 to ask about the Citizens Police Academy program that was offered on the website; how many people
210 signed up? Chief Keziah said there were at least 20 or 25 applicants, but he did not know the exact
211 number. It is still being advertised. The department was establishing an email data base to notify the
212 public of current incidents to ask for assistance locating certain vehicles or persons. The academy will
213 begin in mid-July and end in mid-August. Applications are available online or at town hall. A committee
214 will choose the 15 participants for the first academy. Mr. Stevens said thank you.

215
216 Ms. Kohlmann said she attended the neighborhood watch meeting and it was very, very well
217 done. It one of the best crime prevention meetings she had attended. She thought it would behoove
218 everyone as residents of town to try to attend the meeting. It would not mean that you have to be
219 involved, but it would give you an idea of what the program is about, and maybe you would learn
220 something that you did not know, and it might save somebody's life one day, or just might stop a crime.
221 She thought it was really important to go to it. She commended Chief Keziah and Lieutenant Hofmann for
222 the program saying it is great. She also wanted to say many times there were complaints about the

223 police department. Reviewing the report she saw the quality of life crimes were being addressed. In the
224 past they were not really addressed the way they probably should have been. Now she sees that they
225 are and she sees littering summonses are being issued. Officers are out there trying to inform the public
226 about fireworks. She thanked Chief Keziah very much. Chief Keziah said the town hall meeting that will
227 be on the 27th is not necessarily for everyone that wants to be involved in a community watch, or crime
228 watch, or neighborhood watch. It is for all town residents that want to learn crime and safety tips and
229 prevention tips that would help them to make their property safer. There will be a short presentation
230 dealing with how to report a crime and what to look for when a crime occurs.

231
232 Mr. Johnson thanked Chief Keziah for the brochures for the rental properties. There are signs on
233 the public crossovers, but there are no signs on the crossovers at the rental homes. Chief Keziah said
234 the main goal was to reach renters on the oceanfront that walk out the backdoor and go straight to the
235 beach. It might not be a perfect fix, but he believed it was a step in the right direction. The next step is to
236 get with business licensing to get pamphlets delivered to private owners to post in their oceanfront rental
237 houses.

238
239 Mayor Samples said the police department is doing a great job. Call them when you need them,
240 put them to work.

241 **iii. Fire.**

242
243 Chief Cimini presented the written report, a copy of which is on file. The fire and police training
244 divisions were cooperating to hold collaborative training. During his many years in the fire service he had
245 seen that cooperation between police and fire departments is usually tenuous. He was very pleased with
246 the cooperation between the town's two departments as it was a great working relationship. The fire
247 department staff was very enthusiastic about the joint training effort. There were 95 calls for service last
248 month; numbers were increasing as the season progresses. There was a \$20,000 vehicle fire loss during
249 the month. There were 24 fire prevention activities; 238 hours of career and volunteer training; 162
250 responses to emergency requests, and additional 18 hours of training for career personnel online. The
251 duty crews and volunteers built a training maze that is completed and in operation on the second floor of
252 the fire station. Funds to build the maze were donated by SAFER (Surfside Area Fire and Emergency
253 Responders). The maze will provide hands-on, sightless, entanglement and confined space training for
254 volunteers. One volunteer left due to a job transfer, but a new volunteer took the spot. Requests were
255 received from three other volunteers that are in the review committee. Last month Chief Cimini reported
256 that the department was awarded a thermal imaging camera from Firehouse Subs Foundation. That
257 camera was received and is now in service. It was already used at two different calls. Chief Cimini
258 thanked Mayor Samples for bringing up hurricane season. The senior program begins on June 27th at
259 4:00 p.m. and will be held monthly at the fire station. October 12th is the date for the fire department open
260 house to celebrate fire prevention; activities will be held for adults and children. SAFER will provide
261 lunch.

262 263 264 **C. Administrator's Report – Update on Current Events.**

265
266 Ms. Fellner reported that the striping on Ocean Boulevard was delayed because of rain. It is now
267 scheduled for Thursday night and into Friday, weather permitting. The Surfside Beach merchant
268 validation letters to explain the program and to provide contact information for the town and Lanier will be
269 sent tomorrow to all the local realty management companies. The parking brochures that explain all the
270 different choices for parking; what each machine takes; where they are located, and who may park in
271 particular locations should be completed by Friday. The brochures will be available at town hall; copies
272 will be distributed to all realty management companies; all hotels; the library, and any other establishment
273 that requests them. The brochure will also be available for download from the town website. The
274 temporary wooden walkway from the pier parking lot to the new ramp was completed. The deferment of
275 paving was acceptable to the Key Bridge Foundation. Once the lot is paved in October, photographs will
276 need to be sent to Key Bridge Foundation. In the meanwhile, pictures of the ADA (Americans with
277 Disabilities Act) pier improvements were sent to the foundation, and they are consequently informing the
278 Department of Justice (DOJ) that this matter has been resolved through mediation, and they request that

279 the case be closed. A letter to that effect should be forthcoming to the town from the DOJ, but may take
280 as long as six months. Once the letter is received, Town Council will be informed.

281
282 Mr. Stevens said he was at the pier the other day and he talked to a fellow whose family comes
283 here twice a year. The man is handicapped with diabetes, and is an amputee. Mr. Stevens said the man
284 told him to believe him that that ramp going up to the pier was something that made him feel very
285 welcome in this town. He comes here twice a year; once in June and once in February. Mr. Stevens said
286 that was a great thing the town has done and it brought tears to his eyes when he was talking with the
287 man. It is great that the town can now take care of the disabled so they can get up there on the pier and
288 enjoy themselves. Mr. Stevens said he was at public works today; he just happened to walk in there, and
289 he noticed there were a bunch of signs that said beach parking and pointed that way. He asked Mr. Adair
290 when those signs were received. Mr. Adair told him they were supposed to be put out, but for some
291 reason he was instructed not to put them out. Mr. Stevens wondered when those might be put out so
292 people have some guide ways to find to beach parking. Ms. Fellner said that Town Council directed her
293 to defer action on posting those signs until after the HGTC (Horry Georgetown Technical College)
294 presentation was made. She believed the presentation CDs were just distributed to councilmembers this
295 past week. The signs will be posted shortly, but council had reservations and wanted it brought back
296 after that presentation was made. Mr. Stevens said okay.

297
298 Mayor Samples recalled that council also wanted to know where those signs would be posted,
299 because the initial presentation was that there was a whole slew of streets on Highway 17 that were
300 mentioned and he thought there was some concern that it was overkill. Ms. Fellner said that was correct.

301
302 Mr. Stevens said for *point of information*, Mr. Adair told him that they would go on the main
303 streets that go straight to the beach, and there would be one (**) where 13th Avenue is.

304
305 Mayor Samples said he supported that, and asked if Town Council wanted to be advised of
306 locations prior to posting the signs. Several members said yes.

307
308 Ms. Kohlmann believed it was important that councilmembers be told where the signs will be
309 posted so that they are not put in and then staff be told to take them out, which would eliminate double
310 work.

311
312 Mayor Samples asked Ms. Fellner to advise council, and that would certainly facilitate the
313 installation of those signs. Ms. Fellner said the information would be presented at the next meeting.

314
315 **7. BUSINESS.**

316
317 **A. Proposed Tax Millage Increase, Mayor Pro Tempore Mabry.**

318
319 Ms. Mabry moved to suspend rules to allow discussion. Mr. Smith seconded. All voted in favor.
320 **MOTION CARRIED.**

321
322 Ms. Mabry said first of all raising taxes was a very difficult subject to talk about. Nobody in this
323 room wants it. Nobody on this council wants to implement it. Unfortunately, council's job is not to do just
324 what it wants to do. The council has to look at the town as a whole, and what is best for the future of our
325 town. She cited some facts saying that this is the citizens' town and they deserved to know the exact
326 financial health of the town, and to know it is broken. She shared why it was necessary to raise the
327 millage from 40 to 44.96 and she wanted to do it tonight. During the last 12 years, five new full time
328 employees were added. You know how the town has grown in 12 years. We have gone from 72 to 77.
329 In the last six years salaries have increased 12-percent. The administrator spoke with our insurance
330 carrier regarding the new health care system. The insurance company cannot give us any idea what our
331 new insurance is going to cost us. She could say from watching the regular news that cost is not going to
332 go down. We can look for a significant increase. She thought Ohio was pleased that their premiums
333 went up 88-percent. So, that gave everyone an idea. Fuel costs have doubled. In fact, everything that
334 the town does has significantly increased; everything the town does has gone up just like it has in the

335 resident's homes. To give an idea, during the last six years the town has spent more than it has taken in.
336 Loss in general fund was a 48-percent decrease, which equates to \$2 million. Loss in all other funds:
337 \$1.9 million. For 10 years our tax rate was 44 mils and for two years of that it was 55 mils. For the last
338 three years our tax rate was 40 mils, and that has left us about \$1 million just in those three years. We
339 have taken everything we had out of reserve funds. We are depleted. If council is unwilling to raise
340 taxes, cutting services that have already begun is the only option. To prevent this from happening, she
341 asked each person for a small increase. For example, if your home is worth \$300,000, your rate will
342 increase \$60 per year. Although it is not anything, it is less than what it would cost if the town cannot
343 provide the services necessary. You will find your insurance rates going up, because the town will have
344 to cut what is not raised. That is just a fact, which will affect your fire, your police, and everything else.
345 She wanted to address Ocean Boulevard, because it is an issue. The town has a CRS (Community
346 Rating System) rating that gives a 5-percent discount in the flood zone. If the town does not maintain its
347 ditches, swashes and everything else FEMA (Federal Emergency Management Agency) will take away
348 that 5-percent discount, and everyone will pay more for flood insurance. That is a fact. You are going to
349 pay extra; do you want to pay it \$60 a year, or do you want to pay more in your insurance premiums?
350 But, you will pay. It is just something that you will not be able to avoid. So, even if the town cuts
351 services, you will still have to pay something. She did not want anyone to think that when somebody says
352 I'll tell you what, we'll just do a 5-percent cut across the board; we are talking about \$8.8 million, are we
353 going to cut \$400,000? Are we going to have a fire department that only operates during the day? What
354 is our ISO (Insurance Service Organization) rating going to be then? How many are you going to take out
355 of the police department? How many are you going to take away from grounds? These are serious
356 questions, because somebody wants to say I didn't raise taxes. We have to. We are going to raise
357 taxes, whether we do it this year or next year, you are going to get a tax increase. But when we do not do
358 raise taxes, it costs the town, and it costs a lot in a lot of different ways. Again, this is very hard to talk
359 about, because nobody wants to be the one up here to say this, but it has to be said. We have a
360 tremendous cash flow problem. We have enough money, hopefully, to pay our bills until December. That
361 is it. Then we will start going in the hole. No more money coming in. We are done. We had to shift
362 money for weeks to pay May's bills. Just because we do not have the brackets [on the numbers] does
363 not mean that more money was received. It meant that we did a lot of shifting and taking out of one pot
364 and putting it in another pot to pay bills this month. We were \$154,000 in the hole. Ms. Mabry said she
365 just wanted everyone to know that no money came in; it was just that it was reworked and different pots
366 of money were put into the general fund so the bills could be paid. As a council, they are compelled to
367 make decisions that are best for the town as a whole. The financial health of the town is in bad shape. If
368 the council does not do something, if it does not do what it needs to do, and do the right thing, the things
369 that have been enjoyed about the town will be gone; not only for now, but for the future of the town. The
370 council has an obligation to make unpopular decisions, to say unpopular things. She would rather tell
371 everyone the truth than to tell a lie just so that the public would think she wanted to be a friend or be
372 popular. Ms. Mabry said she wanted to be honest, if this cannot be brought under control, the citizens
373 would feel it, and feel it the next time there is a meeting. Thank you.

374
375 Mr. Smith commented that the easiest thing this council could do is to pick the citizens pockets by
376 raising property taxes. Some councilmembers said they would diligently look at every penny spent, but
377 they missed the dollars going out the door. In this current fiscal year, over \$1 million in general fund
378 budget amendments have been spent; money that was not budgeted last June, but was added during the
379 course of this year. Just think, over \$1 million. Before this council raises taxes, the town needs to have a
380 lean year when the staff continues to promote efficiency improvements and wring out waste and
381 expenses. In public works, the staff needs to be concerned with excessive idling of pickup trucks and find
382 ways to be more cost efficient when rolling out trash carts and recycle carts. He thanked those that had
383 already begun turning off the ignition. No services will be impacted by not raising taxes for the new fiscal
384 year July 2013 to June 2014. The town will still have 75 valuable and dedicated employees; 27 in the
385 police department; 26 in public works; 7 in the fire department with 24 volunteer firemen. The other
386 departments are fully staffed. These were the people who do a superb job keeping our town safe and
387 clean. When the council was looking for ways to reduce expense, the first thing was to look at the biggest
388 expense. Almost 70-percent of our town budget goes to pay salary and benefits. The first painful cut was
389 no raises this year for employees. The town has been generous to employees in the past when the
390 economy was in a downturn, and now it has caught up with us. Then the council started nitpicking, even

391 to the point of eliminating the mayor's new computer. The town administrator has done a good job in
392 finding additional ways to save money. When the budget process started, there was a \$6,807 positive
393 difference between general fund revenue and the general fund expenses. Now after diligent work by the
394 staff and council, there is a \$285,504 positive difference between the general fund and general fund
395 expenses. In other words, we found ways to save \$285,000. The council continues to seek ways to save
396 money and encourages staff to continue to find efficiencies in their day-to-day work. The town does have
397 a cash management problem, because there are no excess funds to cover special circumstances or
398 emergencies. If these events occur, the Town Council will make the appropriate adjustments in the
399 budget to accommodate the special circumstances. In the future fiscal year, 2014-2015, Mr. Smith said
400 he saw the need to increase the property tax to keep up with inflation and salary and benefits. Since this
401 one item is almost 70-percent of the town budget, the residents with their property tax are paying less and
402 less of the cost to sustain general town services such as police, fire, streets, grounds and landscaping, et
403 cetera. But for Fiscal Year 2013-2014, Mr. Smith said he would vote no to any property tax increase.
404

405 Mayor Samples said Councilman Smith was right; the world would not end this year, if taxes were
406 not raised. Councilman Smith was accurate when he spoke about the work that Town Council has done
407 to create a surplus in the general fund. But what he did not tell, and the information is on the town
408 website, is that back in April for the town as a whole, not just the general fund, but the general, capital
409 projects, hospitality, accommodations tax, local accommodations, sanitation, and the pier funds, the staff
410 recommended budget for expenditures was \$8.644 million. Since that time, during the over two months
411 of work and effort on the part of this Town Council in looking for ways to cut spending, you would think the
412 number would have been reduced. But, no, the budget presented for adoption at this meeting instead of
413 \$8.644 million is actually \$8.8 million, \$200,000 more. Town Council was also going to vote to reduce the
414 stormwater millage from 5 mils to 1 mil as part of the budget; that means stormwater that collects roughly
415 \$300,000 dollars this year will collect about \$60,000 next year. Stormwater improvements are expensive.
416 The town will spend \$500,000 and zero out the capital projects fund to undertake two small stormwater
417 projects in the proposed budget that the town promised to complete. After that, collecting \$60,000 a year
418 will not be enough to accomplish very much. Mayor Samples emphasized the point that after two months
419 of cutting budgets, Town Council was voting to spend \$200,000 more than staff recommended across all
420 funds. He knew a lot of time and effort had been spent going through the budget. He knew that everyone
421 meant well, and everyone turned over rocks looking for wasteful spending. He asked what happen to
422 result in spending \$200,000 more than staff recommended. He said that Councilman Smith said he
423 would not raise taxes this year, but he would raise your taxes next year. Mayor Samples said please; do
424 not let the town have a storm. Please, do not let the town experience anything that interferes with
425 business in town. Please, let everything go right. One thing that Ms. Mabry did not mention about years
426 ago; former mayor Roy Hyman always said do not take ownership of Ocean Boulevard, because it is a
427 state road; the state is responsible for maintaining it. If there is a bridge failure where the boulevard
428 crosses the swash, the state will repair it. Guess what? Two or three years ago a past administrator and
429 perhaps some councilmembers approved the taking over of Ocean Boulevard, but you will not find any
430 reference to that action in the minutes, like many things that were done in the past. That is not how this
431 council operates now. That is why the information was presented. Town Council was showing the public
432 where the town finances are. The councilmembers were not playing games. If Town Council wanted to
433 make some serious cuts, tonight was the night to make motions to make those cuts. The cuts have to be
434 made before the end of June, but as yet, he had not heard any serious cuts. The largest cut that this
435 council took was to freeze pay. He believed that was a good move, because in years past that was not
436 done when it should have been done. Mayor Samples said he had to support what he thought was in the
437 best long term interest of the town. He was not prepared to have a storm and be broke in cash flow.
438

439 Ms. Kohlmann said Ms. Mabry was absolutely right; Town Council does have to say and do
440 unpopular things. Maybe instead of the council moving rocks, maybe they all needed to get together and
441 move some boulders. She personally was a little disappointed at what was brought in the past few weeks
442 for this budget. Not saying that any one person did more work than others, but she was saying she would
443 have liked to see more involvement, not only on council's part, but she thought staff, as well. She did not
444 see why Town Council had to sit on the dais and ask where all the money went, when there is so much
445 money, but there is no money. Nobody seems to know exactly where all that money went. Ms.
446 Kohlmann said she had teenagers. They get an allowance and if they spend it all, they do without. If she

447 increased their allowance and expected them to spend wisely, she did not think that would happen. They
448 would spend what they got. She firmly believed if taxes were being raised to increase revenue that the
449 money would just be spent. She said they were absolutely correct, there are things in the budget; she
450 had been told she picked at the bone; that she was nitpicking at the budget. She said that is what you do.
451 She does that with her home budget. That is how she saves for the future, and she was very
452 disappointed in the fact that all of them should have been picking at the bones and trying to get down to
453 where they should be. She said they have until June, so it was not that they had to do it tonight, so
454 maybe everybody needed to go home and lockdown and try to do more. Really be diligent, and try to do
455 more.

456
457 Mayor Samples asked the audience to maintain regular order, please.
458

459 Mr. Stevens said a trip of a thousand miles begins with one step. His late father-in-law told him it
460 was not what you make, but it is how much you kept, and that was the problem with the town. The town
461 had a lot of money in the past. Five, six, seven; he did not know how many millions of dollars, and it was
462 all gone. At least that is what everybody was saying. He agreed with Ms. Kohlmann, sometimes you
463 have to make little cuts; sometimes you have to make big cuts. But, it all added up. If you make enough
464 cuts, then you can have money left over. If you live beyond your means, you are going to be broke
465 forever, and that is what was done in the past. We have done things in this town, and you know it. You
466 have seen it before. We spent money for nothing. We built stuff and had to tear it down, because we did
467 not get permits. We had problems with a restaurant where we could have made a lot of money; ended up
468 with a little bit of money. So, we need to repeat the past. Hindsight is 20:20. What we have to do is look
469 towards the future, and we have to make bold cuts. We had a guest here, Howard Barnard, just recently
470 that gave us a check. Mr. Stevens said he remembered Mr. Barnard at a County Council meeting saying
471 they have to be bold when they were talking about doing bonding. Sometimes (**) being bold put the
472 county in \$431 million of debt, the largest debt in the State of South Carolina. He said Town Council has
473 to do something here, because the time is now. Go ahead and cut what can be and get these things
474 done. He thought this council could do that. All they had to do was look for the way to do it. They say
475 when there is a will there is a way. Thank you.

476
477 Mr. Johnson said he did not have a prepared statement, but did want to comment that even
478 before he began serving on Town Council, there were many administrators in the town. The council was
479 told several different stories. Every town administrator told the council a different story about how much
480 money the town had or did not have. That was not a negative on the current town administrator. She
481 was doing a very good job. But, it is a matter of what the town does or does not have. He believed the
482 council was finally at the point where it understood what the town does not have now. You can tell it is an
483 election year or an election is coming up. Nobody wants to raise taxes, if they are running for election.
484 As far as the budget amendments go, generally budget amendments pertain to emergency spending
485 when equipment breaks down, when emergencies come up. So, even though the council passed an over
486 \$1 million budget amendment that is generally where they come from. He did not have the breakdown,
487 and may be totally wrong, but that was his feeling. He sat in the council chambers for years and years
488 and watched Town Councils do the budget amendments. So he did not like the comment about the
489 budget amendment. The council has to do what it has to do; whether it is raise taxes or whether it is cut
490 spending, or whether it is both. He, for one, did not believe that council needed to cut, cut, cut. They do
491 not need to get in the weeds. He had not spoken to any resident nor had any resident come up to him
492 during the budget process and said they did not want taxes raised. Nobody! (*Speaker's emphasis.*)
493 Nobody in this room; nobody out on the street; so, it was not a matter of trying to please of everybody. It
494 was a matter of doing what was right and getting the town back on financial stability. Thank you.

495
496 Ms. Dodge said she guessed the people that didn't call Mr. Johnson called her.
497

498 Mayor Samples called for regular order.
499

500 Ms. Dodge said she did not know people who would stand up and say raise my taxes. She had
501 heard from people, well there might one or two; what she heard was you people need to do what I have to
502 do when I don't have the money and also what she does, she and her husband, when they don't have the

503 money. They live within their means. The town was not doing that. There are places we can cut. She
504 didn't care if it was called nitpicking. You can call it whatever you want. But she called it prudence and
505 doing the right thing, and the council needed to do the right thing. It was not going to be easy. She could
506 tell everyone that. There will be people who will criticize, and there will be people who will maybe be
507 happy. But they have to do something to help the town. The other thing that she wanted to say is that
508 they had not done complete due diligence. There are some things that should be addressed and it was
509 not nitpicking. It was something very important and they were going to have to do it. She said we have
510 too many employees for a small town. She did not like saying that, but that was what happened when
511 you just keep going and going and going and adding and adding and adding. It was very expensive to
512 pay for benefits. It was very expensive to pay salaries. She did not want to hurt anybody, but somebody
513 may have to be, or several some bodies [sic] may have to be, but the council had to do what it had to do.
514 Thank you.
515

516 Mayor Samples reminded members that at last year at this time one of the first things council did
517 was eliminate the deputy administrator position in an effort to reduce cost. That was \$100,000 including
518 fringe benefits. One of the things that this council did this year, he said as a reminder, was to consider
519 the health insurance plan in an effort to reduce costs to the town and still maintain quality health
520 insurance for the employees. That was also a sizable sum of money saved. There was no item too small
521 or too large that it should not be considered by the elected body. That is why the process began so early.
522 The documents included in tonight's package for consideration state June 7, 2013 Revision 7. They had
523 been going through it; they have been working at it. There has not been a cut that was considered that
524 the majority of council has not adopted, except for very a very small number. He asked if any member
525 had an item that was proposed for reduction by any member that was not voted on. The council was
526 meeting tonight; it met two weeks ago; the budget line items were discussed; items were cut, and he
527 suggested that members offer more cuts tonight. He kept hearing there were items that members wanted
528 to cut. It takes four votes; that is the way it was done. He heard Ms. Dodge mention the police
529 department and he merely asked if there was any interest on the part of any other councilmembers to
530 reduce the police department. Mayor Samples asked if any member wanted to speak up.
531

532 Ms. Mabry said no.
533

534 Ms. Kohlmann thought the council should focus on moving along with what they were trying to
535 accomplish here tonight. However...
536

537 Mayor Samples said the rules were suspended for purposes of discussion.
538

539 Ms. Kohlmann said okay, fine, that is all well and good, but talking about personnel in public was
540 not what they were supposed to do, because she could offer a big cut, too, and it would be personnel.
541 But, she could not do it in public, so council needed to schedule another meeting. Her whole point was it
542 was serious and some very good facts were brought forward tonight about the figures. How it became
543 like that she did not know. She would like to know how the budget was changed to increase the number
544 that he said of over \$200,000. More important than that, she thought now that the council was present
545 and everyone knew the information, they had to schedule another meeting and sit down and really talk
546 about some of these things that they had been thinking they did not have to address, because they do.
547

548 Mayor Samples asked for a date and he would be glad to call a special meeting. Ms. Kohlmann
549 said Friday. Mayor Samples asked what time. Mr. Smith said 11 o'clock. Mr. Johnson and Ms. Mabry
550 said no. Mr. Smith said next Tuesday at 6:30. Mayor Samples said next Tuesday at 6:30, is that fine?
551 Time is getting shorter as every week that goes by.
552

553 Ms. Kohlmann asked when the earliest was the meeting could be held. Mayor Samples said it
554 had to be advertised 24 hours. He asked about Thursday. Ms. Kohlmann said at night so that Mr.
555 Johnson could attend, if he wanted to. Mr. Johnson said absolutely. Ms. Kohlmann said that would be
556 fine. Mayor Samples asked if the meeting could begin at 6 o'clock. Mr. Smith preferred 6:30. Mayor
557 Samples said a special meeting would be called on Thursday, June 13th at 6:30 p.m.
558

559 Mayor Samples said he had served for 11 years on council and knew that in the past things did
560 not get budgeted and then they ultimately had to be funded. He explained that part of the reason the
561 numbers grew was council learned there is a capital improvement project that has to be done on the 3rd
562 Avenue South swash, because the erosion of the town's waterway is eating away underneath a
563 development. The lawyer indicated to the town that documentation exists from a development that
564 occurred back in the 90s stating it is the town's responsibility.
565

566 Ms. Herrmann asked for confirmation that a special meeting was called for Thursday, June 13th at
567 6:30 p.m. Mayor Samples asked what council wished to discuss at the called meeting. Mr. Smith said
568 municipal budget for 2013-2014. Ms. Kohlmann said municipal budget as well as executive session to
569 discuss personnel. Mayor Samples thought that was appropriate.
570

571 Mr. Smith commented since they mentioned running for re-election, he wanted to let everyone
572 know that he would be running and he would be raising taxes. He said, so, if you don't want a raise in
573 taxes, do not vote for him. But, if you want good management, vote for him. Property taxes affect two
574 funds: general funds and capital projects. In the general fund, they are spending less than the revenue;
575 \$285,000 less. That was a big improvement over what was submitted. The original budget submitted
576 only had \$6,000 over in the original budget that the Town Council received. He did not know about
577 information presented to the finance committee, there was no millage for stormwater. But Town Council
578 added 1 mil, so that there would be a continuing fund. There was a comment that they were spending
579 \$200,000 more that was previously talked about in some budget that he did not see.
580

581 Mayor Samples said Mr. Smith did see it.
582

583 Mr. Smith said okay, he saw it; a \$150,000 of that \$200,000 was for 3rd Avenue South. He would
584 have to find out what the other \$50,000 was for, because he did not know. When you look at the budget
585 final numbers, the capital projects fund showed expenditures of \$594,375. That is for stormwater
586 improvements on 3rd North, 16th North, and the problem at 3rd South. But, the revenue for next year is
587 only going to be \$60,000, because it only has 1 mil allocated. The money being spent is money collected
588 earlier; it was saved to use for these expenses. When you look at the budget, it looks like it is not in
589 balance, but the key fund you need to be concerned about is what is called the general fund, because
590 that was where your property taxes go, and there is a surplus in general fund. He reiterated there is a
591 surplus in general fund. The hospitality fund will be negative, but there was a fund balance. So, they are
592 going to spend some of the money that was already collected. He asked what was wrong with that. The
593 accommodations tax is positive. The local accommodations tax is even, because they always take
594 whatever is collected and put it into general funds. Mr. Smith said the point is the general fund has a
595 surplus. He knew it would be tight managing the cash, and he explained what budget amendments were
596 done last year: \$2,600 newsletter postage and printing; \$3,600 professional services to capture coyotes;
597 \$5,500 fire department turnout gear; \$25,100 claim paid for injured employee; \$12,000 increase in
598 workers compensation premium; \$6,700 health insurance; \$113,000 paving; \$101,000 for paving;
599 \$780,000 advanced to SCDOT (South Carolina Department of Transportation) to pave Business 17,
600 which a lot of people think is in good condition and doesn't need to be paved, and then \$57,000 to
601 refurbish council chambers because of mold and HVAC (heating, ventilation, and air conditioning)
602 problems. Those numbers added up to \$1,051,000; that was where the money went. If those expenses
603 had not occurred, especially the \$780 thousand, the town would have cash. Thank you.
604

605 Ms. Mabry wanted to finish up, because she was talking about the millage increase. Yes, the
606 town needed to be prudent, but asked whether anyone want the look and the feel of the town to change.
607 Clearly, there were people on the council that did; they feel that if they get rid of people in the police
608 department that was fine. If they get rid of people in town that provide our services, that was fine. She
609 liked the fact that the town was manicured. She liked the fact that events were held here. She like the
610 fact that we have a town that looks like it does, that feels like it does, that we enjoy every day. She did
611 not want that to change. The people that sent her email messages did not want their services cut. They
612 did not want anything different than what they have today. They do not want to come and see grass
613 growing up everywhere. If we left the medians on Highway 17 to SCDOT, they would be cut three times
614 a year. Town staff cuts those medians to make them look nice. The town takes its street sweeper

615 around and makes sure that everything is edged and looks nice. Staff does that. The town has the
616 amenities on Ocean Boulevard; the town pays for that. The town pays for that so that the people that
617 have rental property have something to offer their renters when they come here. So, if they want to save
618 the few dollars, and basically that will be how much it is in comparison to what they lose, that is not a
619 trade-off. We want visitors here. They pay our taxes. We are asking \$20 for \$100,000 of home value.
620 You hear them up here saying oh, we are going to do it next year. Well, that is going to cost you
621 \$296,000, because we waited one year. That was a lot of money to her. That was a lot of money to the
622 citizens. So, to wait for a year to do what she was pleading with the council to do tonight; she did not
623 understand and would never understand. The people that she had talked to would not understand it
624 either. She was going to make a motion that the town council adopt a millage of 4.96 mils.

625
626 Mayor Samples said rules were still suspended for discussion.

627
628 Ms. Kohlmann moved to reconvene regular session. Mr. Stevens said he had a comment.
629 Mayor Samples said there was a motion on the floor, and asked if Ms. Kohlmann would withdraw the
630 motion. Ms. Kohlmann withdrew the motion.

631
632 Mr. Stevens told Ms. Mabry that he respected her opinion, but there were some people here, for
633 example, Mr. George Cartwright that lives on the corner of 6th Avenue and Lakeside, who lives on a fixed
634 income. He went to Mr. Cartwright's house today. Mr. Cartwright said he understood there was talk
635 about raising taxes. Mr. Stevens told him yes and asked what he thought about that. Mr. Cartwright said
636 he had plenty of services; just don't raise his taxes. Mr. Stevens said he wanted to be specific on 4/19
637 [sic] they had \$8,644,382, on 6/7 [sic] staff came back with \$8,831,303, so somewhere or another it was
638 not over \$200,000; it was actually \$186,921 that the budget increased since April; just to give that
639 information. He said to Ms. Kohlmann that she could make her motion now.

640
641 Ms. Kohlmann moved to return to regular session. Mr. Johnson seconded. All voted in favor.
642 **MOTION CARRIED.**

643
644 Ms. Mabry moved to adopt a millage of 44.96 for Fiscal Year 2013-2014. Mr. Johnson seconded.
645 Mayor Samples, Mayor Pro Tempore Mabry, and Councilmember Johnson voted in favor. Councilmembers
646 Dodge, Kohlmann, Smith and Stevens voted against. **MOTION FAILED.**

647
648 **B. Fiscal Year 2013-2014 Municipal Budget, Councilmember Smith.**

649
650 Mr. Smith believed it was important as the new fiscal year begins that council establish the
651 maximum number of employees allowed. He wanted the administrator to be free to replace people, but
652 did not want her to exceed the positions that she had indicated the town currently had.

653
654 Mr. Smith moved that for Fiscal Year 2013-2014 the number of permanent full time positions not
655 exceed 75, and the number of permanent part time positions not exceed 5, and that the number of
656 seasonal part time positions not exceed 6. Mr. Stevens seconded.

657
658 Mayor Samples asked for clarification, whether this was a reduction or was it the current level.

659
660 Mr. Smith said this was the current level.

661
662 Mayor Samples said this was to freeze the number of positions as is, and asked Ms. Fellner if
663 those were the correct numbers. Ms. Fellner indicated the numbers were correct.

664
665 Mayor Pro Tempore Mabry and Councilmembers Johnson, Kohlmann, Smith and Stevens voted
666 in favor. Mayor Samples and Councilmember Dodge voted against. **MOTION CARRIED.**

667
668 Mr. Smith moved to amend the 2013-2014 budget to delete \$120,000 for a sign in the pier fund.
669 Ms. Dodge seconded.

670

671 Mayor Samples asked for an explanation of the item. Ms. Fellner asked Ms. King to explain how
672 that did not affect anything; it turns around and becomes an asset. Ms. King said in the pier fund the sign
673 would not be an expense. It would be a cash flow out and the sign would become an asset that goes on
674 the books, so it would not reduce the expenditure numbers that were in front of council in any way.
675 Mayor Samples asked if it would reduce the balance in the pier fund. Ms. King said the information
676 council has is revenue and expenditures and it will not change those numbers.
677

678 Mr. Smith said this would be \$120,000 cash spent that did not need to be spent.
679

680 Mayor Samples understood Ms. King's explanation from an accounting standpoint that it would
681 not affect the budget, per se. As Councilman Smith said it would be \$120,000 that would not be spent, so
682 his question was if that money was not spent, how did that affect the pier and the pier area; what were the
683 plans? Ms. Fellner said the plans were to put signage there and it was for the businesses to have signs;
684 to have a way finding signs with a map, and to put something in front of the planter that currently just has
685 plants in it. Mayor Samples said for \$120,000 he presumed that was a digital sign, but asked if it was a
686 55-foot tall sign, which was the maximum height limit in the district. Ms. Fellner said no, when the HGTC
687 first meeting occurred and the sign people were there, that amount was their best estimate for what it
688 would cost to design, fabricate and install signage at the pier. Mayor Samples asked if it affected signage
689 beyond the pier area. Ms. Fellner did not believe it did, nor did it include welcome signs at either end of
690 town.
691

692 All members voted in favor. **MOTION CARRIED.**
693

694 Mr. Smith referred to page 57 in the budget book, under hospitality, non-departmental grounds
695 landscaping and moved to amend the budget for 2013-2014 to reduce the amount from \$10,000 to
696 \$5,000 for the improvements at Magnolia Lake at 16th Avenue North. Mr. Stevens seconded.
697

698 Mr. Smith explained the reason for specifying improvements at Magnolia Lake and 16th Avenue
699 North and not allowing any money for Cedar at Dogwood Lake and Lake Elizabeth is the residents in that
700 area, including resident Al Beck, said that they do not want any improvements that would attract tourists.
701 They have enough people already using that area for fishing and things like that and they would like to
702 keep the number of people there at a minimum. It is a traffic hazard, because there are two curves
703 involved there, and so that is why he wanted to reduce the amount, just so it is enough for the
704 improvement at Magnolia Lake.
705

706 Mr. Stevens asked if he was correct in understanding that Mr. Smith was eliminating the \$10,000
707 improvements earmarked for Cedar Drive.
708

709 Mr. Smith said \$10,000 total was allocated; approximately \$5,000 for Cedar and \$5,000 for the
710 Magnolia Lake area. He was reducing it down to \$5,000 just for Magnolia Lake at 16th Avenue North
711 improvements. The reason is the residents around Cedar Drive did not want any major improvements
712 that would attract people.
713

714 Mayor Samples said there was a discussion originally that had a much larger number that was
715 reduced to \$10,000 a piece. He noted that some landscaping efforts have already occurred at 16th
716 Avenue North over the last week or so. He hoped those bushes were being watered, because they
717 appeared to be wilting.
718

719 Councilmembers Dodge, Johnson, Kohlmann, Smith and Stevens voted in favor. Mayor Samples
720 and Mayor Pro Tempore Mabry voted against. **MOTION CARRIED.**
721

722 Mr. Smith referred to page 25 and said he wanted to increase revenue just a small amount.
723 Under animal licenses to help cover the cost of operating the dog park, he moved to amend the 2013-
724 2014 budget to increase the fee for non-resident use of the dog park to \$30 for the first dog
725

726 Mayor Samples interrupted and asked if a fee increase required a public hearing before it is
727 adopted. Ms. Fellner said yes; 15 days notice is required before the public hearing. Mayor Samples said
728 the attorney had advised them that when fees are increased that a public hearing must be held, so if Mr.
729 Smith would like to include that in the motion, that could be done.

730
731 Mr. Smith moved to amend 2013-2014 budget to increase the fee for non-resident use of the dog
732 park to \$30 for the first dog and \$15 for each additional dog, and the total revenue for animal license fees
733 increase to \$3,000, and that we have a public hearing as soon as possible.

734
735 Mayor Samples asked if that netted an additional \$1,000.

736
737 Mr. Smith said that was a low estimate. Currently there are 112 non-resident dogs. Assuming
738 that half of them would that would leave 50 dogs at the increased amount making a total of \$1,000. He
739 expects it would be more.

740
741 Mayor Samples said there was a motion and asked if there was a second.

742
743 Ms. Dodge seconded.

744
745 Ms. Kohlmann asked for information from the administrator that she believed could be sent via
746 email to everybody, because she was not sure if you were a resident now what the rules were. She has a
747 dog and it has a dog license, but she does not take her dog to the dog park. If she did, would she have to
748 have an additional pass, or is it just the one license that you need as a resident. Ms. Fellner said there is
749 a small fee attached to it, and the rabies shot record has to be produced. Ms. Kohlmann said that was
750 what she brought now to get the regular dog license. She asked if is there an additional fee if she wanted
751 to use the dog park. Ms. Fellner did not know for certain, but she would check and let councilmembers
752 know.

753
754 Mayor Samples called for regular order, please.

755
756 Ms. Kohlmann noticed there was upkeep for the dog park, and the dog bags and all, and it was
757 costly. She had done some research online about dog park fees in other places, so she did not think this
758 was unreasonable. She would also like to know that other thing [sic.]

759
760 Mr. Stevens recently talked to his wife about getting another dog so he called up the town and
761 was told it is \$10. You can register your dog for \$10 and you can use the dog park, but unfortunately, you
762 have do have to pay taxes, so you do pay twice.

763
764 Mayor Samples said well said. Mr. Smith said the vote needed to be taken. All members voted
765 in favor. **MOTION CARRIED.**

766
767 Ms. Fellner asked if the fee was \$30 for non-residents for the first dog, and what the cost would
768 be for the second dog. Mr. Smith said \$15 for the second dog.

769
770 Mr. Smith said much discussion had been heard about a cash flow problem.

771
772 Mayor Samples called for regular order, please.

773
774 Mr. Smith said the town needs cash and does not have it. One of the biggest things that the
775 council did this year was to send SCDOT \$780,000. He believed the town should ask for that money
776 back. Mr. Smith moved to direct the town administrator to prepare a letter to SCDOT and request a
777 refund of the \$780,000 advance for Business 17 repair. The letter will be signed by the councilmembers
778 who vote for this motion if it passes, and Rod Smith will work with the administrator to prepare the letter.
779 Ms. Dodge seconded, and said she hopes that it would work.

780

781 Ms. Mabry said everyone on the dais voted to have the highway repaved. The reason they did so
782 was because this was a matching grant. The town probably could not ever afford to pave it without
783 matching grant funds. So all of the members did agree; even to the extent that Mr. Mayor actually went
784 from house to house to get the letter signed by every member, because they did not want to miss the
785 opportunity. Now all of a sudden, we are going to do away with that opportunity. This is not the time to
786 stop branding our town. This is not the time to make it less than what it can be. This is the time we need
787 to beef it up. This is our one shot, so she would have to say that, no, you know, no. We need this. We
788 need to do all we can to make people want to come here.
789

790 Ms. Dodge said that she wanted to correct Ms. Mabry, because did not vote on that. She was out
791 of town at the time, and that was just to set the record straight.
792

793 Ms. Kohlmann said at the time that that was done, and she could only speak for herself; she was
794 newly elected to council. If she had to go back and do it again, she would not do it, but she did, and she
795 was owning it. She saw someone shaking their head and said they could shake it all they want. She said
796 she was telling them the truth. It was a mistake on her part. If the town has that much of a cash flow
797 problem, then they need to get the money back. If you think about it, 17 is a state road. You were just
798 talking about Ocean Boulevard. We shouldn't have taken it over from the state. But, here we are. We
799 are going to give the state \$780,000. They just paved 544. Who paid for that? Did anybody chip in?
800 She just thought at this time, with what was happening in town, they should get the administrator to ask
801 for the money back.
802

803 Mr. Stevens said he also remembered the day he signed that document, and in hindsight, if he
804 had to do it over again he would not do it. He was installing a satellite on Vista Drive in Garden City when
805 he brought it to him and he signed it. He said he found out later on, they were tarred and feathered by
806 *The Myrtle Beach Herald*, for violating Freedom of Information. He said he did not know he was breaking
807 the law, but he knew it now. It also violated the *Lambries* decision. So, enacting it was, in his opinion,
808 illegal. In fact, he was led to believe the town was in good financial shape. He was ready to send the
809 letter and ask for the money back.
810

811 Mayor Samples said \$780,000 to match federal funds in competitive grant to repave in and of
812 itself is not the goal. The goal is, in his opinion, was to get the frontage roads updated. The town is not
813 an island. Like it or not, the town relies on South Carolina Department of Transportation (SCDOT) to do
814 their job and to maintain roads and to upgrade their roads. But, surely all of the councilmembers and
815 probably many of the public present are well aware that SCDOT does not have the money. It is on their
816 website. They repave what are called primary roads every 32 years. That is a fact; they do not run from
817 it. If anybody had an illusion or delusion that somehow the town would eliminate some of the crossovers
818 that are on Highway 17 or the frontage road without playing ball with SCDOT they are dreaming. He did
819 not have a problem with council rescinding the action to partner with the state. That would, in fact,
820 temporarily create more cash. But, in the long run, it was a mistake. Highway 17 looks terrible in relation
821 to many other parts of the Grand Strand. The town does survive on tourism dollars. You have heard
822 residents make public comments that say when their family comes to town they do not spend their dollars
823 in town. They leave town; they go somewhere nicer. It is a fact. It is a strategy. Is it guaranteed to
824 work? No, there are no guarantees in life. Do you thing the feds will come in? Do you think the state will
825 come in? It is not going to happen. Until the town steps up and takes the position of the primary
826 stakeholder for that 2.1 mile road you should not expect any improvements. It is partnerships today, and
827 in answer to the question on 544, it turns out that is a County Transportation Committee decision with "big
828 dogs" getting it done. He asked if anyone on the dais was a big dog; he thought not, and said we are
829 small town. We love what we have, but we do have to take advantage of opportunities. He encouraged
830 members to think long and hard before asking SCDOT to cancel the project on the town's behalf. Mayor
831 Samples said for the record, "Town Council voted subsequent to the signing of the initial resolution in
832 public hearing in this chamber with a representative from South Caroling DOT being present, who made
833 the presentation. So not only, we had, it wasn't one bite of the apple, we had a couple of bites at the
834 apple, if people wanted to change their vote, and Ms. Dodge, you were here that night. Thank you."
835

836 Councilmembers Dodge, Kohlmann, Smith and Stevens voted in favor. Mayor Samples, Mayor
837 Pro Tempore Mabry, and Councilmember Johnson voted against. **MOTION CARRIED.**
838

839 Ms. Kohlmann referred to page 69 and moved to reduce travel and training from \$17,200 to
840 \$14,500. Ms. Dodge seconded. Ms. Kohlmann explained that two councilmembers were not attending
841 the summer Municipal Association conference, so the budgeted amount could be reduced by that
842 amount. All voted in favor. **MOTION CARRIED.**
843

844 Ms. Kohlmann referred to page 165, there is a line item number 380 for repairs and maintenance
845 in the amount of \$7,500 listed twice, and asked if that was an error. Ms. Fellner said she was talking
846 about the detail pages; there is only one line item in the actual budget. Ms. Kohlmann said okay, she just
847 wanted to be sure it was not duplication. She asked what the lighting was for and if the sea turtle
848 certification had to be on just the ocean side. Ms. Fellner said it was to replace different lights that are
849 expensive to replace, and lighting for the pier ramp, because it is so dark. She was not sure if sea turtle
850 certification was necessary on the west side of the pier, but it is required on the east side.
851

852 Ms. Kohlmann referred to page 42, and said there was a \$5,000 fence budgeted at Huckabee
853 Complex. She believed it was field #3 outfield fence. Ms. Ellis said that was correct. Ms. Kohlmann said
854 she walked the entire complex and could not find where any fence needed to be replaced. Ms. Kohlmann
855 moved to delete \$5,000 for the fence. Ms. Dodge seconded.
856

857 Mr. Stevens said he also visited the complex before Ms. Kohlmann and looked at it. He talked to
858 Mr. Adair who directed him to the fence. Mr. Stevens looked at it and did not see any problem with it. Mr.
859 Adair told him it was rusted and falling down, and had sharp edges on it. Mr. Stevens did not see
860 anything, so he did not see any sense spending \$5,000 to replace a perfectly good fence.
861

862 All voted in favor. **MOTION CARRIED.**
863

864 Mayor Samples reminded members the business meeting was under the *Rules*. Members should
865 state a motion or move to suspend the rules to allow discussion.
866

867 Ms. Kohlmann moved to suspend the rules to allow discussion. Mr. Smith seconded. All voted in
868 favor. **MOTION CARRIED.**
869

870 Ms. Kohlmann said on page 113 there is an item in the amount of \$7,675 for Tree City. She
871 asked if the town was paying to be designated a Tree City. Ms. Fellner said this item came up repeatedly
872 and she was not sure why. The town does not pay that money. The town is required to have money
873 dedicated to trees and it has to be shown as a line item in the budget to be designated a tree city. There
874 is money budgeted every year to spend on trees. Ms. Kohlmann said then deleting that item would not
875 do anything, because that money is not being sent someplace else. Ms. Fellner said the money is not
876 sent elsewhere; it sits in that line item to make the town eligible to be a Tree City. Ms. Kohlmann was
877 under the impression that money went to a foundation somewhere; she has no problem with the line item.
878

879 Ms. Kohlmann referred to page 146 and asked where the swings were that were being replaced
880 and what equipment would be purchased for the dog park. Ms. Fellner said she would have to ask Mr.
881 Adair. They had discussed the item, but she did not recall the conversation.
882

883 Ms. Kohlmann said the phone bills had been discussed before, but it was not sitting well with her.
884 She wanted to hear suggestions from other councilmembers about the phone bills. She understood the
885 police and fire departments; she was not looking to hack anybody's phone line down. But, \$25,850 for
886 long distance in this day and age did not sit well with her. She asked if there was a possibility the town
887 could contact HTC to do a usage audit to see if there was a better program. She said the amount just
888 seemed awfully high to her. Ms. Fellner asked which page she referred to. Ms. Kohlmann did not have
889 the page number in her notes, but asked her to look at page 98; planning, building, and zoning has two
890 cell phones at \$2,500; that was a different item. She was talking land lines only, but that page was noted
891 because of the cell phones.

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Mayor Samples asked if Ms. Kohlmann would like to discuss this further during the meeting on Thursday.

Ms. Kohlmann said she was just asking if the administrator would know. Ms. Kohlmann did not know whether the town could change the phone plan. She was not making a motion; she was asking if that was an option. Ms. Kohlmann said she would email the information to the administrator and bring it back at the Thursday meeting. Ms. Fellner was unsure what Ms. Kohlmann was discussing; mobile phones or land lines or both. Ms. Kohlmann said she was talking about land lines. When she added all the land lines up from the various budgets it amounted to \$25,850 for HTC listed as long distance. She was asking if the town could do something other than that. Ms. Fellner said she would investigate that and bring it back to council.

Mr. Stevens said he went by public works today and he looked at all the equipment. He noticed that there is a \$25,000 tractor in the budget. There are currently two tractors; one to do the beach raking on the north end from the pier, and the other one to do the beach raking from the south end to the pier. The town also has a tractor with a weight offset and a long mowing arm to cut the ditches, and trim trees and bushes. There is another tractor that was sitting by itself, and another tractor still under a service warranty. There are five tractors to service the town. The budget includes \$25,000 to get a sixth tractor. In his opinion, this was overkill. The town has a tractor for every four-tenths of a mile in town. In his opinion, this was an unneeded expense. Mr. Stevens moved to defer the expenditure.

Mayor Samples said the council is under suspended rules for discussion.

Mr. Smith asked Ms. Fellner is this was a replacement tractor. Ms. Fellner said yes, sir. Mr. Smith said the tractors are on a replacement schedule. He believed it was important to stay with the schedule, because the tractors on the beach are exposed to all that saltwater and deteriorate. It is good to replace them before they become worthless, otherwise, the town will not get anything for them when they try to sell them. He reiterated that he liked the idea of staying on the replacement schedule for these tractors. Therefore, he opposed any motion to try to delete that expenditure.

Ms. Mabry asked if accommodations tax was paying for one of the tractors. Ms. King said this would come out of capital replacement.

Ms. Kohlmann asked if a tractor would be sold when the new one is purchased. Ms. Fellner said the oldest worst condition tractor is the one usually sold or there are times when the tractor is in such bad shape that it is cannibalized for parts to use on the other tractors.

Ms. Smith said in any case, it would be a replacement. Ms. Fellner said yes, sir.

Mr. Stevens said that was not the story he heard from Mr. Adair. Mr. Stevens said he used to work on a farm and drive a tractor. In his opinion, all the tractors at public works look like they are in tip top shape.

Mayor Samples asked Ms. Fellner to ask Mr. Adair to attend the Thursday meeting.

Ms. Dodge asked if further cuts were being made, as she had a few pages, now or at another time.

Mayor Samples said if a motion would be made to reconvene regular sessions, motions would be appropriate.

Mr. Smith moved to reconvene regular session. Ms. Mabry seconded. All voted in favor.
MOTION CARRIED.

Mayor Samples reminded members to state their desired reduction in the form of a motion.

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Ms. Dodge referred to the court and moved to cut one position, the assistant clerk of court.

Ms. Kohlmann, Mr. Johnson and Mayor Pro Tem Mabry called *point of order*. Ms. Kohlmann said this is a personnel issue.

Ms. Dodge said beg your pardon; she was just going through her list, which she would forego for now. Ms. Dodge withdrew the motion.

Mr. Stevens referred to page 39, planning building and zoning furniture, fixtures and equipment, and moved to delete \$1,200. Ms. Dodge seconded.

Ms. Morris explained that money was budgeted to replace the desk for the building official. The desk he currently has is very narrow and old. When the building official meets with contractors they must use the conference room, because the plans are too large to be put on the desk. Staff could continue to use the conference room.

Councilmembers Dodge and Stevens voted in favor. Mayor Samples, Mayor Pro Tempore Mabry, and Councilmembers Johnson, Kohlmann and Smith voted against. **MOTION FAILED.**

Ms. Dodge said Mr. Kawa who lives on 3rd Avenue North had been really patient for a number of years waiting to get the stormwater runoff fixed, so she referred to page 16 and moved that there is no transfer of stormwater money into the general fund, and that money be spent to fix the problems at 3rd Avenue North.

Mayor Samples said the motion dies for lack of a second.

Ms. Dodge referred to page 19, and moved to freeze all staff raises for one year.

Mayor Samples said that action had already been approved.

Ms. Dodge referred to page 19, and moved to delete the police sign in the amount of \$14,000.

Mayor Samples said that had already been deleted.

Ms. Dodge said she would keep going, because there had been so many deletions that she had no clue what was deleted and what should still be in the budget. Ms. Dodge referred to page 27 and moved to institute an immediate hiring freeze.

Mayor Samples said that action had already been taken.

Ms. Dodge referred to page 26 and moved to defer any street paving for two years.

Mayor Samples said the motion dies for lack of a second.

Ms. Dodge referred to page 26 and moved that no bike ways be installed for two years.

Mayor Samples asked if she could point out the page number and line item, as he did not recall any monies for bike ways.

Ms. Dodge said she could not. She had written her notes in a hurry.

Mayor Samples said the motion dies for lack of a second.

Ms. Dodge said until she could get her notes in order, she relinquished the floor.

1004 Mayor Samples said if other members had comments, perhaps the council would not have to
1005 meet on Thursday, but council was willing to be here Thursday.
1006

1007 Ms. Dodge said that would be a good thing; she was tired of it.
1008

1009 **C. First Reading Ordinance #13-0749 to adopt FY2013-2014 Tax Millage Rate,**
1010 **Administrator Fellner.**
1011

1012 Ms. Fellner explained that this ordinance was to set the millage rate for the next fiscal year at 40
1013 mils.
1014

1015 Mr. Smith moved to adopt first reading of Ordinance #13-0749. Ms. Stevens seconded.
1016

1017 Mayor Samples asked for clarification purposes, if next year is reassessment, whether that had
1018 any impact on changing the millage next year. Ms. Fellner said it would be a lot more complicated,
1019 because the town would not even receive numbers from the county until June right before the budget had
1020 to be adopted. Mayor Samples asked if the budget still had to be adopted if the numbers were not
1021 received until July. Ms. Fellner said yes; it made it more confusing, but that was not to say that it could
1022 not be done. Mayor Samples said he understood. He restated his position that no one likes to be the
1023 bearer of bad news, but the truth of the matter was the public could see what they were doing and it
1024 needed to be done. They need to be diligent, and to be able to assure town residents that the town is not
1025 wasting money, but he had served on council long enough to know that what appears to be waste on one
1026 person's part is something extremely important to someone else. For example, last year there were
1027 stormwater projects in the budget. Those very same stormwater projects are currently in this year's
1028 budget. Last year he did not feel they were necessary, and he still had some doubts about certain
1029 portions of the projects in this budget. Mayor Samples said that was just one person's opinion, and it was
1030 only collectively that the town government, the local elected officials, made decisions and they hoped they
1031 made decisions that were in the longer, best interest of the town where we all love or like to live with our
1032 families and friends. Mayor Samples said he would not support 40 mils, because he did not believe it
1033 was in the best interest of the town. He did believe that he had an obligation, whether he was right or
1034 wrong, to at least do what former mayor Dick Johnson told him, which is to vote his conscience. He
1035 thought it would be misleading to pretend that the town can continue to fund the town services at the
1036 same level that has been done for three or four years, when in past years the economy was a lot
1037 different.
1038

1039 Ms. Mabry believed she had made her position perfectly clear, and said that the cost of taking
1040 care of the town had gone up tremendously in six years. It had tripled in some areas during the last ten
1041 years. Even though there are councilmembers saying the millage would be raised next year, she asked
1042 why council would choose to wait. It might be 2015 before the millage is raised and the town would have
1043 lost almost \$600,000. The town cannot afford it; it was not a luxury. She was just trying to keep up with
1044 the times, because residents had been paying 44 mils and were perfectly happy to do so for ten years,
1045 except for the two years the rate was 55 mils. Now, the rate had been 40 mils for three years and all of
1046 sudden it was like that had been going on forever and it has cost the town almost a \$1 million. The town
1047 continues to go into the hole. She could not support 40 mils and would not.
1048

1049 Councilmembers Dodge, Johnson, Kohlmann, Smith, and Stevens voted in favor. Mayor
1050 Samples and Mayor Pro Tempore Mabry voted against. **MOTION CARRIED.**
1051

1052 **D. First Reading Ordinance #13-0750 to adopt FY2013-2014 Municipal Budget.**
1053

1054 Mr. Smith moved to adopted first reading of Ordinance #13-0750 to adopt Fiscal Year 2013-2014
1055 Municipal Budget as amended. Mr. Stevens seconded.
1056

1057 Mr. Johnson pointed out that this only first reading and changes could be made between now and
1058 second reading.
1059

1060 All members voted in favor. **MOTION CARRIED.**

1061

1062 **E. First Reading Ordinance #13-0-741 to add §17-417 Docks on Town Lakes, Planning**
1063 **Director Morris.**

1064

1065 Ms. Morris presented the ordinance explaining that the planning commission worked diligently for
1066 several months to develop an ordinance that would address docks on town-owned lakes. There were
1067 several concerns that were addressed with the appropriate professionals to ascertain answers, and the
1068 ordinance was drafted for recommendation to Town Council. Liability was one of the planning
1069 commission's main concerns. Legal counsel recommended that not only should the property owner be
1070 required to execute a hold harmless agreement, but also to provide a \$1 million liability insurance policy
1071 naming the town as an insured, both of which are included in the ordinance. There was a concern about
1072 materials. Some planning commission members wanted to insure that the waters would not collect any
1073 additional contaminants. Mr. Adair helped to identify appropriate materials. Safety was an issue; it was
1074 discussed with the building official. He recommended, and it was included in the ordinance that a gate be
1075 required at the entrance to the dock that would prohibit children from going on the dock without adult
1076 supervision. There were concerns where the lakes are narrow, for instance Cherry Lake is only 55-feet
1077 wide on one end. At the recommendation of the public works director, a distance of 75-feet is required
1078 between the two banks for docks to be constructed. This would allow room for proper lake maintenance.
1079 Ms. Morris noted a scrivener's error in paragraph d. subparagraph f. explaining that (CCR) should state
1080 (CCA.)

1081

1082 Mr. Smith moved to adopt first reading of Ordinance #13-0751 to add Section 17-417 Docks on
1083 Town Lakes. Mr. Stevens seconded.

1084

1085 Mr. Smith moved to amend Section 17-417 Docks, the second line insert the words and floating
1086 docks, so that the sentence reads private fixed and floating docks. In paragraph d, materials shall be
1087 under d. in that paragraph, delete the words repairs to existing dock, the new sentence would read
1088 exterior flotation materials shall be one piece no seam. On the second page about a quarter page from
1089 the top, delete the line that says new floating docks shall not be permitted. Now add these words at that
1090 position, when the town needs to dredge a lake, the property owners of floating docks will be responsible
1091 for removing their docks at their expense, if required. If a storm washes away or destroys the dock, the
1092 property owner of the dock will have to reapply for a dock permit. However, property owners at their own
1093 expense may remove floating docks from the lake and store them before a storm and put the dock back
1094 after the storm has left with no additional permit. Mr. Stevens seconded.

1095

1096 Mayor Samples said there appeared to be concern about floating docks. Ms. Morris said yes, the
1097 issue paper states that the planning commission did not recommend allowing floating docks. They were
1098 concerned about damage that may be caused by hurricanes, not only to the docks, but surrounding
1099 properties. Staff did present the option of requiring the property owners to take the docks in before storm
1100 events. The planning commission said that some owners would comply, but that many owners would be
1101 out of town and not available to remove their docks resulting in property damage to their dock or the
1102 docks would break away and damage other docks and private property that may result in the town being
1103 responsible. Mayor Samples said problems may be caused at a weir when they are trying to drain the
1104 town. Ms. Morris said absolutely. Mayor Samples said a \$1 million liability sounded like a lot of money,
1105 but he asked if it was sufficient. Ms. Morris said that is the amount required for the encroachment permits
1106 for the sidewalk cafes; the town attorney recommended that amount. Mayor Samples said to be more
1107 specific, \$1 million liability policy for a fixed dock is one thing, but for a floating dock, which is designed to
1108 be free-moving, given the inclement weather that the town can experience, he asked Councilmember
1109 Smith if it would be feasible to increase the general liability policy requirement on a floating dock.

1110

1111 Mr. Smith thought \$1 million was sufficient.

1112

1113 Mayor Samples said any amount over and above that would be paid by somebody. Since the
1114 town is allowing these docks to be built; there is a similar situation, for example around 3rd Avenue South,
1115 in a wash that the town allowed a development to be built and consequently the town is liable for allowing

1116 that to be built. Docks are great things, but he was just wondering if they were protecting themselves
1117 enough, and frankly, he did not believe they were.

1118
1119 Ms. Kohlmann asked floating docks already existed on the town lakes. Ms. Morris said yes. Ms.
1120 Kohlmann said but there has not been a big storm in many years; the mayor was talking about when
1121 there is a major storm.

1122
1123 Mayor Samples said the history is that eight to ten years ago was when the town started taking
1124 much more water from across the highway in the county area into Lake Elizabeth and Lake Dogwood.
1125 The water flow has increased significantly since the last big storm.

1126
1127 Ms. Kohlmann asked if any damage had ever been done by a floating dock in the town. Ms.
1128 Morris said no, but they are a limited number. Ms. Kohlmann said if a storm hits there is going to be
1129 damage everywhere. It did not matter if there was a floating dock or not. In a normal, everyday, for
1130 years, had there ever been any damage by a floating dock that anyone was aware of. Ms. Morris said not
1131 to her knowledge, but she asked councilmembers to keep in mind they are a very limited number of
1132 floating docks at this time. If docks are allowed, there are potentially 160-plus properties on which docks
1133 could be constructed. That was not to say that every owner would build a dock, but there may be a great
1134 deal of them that would choose to build floating docks. If there a storm, there is a much higher chance of
1135 damage, because of the increased volume.

1136
1137 Councilmembers Dodge, Kohlmann, Smith and Johnson voted in favor to amend. Mayor
1138 Samples, Mayor Pro Tempore Mabry, and Councilmember Johnson voted against the amendment.
1139 **MOTION TO AMEND CARRIED.**

1140
1141 Mr. Johnson referred to paragraph e. no lighting shall be permitted on dock and asked if that was
1142 temporary or permanent lighting. Ms. Morris someone actually asked about Christmas trees on the
1143 docks, and that would be permitted. This paragraph refers to permanent lighting. Mr. Johnson
1144 commented that on the second page where the asterisk is located it states that property owners
1145 considering building a dock should consult Surfside Beach public works about lake measurements at their
1146 location. He believed it should state must consult.

1147
1148 Mayor Samples said shall; shall consult, and asked if that was a motion.

1149
1150 Mr. Johnson moved to amend to remove must and insert shall. Mr. Stevens seconded.

1151
1152 Mr. Smith asked that the sentence be read with the new word.

1153
1154 Mr. Johnson said property owners considering building a dock shall consult Surfside Beach public
1155 works about lake measurements at their location.

1156
1157 Ms. Dodge proposed rather than shall, the word must be used that way there would be no
1158 question.

1159
1160 Mr. Johnson said the legal term is shall.

1161
1162 Mr. Stevens said *point of information* shall is usually the word which dictates in legal terms that
1163 you have to do it.

1164
1165 Ms. Dodge said okay.

1166
1167 Mayor Samples asked if the assumption was that the public works director would be consulted
1168 prior to the dock construction.

1169
1170 Mr. Smith said a permit was required.

1171

1172 Ms. Morris said applicants would actually have to follow all of the instructions in the ordinance,
1173 which means they have to apply for encroachment permit, execute a hold harmless agreement that will
1174 be recorded at the county court house, and they have to present their insurance policy to the town,
1175

1176 Mayor Samples asked how much the fee was for installing a dock. Ms. Morris did not have the
1177 fee schedule available, but said it was minimal; it may be just \$25. Mayor Samples said that was less
1178 than cutting down a tree. Ms. Morris said that it was. Mayor Samples asked councilmembers if that
1179 made sense.

1180
1181 Ms. Mabry said no.
1182

1183 Mayor Samples said this is only first reading. Ms. Morris said the fee could be brought back for
1184 council to consider. Mayor Samples asked her to do so. He said surely an encroachment into the public
1185 property, a lake; it is nice to have a dock, he liked that. He did not want to start a class warfare, but he
1186 also believed if you could afford a dock, you could afford to pay a fee.
1187

1188 All voted in favor to amend. **MOTION TO AMEND CARRIED.**
1189

1190 Mr. Smith commented that the numbering system in paragraph d. materials shall be was
1191 confusing and asked that the a, b, c letters be changed to numbers 1, 2, 3, et cetera.
1192

1193 Mayor Samples agreed.
1194

1195 Mr. Smith did not believe a motion was necessary for that change.
1196

1197 Mayor Samples said no. Ms. Morris said it would be changed.
1198

1199 Mr. Stevens said he attended a couple of planning commission meetings and listened to what
1200 they were saying. The planning commission really spent some time on this and he believes they did a
1201 good job. They made sure there was a hold harmless agreement that holds the town harmless and also
1202 they inserted a \$1 million policy, which the town is an additional insured. So, he thought the planning
1203 commission did due diligence to make this as safe as they could. He thought that Mr. Smith's
1204 amendment, if the town needs to dredge the property, the owners will be responsible for moving the
1205 docks at their own expense, and also they can move it before a storm and replace it back without a
1206 permit, so it covers anything. He supported this primarily because this is an Horry County and a South
1207 Carolina tradition; docks on water, ponds. He had been using them for all of his life. When he was five
1208 years old he used to go a friend's house that had a quarter acre pond and he had a floating dock and they
1209 would jump off the dock and go swimming. He thought it was a good thing for people. Most of the people
1210 who live on the lakes can actually afford to buy the insurance. (**) maybe on second reading we might
1211 want to look at possibly increasing the insurance for a floating dock, but that was a good suggestion.
1212

1213 Mayor Samples said he was going to vote no, because the planning commission did not
1214 recommend floating docks, and he believed while a \$1 million sounds like a lot of coverage, given the
1215 nature of the item being discussed and where it was located the amount was insufficient. That was his
1216 personal opinion for floating docks.
1217

1218 Ms. Mabry thanked the planning commission; they really covered every little inch of things that
1219 she never even dreamed about. She was very happy with their recommendation. She thinks that it is
1220 important that council take that recommendation and leave it as it was presented. The commission's
1221 work was commendable. She did not want to change the ordinance; she believes the planning
1222 commission worked too hard. She would be voting no.
1223

1224 Councilmembers Dodge, Johnson, Kohlmann, Smith and Stevens voted in favor. Mayor Samples
1225 and Mayor Pro Tempore Mabry voted against. **MOTION CARRIED.**
1226

1227 **F. Amend Resolution #12-117 to reorganize *ad hoc* Recreation/Special Events Committee**
1228 **and change membership to 5 members, Administrator Fellner.**
1229

1230 Ms. Fellner said the resolution is simply to reorganize the *ad hoc* recreation and special events
1231 committee changing the membership from seven to five volunteer members, and a nonvoting
1232 councilmember will continue to serve.
1233

1234 Mr. Stevens moved to adopt Resolution #12-117. *Ms. Stevens* seconded. All voted in favor.
1235 **MOTION CARRIED.**
1236

Ms. Dodge scrivener's error
D. Herrmann, Town Clerk

1237 **G. Resolution #13-137 to Allocate 1 Mil to Stormwater during FY2013-2014, Administrator**
1238 **Fellner.**
1239

1240 Ms. Fellner said this resolution is to allocate one mil to stormwater for Fiscal Year 2013-2014,
1241 which council proposed at the last meeting.
1242

1243 Mr. Smith moved to adopt Resolution #13-137 to allocate one mil to stormwater during Fiscal
1244 Year 2013-2014. Mr. Stevens seconded.
1245

1246 Mayor Samples asked how much money this would generate for stormwater; really the fund is
1247 capital projects. Ms. Fellner said yes, the amount is approximately \$60,000. Mayor Samples said that
1248 would be about \$60,000 a year for capital projects, and asked how much was generated in the past for
1249 stormwater in the capital projects fund. Ms. Fellner said \$300,000. Mayor Samples said this would retain
1250 the one mil for stormwater improvements, for which if his memory was correct, about \$6 million was spent
1251 on the south end of town. It will take a while to accumulate sufficient funds to do another project,
1252 allocating only \$60,000 a year.
1253

1254 Ms. Kohlmann asked if the allocation was nothing, if the one mil was not adopted. Trying to
1255 refresh her memory, she believed the concern was that the town is beach community and the job is to be
1256 good stewards of the beach. The stormwater allocation was disappearing at the end of June, and in
1257 order to retain memory of people over the years for the future, they can bring it back when the town
1258 prospers again, and this was designed so that people do not forget that we have stormwater issues that
1259 we need to address. She thought that was why the action was taken, if she recalled correctly.
1260

1261 Mayor Samples understood Ms. Kohlmann's comments, in fact, federal law requires the town to
1262 address the water quality issues, whether the fund is established or not. It is a mandated item that the
1263 town will have to figure out how to fund when the time comes. It could be an unbudgeted item or not.
1264

1265 Ms. Mabry asked Ms. Fellner how the \$60,000 would be funded. Ms. Fellner did not know; one
1266 very serious change was made tonight that could impact that. The other thing is that the town is
1267 reconsidering its inspection fees for fire, and permit fees for planning, building, and zoning. Ms. Mabry
1268 said the same thing every other town is doing. Ms. Fellner said yes, ma'am.
1269

1270 Mayor Pro Tempore Mabry and Councilmembers Dodge, Johnson, Kohlmann, Smith and
1271 Stevens voted in favor. Mayor Samples voted against. **MOTION CARRIED.**
1272

1273 **H. Accommodations Tax Committee Recommendation to Fund the Purchase of Beach**
1274 **Cameras, Administrator Fellner.**
1275

1276 Ms. Fellner said the accommodations tax committee recommended approving the expenditure of
1277 \$18,875 out of Fiscal Year 2012-2013 accommodations tax funds to purchase cameras on beach
1278 accesses, at the pier, and in the Surfside Drive business district.
1279

1280 Mr. Smith moved to approve the accommodations tax advisory committee recommendation to
1281 purchase cameras. Mr. Stevens seconded.
1282

1283 Ms. Mabry said she had made it clear that she did not like wire tapping; she did not like people
1284 going around with video cameras, and she was just never going to feel comfortable with that, especially
1285 after she saw on television that every move she made was being watched. She did not mind the
1286 cameras, but she preferred that signage be placed notifying the public that video surveillance was being
1287 used. She did not believe that was unfair. It was proven that sometimes signage and a broken camera
1288 did as much good as an actual camera that worked, because people were aware that it was there. She
1289 asked if there was any way to consider posting a small sign just saying video cameras.

1290
1291 Chief Keziah said he had done extensive research including as late as today about camera
1292 usage. Darlington County just implemented the Wildfire system that the town is considering. Darlington
1293 County does not use any signs. Darlington City police department also uses the system, and Darlington
1294 County Housing Authority put 12 cameras on site. The chief said they do not have any signs, either.

1295
1296 Ms. Kohlmann said she has cameras at her house, and she does not have any signs. Her
1297 personal opinion was that if you came to her house and you were doing to do something wrong, well, you
1298 would be on Candid Camera. She found them highly successful, personally. She thought everyone
1299 needed to remember that nobody likes to be videotaped. But in Boston, if it was not for those cameras,
1300 there would have been a lot more people killed. She thought it was time everyone woke up and realized
1301 that they are very useful tools.

1302
1303 Mr. Stevens said if you walk into Wal-Mart, Target, Lowe's, or Home Depot, you were being
1304 videotaped. He asked if everyone was going to quit shopping there. He did not think so. The criminal is
1305 the only person that is scared of the video camera. He is the one that gets caught. For example, the two
1306 guys that did the bombing in Boston were caught by a video camera. If somebody comes and robs your
1307 house and they go down near 3rd Avenue North, then they are going to be videotaped robbing you. That
1308 is a good thing, because we can catch those bad guys. Chief Keziah can put them in the slammer and
1309 everyone can smile that they got caught.

1310
1311 Ms. Mabry said first of all, she was wide awake. She was very well aware that other places are
1312 videoed. All she wanted to know was if a sign could be posted; she asked the chief, and he gave her an
1313 answer. She preferred a sign just saying that the town videotapes. She did not see that that question
1314 was all that provocative. It was a yes or no. Chief Keziah said there is no legal requirement to post
1315 signs; it is a preference of the governing board. Ms. Mabry said correct.

1316
1317 Mayor Samples asked if Ms. Mabry wanted to express a motion.

1318
1319 Ms. Mabry said no, sir. She just wanted to know the answer; she would be more like one of the
1320 citizens that spoke. This was not her favorite thing, but she understood the need for cameras. She
1321 personally would prefer signage, but she would support the council decision.

1322
1323 All voted in favor. **MOTION CARRIED.**

1324
1325 **I. Pier Encroachment Permit Consensus, Administrator Fellner.**

1326
1327 Ms. Fellner said this item was listed under business as instructed by council, because it involves
1328 money. She asked for a consensus to execute the encroachment permit for the pier deck as written. The
1329 terms being from now until December 31, 2013 for a total of \$4,000 divided into three payments due the
1330 last day of each month from June through August of 2013.

1331
1332 Mayor Samples suggested a motion instead of consensus.

1333
1334 Mr. Smith moved to approve the encroachment permit for the pier deck with Atlantic Restaurant
1335 Group. Mr. Johnson seconded.

1336
1337 Mr. Smith said on the drawing sent in the package there were two tables on the north right next to
1338 the pier. There are currently benches there. Ms. Fellner said they do not have any of the "tall boys." Mr.

1339 Smith asked if they were going to put anything there. Ms. Fellner said she proposed that that be left
1340 alone, because if they would want to have music out there, that would be the logical place to set up and
1341 there is plenty of room. The building official inspected the area; there is plenty of room in accordance
1342 with the law for passage from the stairway through the common area back on to the deck. Mr. Smith said
1343 thank you very much.
1344

1345 Mayor Samples asked if there was any implied guarantee of any kind that this arrangement would
1346 extend beyond December 31. Ms. Fellner said there is none, and it is written in the encroachment permit.
1347 Mayor Samples said there was a statement made that says future rates will be determined by Atlantic
1348 Restaurant Group and Town Council. So if they cannot come to an agreement, that is if Town Council
1349 determines for whatever reason that it wants to do something different with the deck, does council have
1350 the ability to do so without any legal ramifications. Ms. Fellner said yes, sir, they do. The encroachment
1351 permit has a term where it expires; once it expires, the permit had expired. Mayor Samples said he would
1352 vote against the permit, because he felt \$4,000 was totally inadequate to use the deck for the season.
1353

1354 Ms. Kohlmann also believed it was a low amount, but she also thought if council did not act
1355 tonight, like everything else, they would wait and the season would be over with, and the town would be
1356 out that money, too. She believed councilmembers should just bite the bullet and do this. It was not
1357 forever. It is just till December 31st; they would not be using the deck in November anyway. It is already
1358 the middle of June, and the budget has not been done, so she thought that, even though she did not like
1359 it, she was not saying she liked it, but it was better than nothing.
1360

1361 Mayor Samples agreed, but commented because he had seen this council do it before and they
1362 all knew when deadlines were approaching. The issue with the beach services contract, and now they
1363 were dealing with a budget that they have had for months. So, he asked them to please, please do the
1364 town's people the service they deserve. Get in front of the issues, instead of waiting to be reactive. That
1365 was his comment.
1366

1367 Mayor Pro Tempore Mabry and Councilmembers Dodge, Johnson, Kohlmann, Smith and
1368 Stevens voted in favor. Mayor Samples voted against. **MOTION CARRIED.**
1369

1370 **8. DISCUSSION – Any matters of concern or information to be discussed by Town**
1371 **Council.**
1372

1373 Ms. Dodge was not sure if this was the appropriate time, but she asked if the town needs an
1374 ordinance to stop parking on side streets from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. back to at least, back far enough from
1375 Ocean Boulevard that it would not stop people from using our meters. Rather than use meters, they are
1376 parking on side streets and they are parking close to driveways. They are parking close to intersections.
1377 Ms. Fellner said the answer is yes, but first it would need to be sent to the parking committee. Ms. Dodge
1378 moved to send that issue to the parking committee.
1379

1380 Mayor Samples said this was discussion tonight, but it can be added to the next agenda as a
1381 business item, if that was Ms. Dodge's desire.
1382

1383 Ms. Dodge said thank you.
1384

1385 Mayor Samples asked if that was the will of Town Council.
1386

1387 Mayor Pro Tempore Mabry and Councilmember Johnson both responded no.
1388

1389 Councilmember Kohlmann said if Ms. Dodge wants to consider it, she did not see any harm in the
1390 parking committee looking at it, but she was just one person.
1391

1392 Councilmember Stevens had no problem sending it to the parking committee.
1393

1394 Councilmember Smith was okay with the parking committee looking at it.

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Mayor Samples directed that the item be placed on the next meeting agenda.

9. PUBLIC COMMENTS – General Comments (5 minutes.)

"Carrie Johnson, 9th Avenue South. I'm just a little bit amazed at how so many of you all talk out of both sides of your mouth. Not too long ago someone was asking the town to go around and repair all potholes. Tonight that same person wants to return the money that was sent for paving 17 out here. Well, I'm sure when the potholes come in that same person's gonna want the town to go out and repair those potholes at the town's expense. And when you give a child, 5 years old, an allowance, I hope when that child is 12 the child is not getting the same allowance, because things do go up. That child won't be going to the movie with his friends, because the cost of the movies has gone up. He won't be going to McDonald's with his friends, because the cost of McDonald's has gone up. Things continue to go up. You get your budget, your household budget to the bare bones. What happens when your car breaks down? I guess you park it and you walk. What happens if a pipe bursts in your house and you have no water? Do you do without? So if you've got everything to bare bones, with no surplus funds, what do you do when there's an emergency? We live in a town that is going to eventually have a hurricane, and we know that. So why would we not raise the taxes so that we could build a little bit of surplus to take care of this town in the event of an emergency? The minimal amount of raising the taxes... what is that? A hamburger a month? Maybe two Cokes a month. I mean it's really not anything that is gonna put anybody in the poor house. So, I just don't understand it. I just don't understand it. [sic] You have got to have a surplus. Especially in a beach town where there is going to be a hurricane that comes, and if it comes this year, then I guess you all can get down there and shovel the sand off of Ocean Boulevard yourself. Thank you."

"Okay, I do appreciate all of your efforts tonight. Sue Fehr, 716 5th Avenue North. Do appreciate all your efforts tonight in reducing our budget items. Now just doing some mental calculations, I guess we saved some more money. Is there any more to be saved? Possibly. Alright, so we're not really at bare bones yet. I would like to see if Surfside set aside for necessary repairs should we get a hurricane. Alright, I know I'm getting out of Dodge. No offense. (Laughter.) Okay, earlier this evening I gave Ann Dodge a list. I walk the town every evening with my neighbor, and I pick up trash on the beach every morning. Sometimes there's plastic bags. I've been told that they don't put the bags out in the summer, because the dogs aren't allowed on the beach. Well, two dogs got chased off the beach by me on Saturday. If the, ah, police chief could maybe give the hotels a list of the rules for the beach, because the people say they see it on TV that we're a pet friendly beach, but not Surfside. Garden City, yes; up the road, yes, but not Surfside. Anyway, what I would like to see personally is to stop the speeding on 5th Avenue North where traffic has become horrendous since the non-speed bumps or drainage control bumps were put in on Surfside Avenue [sic.] Next year I'm gonna take down school bus numbers, because school busses are the primary culprits. Alright, I like to see two stop signs put in: one at Cherry; one at Hollywood. That would give enough where people could go their 30 miles an hour posted speed limit. Right now you put up the little clock; we watch 'em... 55, 58, they don't slow down. Alright, you put the cop car out there for a couple of days. I talk to it when I walk by, so people think there's a cop in the car. After a couple of hours, or a couple of times down the road, they don't care. Alright, so that's one proposal I have. Something that wouldn't cost any money, maybe moving some of the trash cans in the parking lots by the beach up to the sidewalk on Ocean Avenue [sic.] I mean I walk on Ocean Avenue [sic.] I pick up cans, papers; people are ignorant. They don't go looking to put trash in somebody's garbage pail that's in their driveway. But if we could get these pails just moved up, not even new ones, just move the pails up. They're in the middle. They're by the pay station. They're not gonna throw their money in the trash. So move them up. Another issue, ah, the crosswalks; we have those little pedestrian signs. They're only on one side of the road. So if you're going north, you see it, or if you're going south you see it. But the person crossing the street is going east and west. So, only one car is stopping. So could we have one on each side of the street, or a sign like this one? I think 5th Avenue has a sign. No, it doesn't have a sign, but another one has one sign, two-sided so you can walk across and see it. But these are just [a] couple of little things. That's it."

1450 "Harry Kohlmann, 1610 South Ocean Boulevard. I just wanted to, ah, acknowledge that our new
1451 chief put a breath of fresh air, a man that is willing to work with the community. I don't know if he's been
1452 shot or stabbed or blown up. I really don't care. But, he's doing a great job. He's actually reaching out to
1453 the community. He's asking for advice. He's starting up a crime watch program, which we've been
1454 asking for for [sic] years. Officers are friendlier. They're more open. What a great thing in this town we
1455 have now and I really commend the chief. He's a great guy. I also want to talk about the cameras. In the
1456 past year, 11 people at my house were apprehended and if it wasn't for those cameras, they wouldn't
1457 have been able to prosecute 'em to the fullest; 11. Folks, that's one house. What a great thing. Now if I
1458 would've put signs up, hey, Mr. Criminal, you're being watched, well, he wouldn't, he wouldn't do it at my
1459 house. He'd go to your house; so, signs and cameras, not a good idea. This crime watch is gonna be a
1460 great thing. We're gonna know what's going on in the community. We're gonna know where crimes are
1461 happening. Where they're happening [sic,] and the descriptions. A great thing. Thank you."

1462
1463 "Tom Dodge, 15th Avenue North. I echo Mr. Kohlmann's statement completely. Chief Keziah and
1464 Chief Cimini are doing a great job. I would like to give kudos to Councilmen [sic] Smith, Stevens,
1465 Kohlmann, and Dodge for saving our bacon. Everybody wants to spend, spend, spend. Thank you, you
1466 four council people for thinking of the citizens of this town."

1467
1468 "Donald Eliason. I live at 718 5th Avenue North. I wanted to reinforce my neighbor a little bit about
1469 5th Avenue and the cars and trucks that come up and down that road. When I first moved there in I think
1470 it was 1983, one of the reasons that we chose that house it was one of the few paved roads in Surfside.
1471 That shows you how far we've come since then. But now, since the speed bumps went up on Surfside
1472 Drive, we have commercial trucks. It's a residential neighborhood. There's no commercial property from
1473 Poplar on down to the beach. It's all residential. It's (**). Mail boxes are destroyed on a regular basis on
1474 that street. Ah, and the speeding is, is terrible. There was an accident recently at 5th Avenue North and,
1475 ah, 17, which was caused, I think, by somebody trying to make a right going across 17. I can stand at my
1476 house and watch cars speed up when they see the light down there. They think they can make that light,
1477 and they're speeding up a block and a half away to try to make that stop light. I don't know what the
1478 answer is, but we need something to slow the cars down. They come from the opposite way from 17, and
1479 once they get to that, that ridge there at Poplar Street [sic] where they can't see anything in front of 'em,
1480 they're gone. I've seen cars and motorcycles, too, that go up and down that street at a rate of speed that
1481 if a car was backing out of a driveway, there's no way they could stop. We also have a lot of people that
1482 are walking now up and down 5th Avenue, which includes children, young people on skateboards, and I'm
1483 afraid there's gone [sic] be a victim out there, if we can't slow that traffic down. I appreciate it. Thank
1484 you."

1485
1486 "Ron Ott, 7th Avenue North. One block over, thank God, because I can hear those engines going
1487 up and down the street. I know they're over there. Some nights they're road racing up and down. I don't
1488 get to see 'em. I can hear 'em, and I, I really dislike what our society has become, but the cameras are a
1489 necessity anymore; they're, it's the 21st Century law enforcement. I, I don't; if people fear (**) I don't think
1490 you're gonna see the people sitting looking at these TV screens. That's not gonna happen. It's gonna be
1491 something to be used for what happened here, let's go back and look and see who was there, because I
1492 don't wanna be in that (**) that have these major crimes. They steal children now. (**) They sell 'em. We
1493 hate to admit that they do that, and other things that happen. You go to Charleston, any major city. They
1494 see you all over. You can't get out of the way from that, and there's a reason for it. It's what our society,
1495 it's what we've become in life. I don't want to be that either, and as for, you know, trying to nickel and
1496 dime and grab a thousand bucks here; \$700,000 here. Well, we can't stop spending, and that's the thing.
1497 It, ah, you, you look at what happened. You're gonna have to do this. You're gonna have to do that. I
1498 don't know what the answer is, that's why you sit up there, and I can just sit back here and complain. (**)
1499 I don't need to make the decision. I get to say oh, you, you people up there, you're the ones that do all
1500 the bad business and basically, move back years and years and some bad choices. It happens, because
1501 it's, it's lined up in the political atmosphere, so you're gonna end up getting these decisions are based not
1502 on business, but on political policy. Did anybody say the word pier tonight? Boy, that was a bad move,
1503 wasn't it. God, you know, and then after we bought it, and we paid top dollar for it, we didn't have to and
1504 we have business here. We don't know how to run businesses, at least the people whoever, you know,
1505 makes these decisions, they don't, you know, we, if you made those decisions on business, we might be

1506 okay. But we made some decisions on heart. When you want to be in business, you can't do that. You
1507 gotta, you have to cut a throat. You're gonna have to cut a throat, you know. You want to make, you
1508 wanna sell beef, gotta kill that steer. That's the way it is. Political people should not be in business. My
1509 recommendation is that if we keep that pier, you go somewhere out in Chicago. Find some business
1510 management company and let them manage it for us. Say, hey, give us, make us a profit, and all we do
1511 is continuing making laws. You're pretty good at that. We got a million of 'em. Thank you."

1512
1513 "Janet Bambino, 310 South Hollywood. I would just like to add on to him the pier, and that was
1514 not on y'all, on some of y'all, so, but ah, it's a big blunder, and if y'all haven't, you need to go to some
1515 piers and just see what they have and what we have. That is our, is a huge downfall. That's our money
1516 making machine right there, and nobody doing anything about it. That is sad for Surfside Beach. You
1517 know, and talking about the change, how Surfside Beach looks. It's already changed, and not for the
1518 better. I've lived here a long time. My parents had, you know, property here since I was yea high and it
1519 has not changed for the better. It's sad, actually, and I have property here. My parents still have property
1520 here, and I really sometimes I really consider moving out of Surfside Beach. A lot of people don't want to
1521 come to Surfside Beach anymore as tourists. Do y'all even know that? I mean that's just sad. That's
1522 sad. You really need to take a long look, a long look at this town, cause it's really not improving. It really
1523 isn't. The money making machine is that pier, and nobody is not [sic] doing a thing about it. Go to Tybee
1524 Beach in Georgia. Visit some of these piers and see what they've got going on. Even Garden City has
1525 more going on than we do. I don't know what y'all are thinking. Really need to look at that. Thank you."

1526
1527 "Jack Houston, 118 Harbor Lights. Ah, I just have some questions about the dock. When you
1528 say bank to bank (**) planning, do you mean, what if there's an island outside the guy's, you know, it, it's
1529 Dogwood Lake, my neighbor who wants to put in a dock but he's got an island right out there. Is it gonna
1530 go to the bank of his property to the bank of the island or..." Ms. Morris said it would be measured from
1531 the bank on his property to the bank on the other side of the lake. The island would not be considered.
1532 Mr. Houston: "Okay, good, and I just had another comment about the, ah, tractors. Ah, five tractors, my
1533 wife is in a business, five tractors is a fleet, and ah, there's a fleet management program that you can
1534 probably get off the Internet that would help you, ah, figure out when a tractor needs to be surveyed to get
1535 your best return on investment."

1536
1537 **10. COUNCIL COMMENTS.**

1538
1539 Mr. Johnson: "No comments."

1540
1541 Ms. Kohlmann: "No comment."

1542
1543 Mr. Smith: "No comment."

1544
1545 Ms. Dodge: "Mr. Mayor, no comment."

1546
1547 Ms. Mabry: "Yes, I am going to make a comment. Number one, I do approve of the cameras.
1548 What I thought they were gonna be was a deterrent not I got cha. So, you know, anyway they want to do
1549 it is fine. I do agree with cameras. I wanted them there. I voted for 'em. But, I really wanted it to be
1550 more of a deterrent, and then if somebody didn't do what they should we have them on camera. But, I
1551 want to make that clear, and I want to especially again thank the planning commission. I know how hard
1552 they worked and I do appreciate all their effort."

1553
1554 Mr. Stevens: "I don't get to do this every often, but I'm gonna do it today. Had somebody write a
1555 letter, a [sic] email that praised me. Said I was at a council meeting on Tuesday, 6/4 [sic], and I
1556 appreciated the, the budget process observed. Mr. Stevens demonstrated that he took his job as a
1557 councilmember very seriously when he identified line items for reduction and provided specific reasons
1558 for that reduction. Mr. Stevens was prepared with well-reasoned arguments for his position. He was not
1559 currying votes by pandering to the citizenry that is against raising taxes. He was exercising his fiduciary
1560 responsibility to safeguard the town finances. Yes, I would rather my taxes not be raised, especially with
1561 Horry County raising taxes to support an extra \$6 million (**); the federal government are [sic] seeking to

1562 raise taxes, and increases necessary to support health care. I am gladdened to see a politician take a
1563 stance against a gut reaction for raising taxes as a solution to our financial problems. Raising taxes may
1564 not be necessary in the future, but not until the existing budget is reviewed, reductions taken where they
1565 can and should be taken. Please listen to Mr. Stevens' reasons and consider each one on its own merits.
1566 Thank you, Joan Jowers, from 1611 South Ocean Boulevard for sending that email. Other things about
1567 the stop signs, I've been approached by not only 5th Avenue, but 16th Avenue and 5th Avenue South. I
1568 think this, you know, probably is something that we seriously need to look at and stop the speeders
1569 coming down our main thoroughfares, because it's for the safety of the people. Perhaps this is something
1570 else the parking committee should look at. I don't know, but I would support those people that spoke
1571 about that, and last, but not least, I want to say kudos to Chief Keziah. He is doing an excellent job. He
1572 has made this town more policeman friendly. He is doing the things necessary with citizen crime watch
1573 and I recommend that everybody that has a chance to get involved in the neighborhood crime watch with
1574 the Town of Surfside Beach Police Department get involved. If you can go to the academy, I would also
1575 recommend that. It's a breath of fresh air when we have a chief who really wants to get to know the
1576 people and have his policemen get to know you. Thank you."
1577

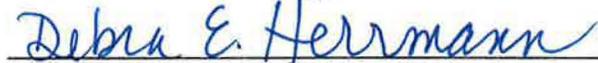
1578 Mayor Samples: "You know, we talked about, I mentioned DOT earlier. In fact, we're gonna
1579 asked for money back from DOT, \$780,000 on Highway 17. Ah, I believe I'm correct when I say that 5th
1580 Avenue North is a state street. I believe I'm correct when I say 10th Avenue South is a state street. If this
1581 council voted tonight to direct staff to get out there and put stop signs up there, we couldn't do it.
1582 However, 16th, I'm glad to hear 16th Avenue North mentioned, because a year ago we were approached,
1583 and I know the past police chief did a, did a survey, and I would encourage us to do another survey of 16th
1584 Avenue North, because that is, since we took Ocean Boulevard, that came along with the deal, because it
1585 is the same state road, when you look at the state highway map. We've all been working hard. Mr.
1586 Dodge, I'm glad you find it amusing. (***Mr. Dodge from audience.*) Well, I'm sure that we're doing the
1587 best we can, okay. The fact of the matter is we're gonna meet again Thursday at 6:30 in these very
1588 chambers, and I would encourage all members to come prepared, come prepared. Note the item, note
1589 the page number, and please make sure you have the current budget, okay. I don't want us wasting time
1590 covering items that we've already deleted. Please, please, please, do the homework. Having said that,
1591 and I want to make a comment, you know, I've only lived here going on 22 years. It was a great town
1592 when I moved here and it's a great town now. Is it different? Yes. The world is different. I think that we
1593 heard that tonight. The truth of the matter is, is that a lot of people have moved into Horry County. A lot
1594 of people have moved into the south end. It does stress services. More people drive into our town, and if
1595 they're not state roads, we gotta maintain 'em, and when we take roads off the state inventory, as I
1596 mentioned earlier, we assume the responsibility for those roads, and that is something that I believe we
1597 have an obligation to be prepared to address in a time of need. Now we haven't had hurricane
1598 evacuations in a number of years, thank God. But, it is only a matter of time before there's a storm
1599 When I moved here, you could see, you still could see the high water marks, some of you lived here when
1600 the storms came through, and so you know the damage and the impact on business and the cost to the
1601 town of a storm. We need to be prudent. I don't know how other people run their household, but I know
1602 the way we run the household in my family, and we have money set aside, just in case, and that is what
1603 the town needs to do also, and I do wanna address, cause I've been here longer, where did all that
1604 money go? Where did all that money go? Well, we did purchase a pier; good, bad, indifferent. We did
1605 build a fire station. We did build, buy a ladder truck or lease-purchase a ladder truck, and we purchased
1606 new fire engines, because it keeps, because we're required for insurance ratings. If we don't have 'em,
1607 what do you think Horry County's going through? Do you think Horry County wants to raise taxes? Of
1608 course, not; of course, not, but they need to man their stations, because insurance costs are real. I
1609 encourage members to be specific when they come back. I admire and respect the positions that were
1610 taken tonight by Ms. Mabry. I also, to be honest with you, I mean Rod tells you, Rod Smith tells you it's
1611 not this year, but it's next year. Ah, you know, there's no free lunch. Services cost money. Many of our
1612 cost are beyond our control. I suspect that's the same for you at your, in your homes. You don't
1613 determine how much your insurance is gonna cost in the end. You don't determine who much your elect,
1614 your utilities are gonna cost in the end. So, I think we're, we're facing something that we knew was
1615 inevitable, and rather than kid you, con you, spin you into the ditch, we're not gonna do that. This town's
1616 a great town. We're gonna keep it that way. But, we're gonna make hard decisions to do so. So, we'll
1617 see y'all here at 6:30 Thursday."

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11. ADJOURNMENT.

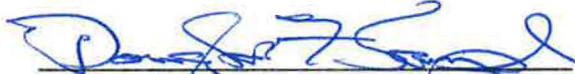
Mr. Smith moved to adjourn at 10:00 p.m. Mr. Stevens seconded. All voted in favor. **MOTION CARRIED.**

Prepared and submitted by,



Debra E. Herrmann, CMC, Town Clerk

Approved: June 25, 2013



Douglas F. Samples, Mayor



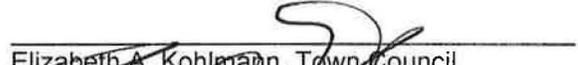
Mary Beth Mabry, Mayor Pro Tempore



Ann Dodge, Town Council



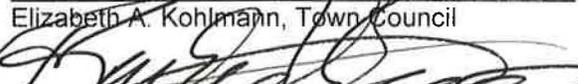
Mark L. Johnson, Town Council



Elizabeth A. Kohlmann, Town Council



Roderick E. Smith, Town Council



Randle M. Stevens, Town Council

*Clerk's Note: This document constitutes minutes of the meeting that was audio taped. These are detailed minutes documenting each member's comments. In accordance with FOIA, meeting notice and the agenda were distributed to local media and interested parties. The agenda was posted on the entry door at Town Council Chambers, and in the Town Hall reception area. Meeting notice was also posted on the Town marquee. Public Comments and Town Council Comments are transcribed as close to verbatim as possible. When (**) is used a section of the transcription is inaudible. Appointments to hear audio tapes may be scheduled with the town clerk.*