



TOWN OF SURFSIDE BEACH
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**TOWN COUNCIL SPECIAL MEETING
COUNCIL CHAMBERS
THURSDAY, JUNE 13, 2013 ♦ 6:30 P.M.**

A G E N D A

1. **CALL TO ORDER** – Mayor Douglas F. Samples
2. **PUBLIC COMMENTS – AGENDA ITEMS**
3. **BUSINESS**
 - A. Employee Staffing for FY2013-2014 (may be deferred until after Executive Session)
 - B. FY2013-2014 Municipal Budget
4. **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Pursuant to FOIA §30-4-70(a)(1) to discuss employment, appointment, compensation, promotion, demotion, discipline, or release of an employee
5. **ADJOURNMENT**



**SURFSIDE BEACH TOWN COUNCIL
SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
JUNE 13, 2013 ♦ 6:30 P.M.
TOWN COUNCIL CHAMBERS**

1. CALL TO ORDER.

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

Mayor Samples said the meeting was called to discuss the Fiscal Year 2013-2014 Municipal Budget, which begins on July 1. He invited audience members to come forward and speak their minds.

2. PUBLIC COMMENTS – AGENDA ITEMS. (3 minutes)

"Gene Maruca, 116 7th Ave. South. I'd like to commend the council for the work that was done Tuesday; all of you. It was probably one of the hardest things I've seen done in this chamber, but it was done. I'd like to think now that we can work together to create an income rather than just put your hands in someone's pocket. Let's devise a way that we can make money, and it is possible if we all got together. Thank you."

"Ron Ott, 7th Avenue North. I think the, ah, the financial group here have found out what Warren Buffett meant when he says when the tide goes out, we see who's been swimming naked. Well, we're starting to see that now. What I can't find is where the stormwater millage went. If we're not, if it disappeared, we should have gotten a millage cut; a tax reduction. But, we didn't get that. When you're, ah, doing your little séance here, I would like to find out where that went. Was it swept into the general budget, so then, that's basically a tax increase, if we did that. So we should add that in. We need to tell the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth. We're out there now. Might as well let it all hang out and tell everybody what's going on. (**) Thank you."

Mayor Samples said for the record, "With respect to that question, Mr. Ott, I can't remember which meeting that came up in the discussion of the stormwater millage. The five mills that were initially approved by Town Council in 2003 and then again in 2008; there was quite a discussion along those very lines and they are recorded in the minutes, and, and they're available on the web for everybody. I'm certain that you weren't at that meeting. Thank you, sir." (**Mr. Ott spoke from the audience.) Mayor Samples said it was just to close the loop on it. He thought Mr. Ott knew there was a resolution at the last meeting, which was adopted, to retain one mil for stormwater, which they estimated would generate about \$60,000 versus the approximately \$300,000 a year that had been previously generated. He said, again, if Mr. Ott would take time to read the minutes, the whole issue would not have to be rehashed here. (**Mr. Ott spoke from the audience.) Mayor Samples answered that he did not know. He could not speak to what would happen in a couple of years; he couldn't say where it would be at the end of this evening. Having said that, he said he appreciated Mr. Ott's comments.

3. BUSINESS.

A. Employee Staffing for FY2013-2014 (may be deferred until after Executive Session.)

Mayor Samples asked Town Council individually whether any member wished to enter executive session to discuss this issue.

56 Ms. Kohlmann said since she was the one that proposed it, after doing her research she found
57 that the position she had in mind was not in the best interest of the town, so she did not need to enter
58 executive session. She was ready to discuss the budget.
59

60 Mayor Samples asked if there were any item A. matters that council wished to discuss now in
61 open session, which was staffing for FY2013-2014.
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63 Mr. Johnson, Ms. Dodge, Mr. Smith, Ms. Mabry, Mr. Stevens, and Ms. Kohlmann all said no.
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65 **B. FY2013-2014 Municipal Budget.**
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67 Mayor Samples called for motion to suspend the rules to allow discussion.
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69 Ms. Mabry moved to suspend the rules to allow discussion. Mr. Smith seconded. All voted in
70 favor. **MOTION CARRIED.**
71

72 Mayor Samples explained that the motion was requested so that members with particular larger
73 cuts could be discussed prior to action.
74

75 Ms. Dodge asked how large was large.
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77 Mayor Samples said \$20,000 and up.
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79 Ms. Dodge said she would forego her discussion for now.
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81 Mayor Samples asked again if there were specific larger line items any member wished to
82 discuss.
83

84 Mr. Stevens wanted to discuss the largest item he had seen on the budget as far as equipment.
85 In the budget there was an expenditure of \$250,000 for a 2013 Mack garbage truck that picks up
86 dumpsters. He understood that one garbage truck the town has was in bad shape, and could not even
87 hardly be used to pick up garbage, and then there was another one that was in fairly decent shape. After
88 going to the public works department, he saw a truck out there and asked if that was the old truck. He
89 was told no that was the new truck. He said the new truck came driving in and it seemed to be running
90 real well. He was not sure why the town was spending that much money, \$250,000 to get a new truck.
91 He knew Mr. Adair had explained to council that it was in bad shape, but it did not seem to be in bad
92 shape. From what he found when he talked to some of the people out and about driving those trucks,
93 they told him it ran pretty good. So he wanted more justification for that \$250,000 expenditure before he
94 could approve the budget.
95

96 Ms. Mabry asked if Mr. Adair could explain whether that expenditure was part of the sanitation
97 budget. Mr. Adair said it was. Ms. Mabry asked whether council had already approved that expenditure.
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99 Mayor Samples said council had approved the purchase of something this current fiscal year.
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101 Mr. Adair said for the current fiscal year a side loading collection truck was purchased, which was
102 the new one that Mr. Stevens referred to that came into the yard when he was there. The two front
103 loading trucks that the town owns are used early and they were finished running at 11 o'clock in the
104 morning. They were not running when Mr. Stevens was at public works. The older one does need to be
105 replaced.
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107 Mayor Samples said for clarification that the truck purchased this year was a residential side
108 loading truck. Mr. Adair said yes, with an arm on it. Mayor Samples said the truck in the budget was a
109 commercial front loader. Mr. Adair said that was correct. It picks up the dumpsters, and it was in next
110 year's budget. Mayor Samples said in the budget being discussed tonight. Mr. Adair was asked to
111 provide some justification for that purchase to Mr. Stevens.

112
113 Mr. Adair believed the truck being replaced was a 2004 or 2005 model. He did not have the
114 details with him. The repair costs were getting high; the truck's condition is fair to poor, and under the
115 capital replacement plan it was time to replace it before it the annual maintenance costs exceeded the
116 truck's value.

117
118 Mayor Samples asked what the plans were for the existing front loader that wa being replaced.
119 Mr. Adair said it would be sold. Mayor Samples asked if he knew the estimated value. Mr. Adair did not
120 know.

121
122 Mr. Stevens asked what color the old truck was. Mr. Adair said there were a white front loading
123 truck and a blue front loading truck, which is the older one. Mr. Stevens said the blue truck was the one
124 that drove in while he was at public works. Mr. Adair said Mr. Stevens arrived a few minutes before he
125 did that day, but the truck Mr. Stevens had asked him about was a side loading truck. Mr. Stevens said
126 he saw all three of the side loading garbage trucks. As a matter of fact, Mr. Adair showed him the new
127 one, and he saw it pass by this morning. Mr. Stevens said the one that he was talking about was the blue
128 truck and it drove in, there was a black guy driving it, he did not know his particular name, but he saw it
129 out several other times. What he did not understand was that was supposed to be the truck that was
130 broken down, but yet it was out picking up dumpsters and collecting trash. That was why he did not
131 understand. If it was supposed to be that bad, why was it being used? Mr. Adair said the maintenance
132 staff kept it running. He would be glad to show him the repair records and the costs to maintain it at a
133 different time. The truck operators are not privy to understand the maintenance that goes into the trucks
134 before they were taken out on the road, so they were not the right employees to question about how well
135 a truck was running or what it cost the town to keep it operational. That question could be answered by
136 the maintenance records and that would help explain why the truck needed to be replaced. Mr. Stevens
137 asked if he would share that information with council. Mr. Adair said absolutely. Mr. Stevens said he just
138 wanted clarification. In his mind, he sees the truck and the guy say it was picking up garbage, it was fine,
139 and he was going something ain't right in this picture. He had to ask that question and when he sees that
140 he goes why, a new truck is sitting there and nobody used that, but the old truck is picking dumpsters,
141 and he saw it out picking up dumpsters. Mr. Adair said the truck operates when it is necessary, but it did
142 not mean that it was in good condition. Mr. Stevens said okay, and asked if more detailed information
143 could be shared, because he liked to make an educated decision and he wanted to know all the facts
144 before he made it. Mr. Adair said he would be happy to do so; he wished he had known to bring the
145 information to the meeting.

146
147 Ms. Kohlmann asked for a little more explanation. The front end loaders on the sheet that listed
148 all the vehicles that was prepared for council shows two trucks and the mileage is about equal. There
149 was a line that stated LOF (lube/oil/filter) due. She believed that was what Mr. Adair meant by doing
150 capital replacement, instead of waiting until equipment was dead and gone and had no more value. She
151 thought it was nice to explain to everybody that did not quite understand it that instead of waiting until the
152 equipment was dead and buried, with no value at all, what he was doing was there was a replacement
153 schedule and the town would get some value back. Mr. Adair said a lot of people did not understand,
154 because the department kept the equipment painted nicely and kept it undercoated. That did not mean
155 that the rust had stopped rusting the vehicle. For examples, the tractor that was being replaced was so
156 rusted that you could reach underneath it and break off pieces of the metal with your hand. Ms.
157 Kohlmann said she spent a lot of time at public works and it was true, some of the equipment looks new,
158 and you could reach underneath it and it did fall apart; just because it looked pretty and shiny showed that
159 staff took care of the equipment as best they could. But, if the equipment was going to die and the town
160 would not get any value, then they would have to be realistic about it and that was what capital
161 replacement was about.

162
163 Mayor Samples asked why two commercial front loaders were needed. Mr. Adair said number
164 one was if there was a breakdown. If the truck loads out and there was still trash to be picked up,
165 especially during the summer season when everybody was to maximum capacity and everyone was
166 picked up four or five times a week there had to be two trucks. Mayor Samples said he understood.
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Mr. Smith said he liked the replacement plan and was pleased that the department had one.

Mayor Samples said that many years ago Town Council adopted a capital replacement plan. Sanitation was a little different, because it was an enterprise fund. But the fact remained, that council adopted a capital replacement funding policy to insure that the town had the tools it needed to provide services. Mr. Adair said using the tractor as an example that the town would get a \$40,000-plus tractor for around \$20,000 with a trade-in of the old rusted tractor. If the trade was delayed much longer, the trade-in value would go down several thousand dollars every year. The money put into keeping the tractor operating, for instance, a set of wheel seals cost about \$1,500, would be spending money on maintenance for equipment that was losing value every year. It was best to get a new tractor and move on.

Mr. Johnson recalled the town was caught flat-footed more than once with mechanical breakdowns and the town went for more than a week at a time unable to pick up materials, garbage, yard debris, so on and so forth. The town had reached such a level that he did not think anyone wanted to go backwards, so he agreed that the plan in place was good. Mr. Adair said a side loading truck was purchased in this current fiscal year, but the department would keep the oldest side loading truck as long as possible, because it made sense. On a busy day two side loading trucks were used; multiple loads were taken to the dump during the season. This was the time of year things break down; hydraulic lines blow, and things happen. Last year he had to borrow a truck from the City of Myrtle Beach, and he did not want to put their truck on the town streets again. So the side load truck will be kept for a while as a spare, but the third front load truck would be sold.

Mr. Stevens said it would be helpful for councilmembers, if all departments would from now on, would give an actual cost for trading in equipment. For instance the \$25,000 tractor, rather than put a \$25,000 tractor, to put the real cost of \$45,000 less a \$20,000 trade in. He said that would make it easier to understand and the council would know what was happening with the other vehicle. He had checked by calling a friend of his who works for Duke Power up in North Carolina and he said that is what they did whenever they prepared their budget. They put down the vehicle they want to buy, and then they put what they were selling or getting for the trade-in. It goes on their accounting records and everything. Mr. Adair said he simply showed the lower number, because that was how finance instructed him to in the past; to note after trade in cost for the budget. Mr. Stevens said that was okay, (**) for explanation he thought that would make it not only easier for seated councilmembers, but for any possible new councilmembers that may come on in the next election. If they understand what was going on, for example there was a \$45,000 tractor and you were trading in a tractor that gives the council better justification than just showing a \$25,000 tractor. He asked if that made sense. Mr. Adair said that it did, and if that was the desire of council, he would be happy to do so. Mr. Stevens said he thought that would be good.

Mayor Samples thought that was a reasonable request.

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

MOTION CARRIED.

Ms. Mabry moved to add back to the budget \$5,000 to replace the fence at Huckabee Complex. Ms. Kohlmann seconded.

Ms. Mabry said she had pictures of the fence at the ball field. The fence was rusted and jagged. It was a liability waiting to happen. Some small child would go in there to get a ball and get cut then the liability would be on the town. The fence looked terrible; there was nothing adequate about it. She said it needed to be replaced.

Mr. Smith agreed; he went and looked at the fence. Mr. Adair explained to them what the problem was and so now they understood, so they were all in support of it.

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Ms. Kohlmann said she was the one who took it out of the budget. She went the next morning again to meet with Mr. Adair to inspect the fence. The fence was repaired as best staff could, but it was definitely there. She said you may not see the problem when you were just walking around, but there were children that played baseball, and it was definitely a liability issue. So she said she was going to make that motion; she was just waiting her turn.

Ms. Dodge said she was in the minority here. She went to look at the fence this afternoon, as well, and she believed that fence could be repaired. True it was an older fence; true it was rusted in some places, and true there were some jagged edges. There was a cover across the top that looked like a round tube, and in her opinion, that same type cover could maybe be put on the bottom to keep that fence going for another couple of years. She said she was more conservative so that would be what she would try to do. It might not work. It might work. If it did work, it would save the town a little bit this time. Thank you.

Mayor Samples, Mayor Pro Tempore Mabry and Councilmembers Johnson, Kohlmann and Smith voted in favor. Councilmembers Dodge and Stevens voted no. **MOTION CARRIED.**

Ms. Mabry moved that councilmembers either pick up their printed council packets, if they requested one, from town hall or the police department and stop having the policemen deliver packages to their houses. She knew it would be inconvenient for especially one member of council, but that would be a savings. Ms. Mabry said for the record, "that I do not request a council packet at all. We all get them via PDF and I can download it if I choose, or I can put it on my computer or iPad." She thought that represented quite a bit of money saved over a year and she reiterated that she made the motion. Mayor Samples said motion died for lack of a second.

Mr. Stevens referred to page 34 in the general fund in administrative/legislative departmental expenditures under dues and subscriptions and moved to cut that amount from \$5,725 to \$3,500. Mr. Smith seconded.

Ms. Kohlmann asked for the reduction amount being sought.

Mr. Stevens said from \$5,725 to \$3,500, a reduction of \$2,225.

Ms. Kohlmann asked if the administrator could explain what the item represents before moving forward.

Ms. Fellner said page 71 in the budget details breaks out the item; the first two are required, one of them was the municipal dues for \$1,800 and the other included SCCMA, ICMA, MTASC, MHRA for \$2,400; *The Sun News* subscription was necessary; the South Carolina Public Records Association was required. The Myrtle Beach Regional Economic Development could be eliminated, but that was reduced to \$1,000 instead of \$2,120. The Mayor's Coalition was \$200, and the clerk items of \$450 are required to maintain certification. Every one of those items was important, and she did not believe that was a good place to cut.

Mayor Samples understood; those are professional or trade organizations that...

Mr. Johnson interrupted saying that you have to be a member of.

Mayor Samples continued saying that if you are not a member of, it is noted; your absence. He said to speak plainly, some of the political events that council is invited to, if you did not attend, you were missed. The person who did not attend got talked about, that was just the way it was.

Ms. Kohlmann said she guessed she was talked about, because she did not go to them. She said in all fairness to what Mr. Stevens was asking, she understood subscriptions and so she got it. What

280 he was looking at, she believed, was that it went up \$4,426 from 2011-2012 to the proposed and she
281 thought that caught his eye. She thought it was a fair question, but it was broken out.

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283 Mayor Samples asked if anyone knew why it went up.

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285 Ms. Kohlmann said the actual 2011-12 was \$2,419. The proposed is \$6,845. Ms. Fellner said
286 this year the amount was \$4,088; the chief building official now has certifications, as well as the planning
287 director and the goal was to have them take over a lot of the Earthworks engineering review work. There
288 was a reason for every one of the items. The training was not done just for the heck of it. There was a
289 method; for instance, the MTASC is the technology group through which she may get answers that would
290 otherwise cost \$100 an hour if she had to call the IT contractor. Ms. Fellner explained that she still
291 reconfigured emails and handles the email web server. Membership in that group was important to allow
292 her to continue doing as much in-house as possible.

293
294 Ms. Kohlmann said to explain it better that in the long run it would save the town money is what
295 Ms. Fellner was saying, because staff would be doing the work and not outsourcing it. So it looked like a
296 huge jump, but over time it would pay the town back.

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

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301 Mr. Stevens referred to page 34 again and moved to reduce office supplies from \$4,000 to
302 \$3,000. Ms. Dodge seconded.

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304 Ms. Fellner said the issue here was just in toner alone a huge amount of toner was used; the
305 projected cost was \$2,000 for just toner. The clerk items were for audio tapes, shorthand pads, and
306 pens. Staff had reviewed the expenditures carefully and if council wanted to see all the calculations they
307 could be sent to them. This was really the best estimate, and Ms. Fellner did not want to have to come
308 back to council because the budget was short and there was no money to purchase steno pads. She
309 questioned whether that was worth a \$1,000 reduction.

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311 Mayor Samples said he understood.

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313 Mr. Stevens referred to page 71 and read the first line in the budget detail for office supplies that
314 included toner in with several other things with an amount of \$2,000. He said so the toner did not cost
315 \$2,000; there were a lot of other things included. He read the second line saying that it was also \$2,000.
316 A couple of years ago in 2011 the town did that on \$1,028; 2012 it was \$2,168. They proposed or
317 adopted \$2,600 in 2013, projected \$2,500 and then the proposed \$4,000 for the budget. Mr. Stevens
318 said it seemed to him like there were a lot of added expenses and a lot of added fluff. He did not think
319 that all those office supplies would cost that much. He said as a matter of fact, he thought that one of the
320 things that Ms. Kohlmann mentioned to him several times is that we spend a heck of a lot of money on
321 office supplies. He said we are in a lean year. If we do not start cutting something, we would certainly
322 end up continually to over spend, over spend, over spend. Unfortunately, sometimes people over
323 estimate what they are going to spend on stuff, and he thought this was an example. He had cut it to
324 \$3,000, which was almost \$1,000 more than was spent actual money spent in 2012, which was \$2,168.
325 That would cover for inflation. So it was a \$1,000 cut. To him it seemed like a wise decision.

326
327 Ms. Dodge said on page 71 reading the detail, it says special paper for council minutes. She
328 asked why regular printer paper was not used. She said she used typing paper for hers and it printed
329 very well. She had no problem if the minutes came on paper sack as long as she had everything she
330 needed. She asked if it was necessary to use that special paper, which would cost more. Perhaps that is
331 one area that could be cut, and if it seemed like they were nickleing and dimeing, she thought if they did
332 not, it would continue to be a problem. Thank you.

333
334 Ms. Kohlmann said since she was mentioned in the motion [sic,] she did say that she thought the
335 town spent a lot of money on office supplies, but she sat down and broke it out. When you break it out for

336 each department, she did not know how some of them ran on \$300 a year for office supplies, which was
337 public works. She thought they had to look at each one individually and added up to a total is \$25,000,
338 and that was a big number and she understood that, but individually she believed they had to remember
339 the one that Mr. Stevens was referring to was the administrative end of it, which produces the most
340 paper. It just does, and you have to take into consideration, she believed, the licensing department,
341 notifications to homeowners; there was just a litany of paper trail, and she understood the concern about
342 it, but she did not want to read in the newspaper that our administrator could not buy steno pads. That
343 was just her opinion on that.
344

345 Ms. Mabry said before we started having all these meetings, not that she was complaining, we
346 just have a lot of meetings, she had suggested that council did not receive printed council packets,
347 because she thought that the town clerk's time, the money, and the effort were expensive. But when she
348 figured it up, they use over 40,000 sheets of paper and that was front and back copies just for this
349 council. She asked how they could possibly not think that that would cost something. It was a lot and
350 council needed to be reasonable and have to give its staff the tools they need to do the best job they can
351 do. Cutting office supplies by \$1,000 when the administrator says that they need that; they need that.
352

353 Mr. Smith said the adopted budget for 2013 was \$2,600, and the projected budget is \$4,500. He
354 asked Ms. Fellner if she expected to reach that \$4,500 or come close to it. Ms. Fellner said they are over
355 budget already for this year. Mr. Smith said they were over budget. Ms. Fellner said yes, sir. Mr. Smith
356 said they were over the \$2,600, but how close were they to the projected. Ms. Fellner said around
357 \$4,000. Mr. Smith said that is what she estimated for next year, about \$4,000. Ms. Fellner said yes, sir.
358 Mr. Smith said okay, thank you very much.
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360 Ms. Herrmann explained to answer Ms. Dodge's question that acid free archival paper is bought
361 to print final minutes, because the state requires the town to keep them permanently. If regular copy
362 paper was used, within five to ten years they would deteriorate and could not be read.
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364 Mayor Samples asked if she was speaking about the official archives. Ms. Herrmann said yes.
365 Special paper was also purchased for resolutions, because they were also permanent records.
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367 Ms. Dodge asked if the council packages were printed on regular paper. Ms. Herrmann said yes,
368 ma'am.
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370 Mr. Johnson said his family runs a private business and has done so for many years. The Town
371 of Surfside Beach was probably 20 times larger than their small business. He was amazed that the
372 amount was only \$4,000, because he goes to buy paper, steno pads, and pens, and other items, so he
373 commended staff for doing what it does with the amount of money budgeted.
374

375 Councilmembers Dodge and Stevens voted in favor. Mayor Samples, Mayor Pro Tempore Mabry
376 and Councilmembers Johnson, Kohlmann, and Smith voted against. **MOTION FAILED.**
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378 Mr. Stevens moved to cut materials and supplies on page 12 from \$1,550 to \$1,000.
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380 Mayor Samples asked if Mr. Stevens was still in the administration/legislative section.
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382 Mr. Stevens responded um huh.
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384 Ms. Dodge seconded the motion to get it on the floor.
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386 Mr. Stevens said he did not know what it was, but once again he was going back to see what was
387 used in the past. They spent \$666 in 2011; \$800 in 2012, with inflation he thought \$1,000 was a fair
388 amount for materials and supplies.
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390 Ms. Kohlmann asked if the administrator could explain what the line item represented or if there
391 was a detail sheet that she could look at. Ms. Fellner said page 72 was the detail sheet. She said for the

392 record "we've used almost every cent of the \$1,500 that's here." Ms. Kohlmann said for the public's
393 clarification this was for award plaques, service and other recognitions, sympathy cards, flowers, et
394 cetera; that was \$1,300, and then water and coffee and all that kind of stuff for workshops and
395 administrative meetings was \$250, and Ms. Fellner had reached that budget.

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397 Mayor Samples said traditionally the fact of the matter was that when somebody who had been
398 important to the town passes, the town recognized them by sending flowers, or at minimum a sympathy
399 card was sent.

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401 Mr. Smith said in 2012 it was \$800, in 2013 \$1,500, that was almost double. He asked what the
402 significance was; why did the amount go up so much. Ms. Fellner said the clerk would probably be able
403 to answer that better. She does the award plaques and stuff.

404
405 Mayor Samples asked if that included the council photo that was taken after the election. Ms.
406 Herrmann believed that it did.

407
408 Mr. Smith asked if the council picture was included. Mayor Samples said yes. Mr. Smith said the
409 election made it go up, and asked if that was right. Mayor Samples did not believe that could be
410 changed. Mr. Smith asked if the \$1,500 had been spent already this year. Ms. Fellner believed they
411 were close to that amount. She asked for a recess so the finance director could go to the office and get
412 the exact figures to report.

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414 Mayor Samples called for recess at 7:13 p.m. He reminded members that there was a motion on
415 the floor that would be taken up when recess ended. Mayor Samples reconvened the meeting at 7:21
416 p.m.

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418 Mayor Samples said the motion on the floor was to reduce from \$1,500 to \$1,000.

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420 Mr. Stevens explained that it was materials and supplies, page 72, service and other
421 recognitions, sympathy cards and flowers. He asked if the town really sends out that many sympathy
422 cards and that many flowers.

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424 Mayor Samples could not speak specifically to that, but asked Ms. Herrmann if there had been a
425 few this year. Ms. Herrmann said yes, any death notice in the paper that has people either from Surfside
426 Beach or family in Surfside Beach received cards from the town. Cards were printed in-house, because
427 they are cheaper than buying cards. Several times this year flowers were sent to people who had
428 surgeries, and to families who had deaths. Awards plaques were used every time an employee has a
429 service award. The blue linen folders were used for the yard of the month and other proclamations that
430 are handed out. She said the recognitions could stop, if council so desired. Mayor Sample said the
431 proposal was not to stop; the motion was to reduce it from \$1,550 to \$1,000.

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

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436 Mr. Stevens said under contractual services he had made a motion but council was not in regular
437 session to cut the lobbyist and he asked what the standing was on having to have a lobbyist. He felt the
438 lobbyist did the town no good.

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440 Mayor Samples asked Ms. Fellner to address the question as she had attended the Coastal
441 Alliance meeting this past Friday.

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443 Ms. Kohlmann asked if council had not already deferred payment for one year on that. She
444 believed a payment deferment was done for a year at one of the meetings. That was what she had
445 written in her notes.

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Mayor Samples said it was deferred pending the meeting when they could determine whether or not ...

Mr. Johnson interrupted and properly moved to suspend rule to allow discussion. Ms. Mabry seconded. All voted in favor. **MOTION CARRIED.**

Mayor Samples recalled that the question was whether the town was obligated, because in January of this year, the municipal members of the Coastal Alliance "agreed" (*speakers quotes*) to as members of the coalition to support Marlowe and Company, which lobbied on behalf of the coastal Carolina communities. In particular, for information he said, the emphasis has been to try to get funds for the outfalls. Marlowe had specific goals in mind that they were trying to accomplish. He knew that outfalls were one of the primary ends that they were seeking. Ms. Fellner said there was also dredging for North Myrtle Beach. Mayor Samples believed the town paid the lowest share for the lobbyist. Ms. Fellner said Atlantic Beach and Briarcliffe Acres were. The town pays \$374 per month. Mayor Samples said the monthly bill was received just yesterday.

Ms. Kohlmann said she believed the mayor was looking for the amount of \$4,488 for that.

Mayor Samples said that was just for the Marlowe lobbyist. He was not looking at the line item, and asked if that was all it included.

(Several members spoke at once.)

Ms. Kohlmann said one other thing; if they were to remove this would the town be only ones not participating. Ms. Fellner said the town would be the only municipality in Horry County and, she also said that Horry County also participates in this effort. Ms. Kohlmann said thank you.

Mr. Stevens asked Ms. Fellner to tell what benefits the town had received from that, because it had been paid for something like; it was being paid when Allen Deaton first took office. Ms. Fellner said to her knowledge no direct benefits were received to date. She reminded councilmembers of the earmarked process that was eliminated, and then they had to try work through the Army Corp of Engineers. But to answer the question, to date they had generated no direct financial benefits from that group. Mr. Stevens said if recalled right, the town had spent close to between \$25 and \$30 thousand with the lobbyist. He had friends that were lobbyist. Lobbyist like to get their money, and unless they actually benefit you, he did not see what the purpose was for spending all that money over a period of years with no direct benefit to the town.

Mayor Samples said he understood what Mr. Stevens was suggesting. The real question he believed should be asked was did the town wish to remain a member of the Coastal Alliance, because he said that was probably the single most engaged, proactive effort that the Coastal Alliance was involved in. To him, they went hand-in-hand, but that was his opinion.

Mr. Smith thought the town should remain a member of the Coastal Alliance, and if one of the things the lobbyist was working on was the outfall pipes, he thought they really needed them. Even if it took a number of years to get it, he thought it was worth paying the lobbyist to work on the issue. He said if he was not mistaken, the last time the beach was renourished, maybe some other beach in Horry County was not renourished, because they were not a member of whatever was going on at that time. So, he said the town needed to be an active member in the Coastal Alliance, and he thought the outfall pipes were well worth spending money to try to get funds for them.

Ms. Mabry agreed with Mr. Smith.

Mr. Johnson moved to reconvene regular session. Mr. Smith seconded. All voted in favor. **MOTION CARRIED.**

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Mayor Samples asked if there was a motion. Mr. Stevens said no, there was no motion on that; obviously council wanted to keep spending the money.

Mr. Stevens referred to miscellaneous expenses on page 34 and moved to cut that from \$1,200 to \$500. Ms. Dodge seconded.

Ms. Kohlmann asked if Ms. Fellner would explain what that was. Ms. Fellner believed that was for the business reception, but she thought the Chamber of Commerce contributed most of that. Ms. Kohlmann said it was the business reception, advertising, food, and paper goods that the town held at the pier. She did not know if that would continue. Ms. Fellner thought it was for that, too.

Mayor Samples said there was a business reception in July.

Ms. Kohlmann said in the civic center. She asked if that was a one-time deal or was that something the town wanted to hold every year for the business people. She did not know what everyone thought about it.

Mayor Samples said a commitment was made to the business community that the town would try to host more functions that would bring them in so they could all communicate.

Ms. Kohlmann said she attended that and she knew a lot of people here did. She thought it was very well received by the business people. Mr. Stevens interrupted, but Ms. Kohlmann said they could not cross talk and continued her comment saying that she thought this item was important to let the town's business people know that they were accepted and they wanted to make them be able to approach council in different venues than here, and that was one that was very relaxing and it was on the town's pier, and she did not think it should be taken away.

Ms. Fellner said there was zero in that line item for this year; \$1,200 was put for next year, because the event at the pier cost \$1,200. That was the approximate amount, if just one event was held. This did not include an additional event like was held in the civic center. Staff determined the cost and budgeted the amount that the Chamber of Commerce paid.

Mr. Stevens said if he recalled right, the one at the pier was hosted by the Chamber of Commerce and they picked up the tab on that.

Mayor Samples thought what the Chamber did was handle the mailings, but he may be wrong. He did not remember the specifics. Ms. Fellner said the Chamber did pick up the tab for the event held this year; 2012-2013 had zero allocated. But, there was no guarantee that the Chamber would participate again next year, so staff budgeted the \$1,200 amount, because it seemed to be that the business committee liked the event, and that everyone enjoyed the function, and there was a lot of good will generated from it. If council did not want to hold the event for the business community, then it could be taken out.

Mr. Stevens said for a point of clarification he was involved in getting that meeting at the pier. Sammy Truett, chairman of the business committee, got the Chamber of Commerce to do that. The Chamber of Commerce actually benefits if they hold a meeting like that for the business community, because they have the opportunity to solicit new members to join. So, he just wondered if the town was duplicating a service that the Chamber of Commerce does and let the Chamber of Commerce, they can come in here and hold it. They can solicit business; they can solicit business people to join the Chamber of Commerce. Mr. Stevens said it seemed to him like it was a no brainer; the town did not have to spend the money. Let the Chamber do it. He guaranteed that the Chamber would do it again.

Mr. Johnson believed there were two different focuses with that thinking; one was the Chamber and one was the Town of Surfside Beach. The town wants to welcome those people as businesses in Surfside Beach. The town did not care if they were members of the Chamber. But, the town cares if they

560 are thriving businesses in Surfside Beach. This council has taken up that philosophy, and he just thought
561 that it would be prudent to leave the funds in the budget.
562

563 Ms. Kohlmann said maybe the business committee could work with the Chamber to get them to
564 pay for it, but she believed the money should be left in, in case the Chamber decides not to fund it, so that
565 the town is not caught short next year. She did not think the event should be done away with.
566

567 Mayor Samples agreed with Ms. Kohlmann, and said he did not know how the event held was
568 funded at the civic center, but somebody paid for the event. Ms. Fellner said the town has a 50th
569 anniversary coming up, and they were asking the Chamber to fund a lot of other items, so there might or
570 might not be funds available. She could not speak for the Chamber.
571

572 Mr. Stevens withdrew the motion. Ms. Dodge withdrew the second and said good argue [sic.]
573 **MOTION WITHDRAWN.**
574

575 Mr. Stevens referred to page 35 and moved to reduce postage in the finance department from
576 \$6,450 to \$5,000.
577

578 Mayor Samples asked if postage under finance included business licensing and other mailings.
579 He asked what that would do the department.
580

581 Ms. Kohlmann said a second was not yet made.
582

583 Ms. Dodge seconded.
584

585 Mayor Samples said thank you to Ms. Dodge. Postage in the finance department would be cut.
586

587 Mr. Smith asked what the suggested amount was.
588

589 Mayor Samples asked if the cut was \$1,500.
590

591 Mr. Stevens said \$1,450; the total would be \$5,000.
592

593 Ms. Kohlmann said again there was a pretty large increase for past years. She asked if
594 something changed or was shifted to this item. She knew postage went up. Ms. Fellner said postage did
595 go up, and right now the department was at \$4,300 at the close of April. This year they would probably
596 be right at the threshold, if not above that.
597

598 Mr. Stevens said in 2011 it was \$4,641; 2012, \$4,142, it actually went down about \$500 in 2012;
599 (**).
600

601 Mayor Samples said there was a 15-month budget previously.
602

603 Mr. Stevens said 2013 was \$4,930, and then it jumped from \$4,930 to \$6,450 proposed. He
604 understood that postage went up during the year of 2012, and 2013, and as the administrator just said
605 they had only spent \$4,300 as of April. So, therefore, he thought that \$5,000 was a fair amount.
606

607 Ms. Fellner said that the amount shown was through the month of April. Business licenses
608 renewals went out in May, so it would increase the amount.
609

610 Mayor Samples said the town has over 2,000 businesses, believe it or not.
611

612 Ms. Kohlmann said she was going to remind everybody that business licenses get mailed in May
613 because they renew on June 1st, and that was a huge chunk.
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615 Mr. Stevens said that would come out to 2,000 pieces at 44 cents or \$880. (**)

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Mayor Samples said God forgive, if a certified letter had to be sent. *(Laughter.)*

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

Mr. Stevens did not want to make a motion, but he asked for clarification on page 36, police department fund, the 2011 salaries, regular actual expenditure was \$874,609. The 2012 actual was \$954,262, and 2013 adopted was \$977,701; projected was \$900,000. Proposed for 2014 was \$1,069,390. His understanding was that they passed a motion to not hire anymore new people. This was an increase of \$115,128 from 2012. He knew they would not be hiring any new people; he just wanted an explanation of that from Chief Keziah, if he could. Chief Keziah explained that the employees that were previously paid out of hospitality funds were transferred to the general fund departmental budget.

Mayor Samples said some of the employees were previously paid out of a different fund; hospitality, which as previously discussed that might have been a questionable practice.

Mr. Stevens said so it was moved from hospitality fund to the general fund, was that right.

Mayor Samples said yes.

Mr. Stevens said so they took people out of hospitality and moved them to general. Chief Keziah said nobody got added; nobody got raises. They just moved the payment. Mr. Stevens said it was just a question, because he saw that amount and was wondering why; okay, no problem.

Mr. Stevens said on professional services, which he assumed was the courts, there was \$11,237 in 2011, and in 2012 it was \$7,038, and adopted \$12,000, projected of \$18,000, and then \$12,000 for prosecution by jury trials. He needed an explanation of that, because he understood with Lanier that would cut a lot of the costs down there and possibly they could shed some light on that subject.

Mayor Samples said some of this was discussed in executive session; some of this was a discussion over the change in prosecution. Ms. Herrmann reminded Mayor Samples that if discussion was held, a motion was needed to suspend the rules. Mayor Samples said she was right, and asked for a motion.

Mr. Stevens moved to suspend the rules to allow discussion. Mr. Smith seconded. All voted in favor. **MOTION CARRIED.**

Mayor Samples said members may remember that attorneys were changed this year. He said his recollection was that the previous firm used prosecutions as a loss leader. Mayor Samples said Mr. Stevens should be familiar with that since he was a sales person.

Mr. Stevens responded um huh.

Mayor Samples said as a loss leader for the town, and now what was in fact happening was the town was spending more of what the level of effort was in four court terms as opposed to three terms that sometimes were held in the past. The town was actually prosecuting people who probably should be prosecuted. Perhaps there would be more jury trials than have been held in the past as opposed to people walking. Mayor Samples said Mr. Stevens should feel free to ask more questions.

Mr. Stevens said that was good enough, and moved to reconvene regular session. Ms. Dodge seconded. All voted in favor. **MOTION CARRIED.**

Mr. Stevens referred to special events, page 36, and moved to cut from \$5,000 to \$2,000, unless Chief Keziah could give some further leeway [sic] on it. Ms. Dodge seconded.

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Chief Keziah said the addition was for the extra programs that were being implemented; the neighborhood community watches, the citizen's police academy. He said those programs could not be done for free; there was advertising, printing, notebooks, extra paper, supplies, refreshments, meals. It comes down to whatever direction council wished him to go.

Ms. Kohlmann said she definitely did not want to reduce that amount of money.

Mr. Stevens said due to Chief Keziah's explanation he withdrew the motion. Ms. Dodge withdrew the second, because it was a good explanation. **MOTION WITHDRAWN.** Mr. Stevens commented that if that was what that was being used for, he was for all that money being spent.

Mr. Stevens said under furniture, fixtures and equipment, he made a motion to defer that for one year. Ms. Dodge seconded.

Mayor Samples asked if that was in the police budget. Mr. Stevens said yes.

Ms. Kohlmann reminded everybody that the police did all their own painting, all their own work laying tile. They did not come and look for anything; the guys got together and did it on their own. So, if they need the furniture and fixtures, and if the chief wanted to speak to it; but she thought they should kind of notice when staff comes and does their thing.

Mayor Samples asked if public works staff helped. Mr. Adair said yes. Mayor Samples said okay, he wanted to make sure that they got credit, also.

Ms. Mabry said anyone that if anyone had ever been in the police department, they had to know that they were packed in there pretty tight, and if the chief said he needs that then he needed it.

Ms. Fellner believed that was a reasonable expenditure. The money would not be spent if the item was not needed. It was a placeholder for what was reasonable. She reminded council that maintenance was also necessary; wires have to be pulled for equipment and various other tasks that have to be performed, especially things like a roof leak. Ms. Fellner said that some amount should be kept in that line item.

Mr. Stevens asked if maintenance was in that item. Ms. Fellner said yes, if he would look at page 84, the detail states building maintenance, replacement of aging furniture, et cetera.

Ms. Dodge voted in favor. Mayor Samples, Mayor Pro Tempore Mabry, and Councilmembers Johnson, Kohlmann, and Smith voted against. Ms. Herrmann was unsure of Mr. Stevens' vote. Mr. Stevens said he voted no [sic.] Ms. Herrmann said that Mr. Stevens could not vote against his on motion. Mr. Stevens said he voted for his amendment. Mayor Samples said he voted for his motion, so Ms. Dodge and Mr. Stevens voted in the affirmative. **MOTION FAILED.**

Mr. Stevens referred to page 37, fire department, and moved to defer furniture, fixtures and equipment for one year. Ms. Dodge seconded.

Mayor Samples asked Chief Cimini what the impact would be. Chief Cimini replied it would have no impact.

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

Mr. Stevens referred to page 37, contractual services, and moved to reduce the amount from \$6,450 to \$4,500. Ms. Dodge seconded.

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Ms. Mabry asked for an explanation. Ms. Fellner referred to page 87; it was very clear and she did not believe the item should be cut. There were maintenance and service contracts on the station generator; overhead door maintenance contract; elevator service contract that includes the parts and labor; the annual state elevator inspection; the breathing air compressor maintenance contract; the SCBA (self-contained breathing apparatus) air testing contract, four tests per year; the SCBA flow test contract, and the copier maintenance.

Mayor Samples said if he understood the total was almost primarily safety related and/or maintenance on the building we have there that we want to keep in good repair. Ms. Feller said yes, sir.

Mr. Stevens withdrew the motion. Ms. Dodge withdrew the second. **MOTION WITHDRAWN.**

Mr. Stevens referred to page 37, essential equipment and supplies and moved to cut from \$19,000 by \$6,000. Ms. Dodge seconded.

Mayor Samples asked if he was cutting the amount to \$13,000. Mr. Stevens said yes.

Ms. Kohlmann asked if the chief could update council or tell them which page the justification was on. Chief Cimini said page 86, the increase was asked for because they needed to replace damaged fire hoses, and obsolete tools that did not work. Safety ropes were over ten years old; they are supposed to be replaced in operation and tested at 5 year intervals. Hoses were lost in the mandated testing requirement this year and the funds will replace them. Chief Cimini reminded the council that he previously recommended in his written report to establish a replacement schedule similar to the capital replacement schedule so the department did not run into this problem again. This was basically to bring the equipment up to the previous standard to keep in compliance with code. He hoped that next year they would only need to replace scheduled items. Ms. Kohlmann said these were all items that related directly to the safety of the fire department.

Ms. Mabry said she could not vote to reduce the amount of money that Chief Cimini needed to keep the safety equipment up.

Mayor Samples asked if there were any items that could be deferred that were not safety related. Chief Cimini said there was not one thing that could be deferred. Mayor Samples said okay.

Mr. Stevens withdrew the motion, because Chief Cimini felt he needed it. Ms. Dodge withdrew the second, and said again, they were not trying to hurt anybody. They were trying to find a way to save money. Thank you. **MOTION WITHDRAWN.**

Mr. Stevens referred to page 37, fire department office supplies, and moved to reduce the amount from \$2,500 to \$1,000. Ms. Dodge seconded.

Chief Cimini said the department office supply budget was out of money in January. Taking into account that all of their signs, forms, and everything they needed for inspections and so forth came out of that line item, he believed the increase was necessary. Also, all of the programs on the department's computers are outdated. Funds were budgeted to bring all of them up to date with current programming. What happens now is the fire marshal's computer operates in one program, and when he sends the files to someone else, they have to spend time reformatting the document before they can use it. Ms. Fellner suggested the upgrade so all the computers were operating on the same program.

Mayor Samples asked if the fund was kept at the level in the budget, if that would make all the programs compatible. Chief Cimini and Ms. Fellner both said yes, sir. Chief Cimini said that included labor cost to up-grade them, and he (***two speaking at once*). Mayor Samples said then next year everything would be done and all the software would be compatible. Chief Cimini said when the budget was prepared there were some holes and corrections, but the object of the updated proposal along with the justification was to show council that once the department achieves this level, it would be able to

784 come back to a normal operating budget. The things requested were to bring the department up to the
785 standard that it should be at this date. Mayor Samples said he understood, and thank you.
786

787 Mr. Stevens said he was satisfied with the explanation; he had justified the expenditures. Mr.
788 Stevens withdrew the motion. Ms. Dodge withdrew the second. **MOTION WITHDRAWN.**
789

790 Mr. Stevens referred to page 37, fire department dues and subscriptions and moved to reduce
791 the amount from \$2,000 to \$1,000. Ms. Dodge seconded.
792

793 Ms. Fellner said so far to date this year, that line item was already at \$1,448. To be realistic,
794 because they were trying to do what they are supposed to do, and train people accordingly, there had to
795 be money available to send staff for training; dues have to be paid, and there were subscriptions that
796 were necessary for the department to operate effectively. Ms. Fellner said \$2,000 was not unreasonable
797 by the time the month of June was closed out.
798

799 Ms. Kohlmann said for clarification that this was for the Fire Chief's Association, the International
800 Association of Firefighters, Arson Investigation and Fire Marshal Association, publications and periodicals
801 needed for training. She said those were all tools of the fire department. Sometimes they did not realize
802 that, but they needed to be updated on events, different new training techniques, and that was where a lot
803 of the information came from. These were resources for the department more than anything else and she
804 did know whether people realized that.
805

806 Mr. Stevens said since that had been justified, he would withdraw the motion. Ms. Dodge
807 withdrew her second. **MOTION WITHDRAWN.**
808

809 Mayor Samples asked if the International Association of Firefighters was a union. (***Chief Cimini*
810 *responded from the floor.*) Mayor Samples said thank you, he just wanted to clarify for the record,
811 because he knew South Carolina does have one. He knew some of the members, but just did not agree
812 with them philosophically on certain things. (***Chief Cimini commented from the floor.*)
813

814 Mr. Stevens said before he made a motion, he wanted Chief Cimini to come up and...

815 Ms. Kohlmann interrupted and Mayor Samples said Mr. Stevens had the floor at the moment.
816

817 Mr. Stevens continued saying that he would like to have him come up and address travel and
818 training and explain why it had gone up.
819

820 Mayor Samples asked if Mr. Stevens would like to make a motion, and then have him address it.
821

822 Mr. Stevens moved to cut the \$7,000 to \$3,500. Ms. Dodge seconded.
823

824 Chief Cimini referred to page 90, the justification for the increase to travel and training and said
825 the 2011-2012 budget amount was \$5,000. An increase was requested of \$2,000 for training of all
826 personnel in the first responder program. The addition requires the training to meet state minimum NFPA
827 (National Fire Protection Association) standards, because a good portion of the town calls were first
828 responder calls, and our people were not certified first responders. That \$2,000 increase is necessary to
829 get them into the certification program, which will take a year to complete.
830

831 Mr. Johnson moved to suspend the rules to allow discussion. Ms. Mabry seconded. All voted in
832 favor. **MOTION CARRIED.**
833

834 Ms. Herrmann said there was a motion on the floor that had not been disposed. Mr. Johnson
835 apologized and withdrew his motion.
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837 Mr. Stevens said since Chief Cimini had justified the expenditure very well he withdrew the
838 motion. Ms. Dodge withdrew the second. **MOTION WITHDRAWN.**
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Mr. Johnson moved to suspend the rules to allow discussion. Ms. Kohlmann seconded. All voted in favor. **MOTION CARRIED.**

Mr. Johnson said here we were, the 13th of June, asking questions about line items that should have been asked before, during, or right after the budget meeting, but they were not. He just felt compelled to express his concerns that here they were at the final hour asking these questions that should have been asked previously. That was his personal opinion.

Ms. Dodge said when you start looking at a budget critically and you are in a bind to come up with means to cut, but also to keep everything going as it should be, you did not think of all the questions nor did you think of all the answers. She said she surely did not. Thank you.

Mr. Stevens with all due respect to Mr. Johnson, the budget was a completely complicated issue. This budget had changed; there have been more papers thrown at them on this, more changes than he could count, and unfortunately, not every one of them worked full time. They did not work a 40 hour week here doing the budget. They worked it part time. He said that was basically what they were, part time people working for the town. So, he said they have to exercise due diligence and look at everything on there. Mr. Stevens said yes, they were picking at a few things, but they were getting them justified, and as he could see, they were getting answers that a lot of citizens would like to know. When you run a business; he said he ran a business; he wanted to know what he was spending. If somebody called him up and said you are going to spend this much money on this, he was not going to take it for granted. He would find out why he was spending that much money. So it was important that they look at everything.

Mr. Johnson said that he understood, but these again were questions that should have been asked a long time ago. He personally respected the inexperience.

Ms. Kohlmann thought everyone should respect each other's positions here, and she thought everybody spent a lot of time. Some may feel that this was not the time, but when was the time? She thought everyone should remain civil with each other, please.

Mayor Samples said everyone agreed with that and said again that he appreciated all the hard work that the council had done. He thought tonight was at least the seventh...

Ms. Kohlmann said eighth.

Mayor Samples said it was the eighth meeting, as a matter of fact. It was the eighth meeting in public on the budget, which he knew began in April in earnest, and with all due respect, Mr. Johnson did make a good point that there was an advantage to being experienced and having gone through budgets, which in fact are made up of paper. He did not know how else the budget could be presented, because it was a bunch of numbers; a bunch of line items, and a bunch of departments, which was one reason they schedule a two-day all-day opportunity to discuss the budget, and he understood that not everybody could attend for the second day. He thought what was being done was valuable in the sense that it was educational, and they were on the way to learn it, go through it, study it, commit it to memory. He said they should talk to the department directors and he was sure that when they were finished what they would find out was that the budget as proposed was pretty good this year. He thought that was how it was presented by staff to council, and he seconded that thought, because it was. They knew where we were and they are where they are. Mayor Samples said the budget that was adopted that is being finished this year, if you take the road out, this council still owns a \$400,000 deficit. Not past councils, this council. What was adopted on this budget this council owns, and so he appreciated the hard work that was being done to identify ways to cut and save money. For the record, Mayor Samples said, "this council has yet to balance a budget, and so you either gotta raise revenues or you gotta do what you're doing, continue to look under every nook and cranny to cut spending, because rest assured, at what the adopted millage is so far and what we're seeing tonight, you're gonna finish in a deficit. You're gonna adopt a budget that's in the red; total town. That's all I have to say."

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Mr. Johnson said he would apologize to his fellow councilmember and he moved to reconvene regular session. Mr. Smith seconded. All voted in favor. **MOTION CARRIED.**

Mr. Stevens referred to page 40 and needed to ask a question.

Mayor Samples said to either move to suspend the rules or offer a motion; one way or the other a motion needed to be made.

Mr. Stevens moved to suspend the rules. Ms. Dodge seconded. All voted in favor. **MOTION CARRIED.**

Mr. Stevens referred to salaries in public works saying it was at 305 [sic] in 2012; down to 302,000 in 2013, and now it was going up to 321,080 in 2014. He understood that a motion was already passed to not do any more hiring and asked if this was new positions. Ms. Fellner said those were positions previously paid from hospitality funds. Mr. Stevens said in hospitality, okay.

Mayor Samples said for the record, "it is important. The town was charging a lot of money to hospitality, salaries to hospitality."

Mr. Stevens said he had observed many times in the county; on utilities what measures were being taken to cut off the lights at Martin Park, and Fuller Park. He had gotten up at 3:30 in the morning and the tennis courts were on at Fuller Park. He actually got out one night when he couldn't sleep and drove his truck by Martin Park and all the lights were on. Not only had he seen it, but at least 50 different citizens had told him they are on. Mr. Adair said the lights were on timers at the tennis courts so people that wished to use the facility can turn them on. The lights are set to turn off at either 9 or 10 o'clock at night, and should not be able to be turned on after then. If that timer was not functioning, it would be repaired.

Mayor Samples asked if any calls had been received about the lights. Mr. Adair said one or two over the last couple of years. Mayor Samples said they were supposed to have a timer, because it was a problem years ago. Mr. Adair said there is a locked up timer, so the lights will not turn on after the set time.

Mr. Stevens said \$3,000 was allocated for engineering; he had spent \$500, and \$1,000. He said most of the time when we do something with professional services using Earthworks and people like that, but which other engineers were used and which projects were these small amounts for. Mr. Adair said various projects, for instance if the town has to build a bathroom or a street project that requires an engineer to draw up the plans so it would meet code. The town cannot contract with an engineer to do anything for less than a couple of thousand dollars. This is planning ahead for an unspecified project that will undoubtedly come up during the course of the year.

Ms. Dodge asked if we could just build a building; you have to have plans and so forth. Mr. Adair said that is correct. For example, the restroom was just completed at Huckabee. It had to be engineered, and the plan was sent to Horry County for approval. Without engineered plans, the county would not have issued a permit. Any building construction projects have to be engineered. Ms. Dodge said thank you.

Mayor Samples reminded everybody that the town was criticized in the past for not following the rules. He asked if anyone remembered that other than himself. Several members acknowledged affirmatively. Mayor Samples said staff was trying to follow the rules. Mr. Adair said even if he was doing a project in house like laying pipe on Poplar Drive to divert flooding, he still was required to have engineer plans showing the grade elevations were correct.

Ms. Dodge said she was going back to school and was going to become an engineer.
(Laughter.)

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Mr. Stevens said he was well aware of when you have to have an engineer, because he used to build houses. He said a 2000 [sic] Ford F150, page 42, the item was deferred until next year. He understood that right now they had four grounds vehicles. Mr. Adair said that was correct.

Mayor Samples asked to stop here, and asked what the status was, because it was deferred. He remembered discussion of an alternative source, so he wanted to clear it up right now. Mr. Adair said they were going to finance that purchase through the sale of grader and the existing vehicle that was being sold. Mayor Samples asked if everyone was aware of that.

Mr. Stevens said he could sell the grader for 15 grand. Mr. Adair said they should get about 15,000 for it, and 2,000 for the truck being replaced, which should come close to paying for the new F150.

Mayor Samples asked if the grader should be sold and the money kept. Mr. Adair said again, this was under capital replacement.

Mr. Stevens said there were four trucks in grounds, and asked which ones were the oldest and newest trucks.

Ms. Kohlmann said 2001, no, 97.

Mr. Adair said the 1998 Chevy was the oldest one in the grounds department and there were 2001, 2004, and 2011 models in use.

Mr. Stevens said they were going to take the grader and sell it for 15 grand and then trade the 1998 truck. Mr. Adair said yes, they would probably sell it on GovDeals. Mr. Stevens said okay; it was just a question he wanted clarification on, because he thought something was mentioned about it the other day and he wanted it clarified, because they had deferred that and now we're going to be able to buy it, but we actually would not have to spend much money. Mr. Adair said that was correct.

Mayor Samples said if there were no other questions for Chief Keziah and Chief Cimini, they could be excused. There were no other questions for them. Chief Keziah was wished happy birthday!

Mr. Stevens referred to page 23, and said his question was there is a civic center and club house and there was \$5,500 proposed for repair and maintenance. He exactly what was being done to those two buildings. Ms. Ellis said there was nothing specific planned; those funds were in case something went wrong. There were two air conditioning units that cannot keep up with the 101 degree weather. Mr. Stevens asked if she was talking about the civic center. Ms. Ellis said yes. Mr. Stevens said that was fine and basically all he needed to ask about that.

Mayor Samples said he knew great people were regularly using the civic center and had been doing so forever, but council needed to be made aware of the rates charged. Ms. Ellis agreed. Mayor Samples said historically the center was provided as a service, and it was a service, but in view of the town's situation, council should revisit the rates. Ms. Ellis said anyone that wants to rent is charged \$45 whether it was for one hour or for 24 hours. To rent the clubhouse was \$35. Both have a \$50 cleaning deposit that was returned if the facility is left clean. Mayor Samples said the calendar indicates the building was used quite a bit. Ms. Ellis said the majority of users do not pay any fees. Mayor Samples said right.

Mr. Smith asked why they were not charged.

Mayor Samples said it was tradition. Ms. Ellis said they are nonprofit groups; history, tradition. She brought the fees to the attention of previous councils, and they decided that nonprofits should not have to pay. There is a church that uses the civic center on Sundays, and it pays \$25. The bridge club does not pay. There are only three people with business licenses; the two line dance instructors and the

1007 hula instructor. Mary Kay Cosmetics and the church pay \$25 each time they use it. Mayor Samples
1008 asked her to advise council sometime before the end of the year.

1009
1010 Ms. Kohlmann asked if Ms. Ellis could be excused so she could go down to Movie After Dark.

1011
1012 Mayor Samples said of course and asked if there would be police officers at the park. Ms.
1013 Kohlmann said she believed so. Ms. Ellis said Chief Keziah always covered it; she did not even have to
1014 ask most of the time. They were setting up, and she needed to make sure everything was ready to go at
1015 9 o'clock. Mayor Samples thanked Ms. Ellis and excused her.

1016
1017 Mr. Stevens referred to page 45, general fund non-departmental expenditures and said the first
1018 item was wellness. Only about \$2,000 a year was being spent in the past and the proposed amount was
1019 \$3,400. He asked Ms. Fellner if that had anything to do with the change in the insurance carrier, and
1020 what was the reason for the increase. Ms. Fellner said it was to try to keep the insurance lower. There
1021 was a wellness program and the town works with the Municipal Association of South Carolina. There
1022 were two programs; one was an event for employees that include information on better nutrition. Mr.
1023 Stevens asked if that was the event held in the civic center. Ms. Fellner said yes. Mr. Stevens said okay.
1024 Ms. Fellner said the health fair was one event. A booklet also was put together and meetings were held
1025 for staff. Mr. Stevens asked if that that was going to cost an extra \$1,400 next year. Ms. Fellner said yes,
1026 it would. Mr. Stevens said alright. Ms. Fellner said quarterly meetings were required now, which were not
1027 previously required, so there is more paperwork. Mr. Stevens asked if that was per the insurance carrier
1028 that they met with in the finance department. Ms. Fellner said no, this was for SCMIRF (South Carolina
1029 Municipal Insurance and Risk Financing Fund.)

1030
1031 Mayor Samples said it was the State Risk, which was separate.

1032
1033 Mr. Stevens said okay, no problem. He believed he recalled that they did want them to do a lot of
1034 that.

1035
1036 Mayor Samples said he was right, in order to get the lower premiums and lower deductibles for
1037 the employees there were certain things they had to do and then they would get lower deductibles.

1038
1039 Ms. Dodge asked if the employee paid part of the health insurance premium. Ms. Fellner said
1040 yes, that information was available and she would be happy to share it with her. The finance committee
1041 studied the contributions when the insurance carrier was reviewed. Ms. Dodge said when she worked for
1042 a state agency she was required to pay part of her health insurance premium. She thought that was a
1043 good thing. Ms. Fellner said yes, and the employee's deductible was increased, as well. Ms. Dodge said
1044 thank you very much.

1045
1046 Mayor Samples thought council should see the current percentages that were being paid by the
1047 town employees, because under the new system while their fee did not go up ours went down percentage
1048 wise.

1049
1050 Mr. Stevens said his next question was really for Ms. Ellis, but she was excused to go to Movies
1051 After Dark (*Laughter.*) He referred to page 56, hospitality, and said there is \$3,200 for memorial upkeep.

1052
1053 Mayor Samples said it was the Veterans Memorial.

1054
1055 Mr. Stevens said he understood that, but his question was whether the grounds department
1056 automatically took care of it. He saw the grounds crews out there every day at the dog park and the
1057 Veterans Memorial cleaning up and taking care of the places. Ms. Fellner said the money for the
1058 Veterans Memorial was in hospitality. Mr. Stevens asked if anything other than what the grounds crew
1059 does was done or was it something special. Ms. Fellner said there were two services: Memorial Day,
1060 and Veterans Day. Mr. Stevens said okay, he had no problem with that. He just wanted the clarification.
1061 Ms. Fellner said there were flowers; there were programs, there... Mr. Stevens interrupted and said

1062 basically what was done they were taking the work done by the grounds department and putting it under
1063 the Veterans Memorial. Ms. Fellner said not the manpower.
1064

1065 Ms. Kohlmann said for clarification for Mr. Stevens that she thought that he was confusing two
1066 things. What this represents was they change out the flowers for different services and when they do the
1067 services Ms. Ellis has to print out things for the public and she thought that represented that it had nothing
1068 to do with grounds. She said they were two separate issues. (**) But they were paying for recreation's
1069 function.
1070

1071 Mayor Samples wanted to be clear about the term manpower, because these were holidays when
1072 the services were held. He asked if staff had to be called in to work the events. Ms. Fellner said the
1073 plantings were done during the work week. Mayor Samples said that was where he was confused; it was
1074 all work done prior to the service. Ms. Fellner believed everything was done in advance. Mayor Samples
1075 said they mentioned printing, for example. Ms. Fellner said Ms. Ellis handled printing.
1076

1077 Ms. Dodge said the plantings around the Veterans Memorial were beautiful and the service was
1078 wonderful. It made her proud and she thanked Mr. Adair for their work.
1079

1080 Mayor Samples asked Mr. Stevens if he wished to pursue his question.
1081

1082 Mr. Stevens said no, he just wanted clarification. (**)
1083

1084 Mr. Stevens referred to page 57, under non-departmental expenditures there was a line item of
1085 \$3,500 for new swings, but the explanation says something like equipment for the dog park and swings.
1086 Mr. Adair said the justification page was 146. He explained that items was a placeholder. It was not
1087 necessarily going to be a purchase for the dog park. During the last budget year they contemplated
1088 adding a play feature for the dogs, but could not find any type tunnel or rings, or other equipment that he
1089 was confident that the dogs would want to play on. Benches were purchased instead, but the money is
1090 allocated every year as a place holder in case there were broken swings or other playground equipment.
1091 Mr. Stevens said alright, and so it would be \$3,500 to replace any swings anywhere needed. Mr. Adair
1092 said yes and it could be in any of the parks. Mr. Stevens said okay, that was fine. He did not have any
1093 problem, but he did want to comment that the people at the dog park have their own swimming pool down
1094 there now. So, maybe they need to get in there and put a swimming pool. He thought the pool belonged
1095 to one of the patrons.
1096

1097 Mayor Samples said as hot as it was, it was probably a good idea.
1098

1099 Mr. Stevens said he happened to notice when he looked out the window at his house, he noticed
1100 the dogs were laying out in the swimming pool. He asked if the shower towers that were listed on that
1101 same page were the standing showers like were at the pier parking lot and 1st and 2nd Avenues. Mr.
1102 Adair said that was right. Mr. Stevens said so basically the same thing. Mr. Adair said they are much
1103 better than the old single pipe with one little showerhead. Mr. Stevens asked if any new ones had been
1104 put up. Mr. Adair said yes, there were two new ones being installed this year; one at 6th Avenue North,
1105 (**two speaking at once) and he believed the other one would be at 3rd South. Originally, the plan was to
1106 install it at 6th Avenue South, but now it was going to be put at 3rd South. Mr. Stevens said there was
1107 \$25,000 for landscaping. He has had a lot of people comment on the landscaping. Some like it; some do
1108 not like it. The ones that do not like it prefer the landscaping that was put in under a prior council's
1109 administration on 14th Avenue North.
1110

1111 Mayor Samples said 14th Avenue North was recently landscaped.
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1113 Mr. Stevens said no, he was talking about 14th; he was talking about landscaping.
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1115 Mayor Samples asked if he meant palm trees.
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Mr. Stevens said palm trees and landscaping. He asked if he was familiar with the landscaping on the end of 14th Avenue North. Mr. Adair asked if it was on Ocean Boulevard. Mr. Stevens said yes. Mr. Adair said that six or seven palm tree beds were planted all along Ocean Boulevard in the last few years. Mr. Stevens said yeah, and asked if any more of those would be done, because they seemed to be popular with a lot of people. Mr. Adair said yes, there was a program in place to continue that, and then the parking meters came about. Any space that was large enough to accommodate a palm tree bed was taken up by parking meters. In a long stretch of right-of-way he could not put palm tree beds now too close to driveways, because it would impair vision. They had to buy some with the last Palmetto Pride grant, and the palm trees were planted up Surfside Drive. He did not anticipate putting any more palm tree beds on Ocean Boulevard in light of the parking meter situation. Mr. Stevens said okay, that was all.

Ms. Dodge said she had received a lot of negative comments about the wooden boxes that the planting were in. She wondered if they could be taken out and the beds filled with mulch. She said it would look more natural. The boxes kind of take away from the plantings. The plantings look very nice. Mr. Adair understood her comments, and said that was one of the reasons there was more money in the budget. That \$25,000 for landscaping is so landscaping could be installed edge-to-edge in those areas. But something had to be put in place pretty quickly in areas that were not large for a parking meter, because people might want to put a car there, so those plantings served dual purpose; to improve landscaping and to discourage people from parking in those areas. They would have received a ticket for parking there, because it would have been 10 feet from a driveway or whatever. The plan was to do more comprehensive landscaping along the boulevard, and that was why the money was budgeted. Ms. Dodge said okay; she did not like those boxes. Mr. Adair, said yes, but they served the purpose. Ms. Dodge said thank you very much. Mr. Adair said she was welcome.

Mayor Samples asked if there were any questions for Ms. Morris, and he apologized for not asking earlier. There were no questions for Ms. Morris. Mayor Samples thanked her for being at the meeting and said she was excused. Mayor Samples asked if there were questions or comments from others.

Mr. Stevens said he thought he had done everything that he wanted to do. He had brought out some issues, and he thought he had received some good answers, some justifications, and he had people ask him to go line by line and look at different things and look at expenditures and he had done that. So, he had done his due diligence, whether it was nitpicking, whatever you wanted to call it; he had done his diligence. Mr. Stevens said that was what you had to do when you represent the people. You have to ask for everything that you possibly think of. Now, some people might say that was inexperience, but he said it was being frugal. It was being completely diligent in what you were looking at. You were questioning everything and they had a right as councilmen, and that was their duty as councilmen to question everything, expenditure, and if it was justified then they would go ahead and pass it. He said it was as simple as that. Some things he did not agree with in the budget, but if it was for the betterment of the town, the betterment of the citizens he had no problem with it.

Ms. Dodge appreciated Mr. Stevens biting the bullet on these cuts. She said it was really hard to go through here and it was like doing the budget at home. You look at it and say dang, if I only had more money to work with, and we do not have it. What they were trying to do was to make sure that they got the most bang for the buck; even if it was only one buck. She thanked everyone for their patience. Ms. Dodge referred to page 62, and said she wanted to bring out about the fireworks display. She knew the town's people benefited from that, but the people who benefited most did not live here. They come over and they park in people's yards. They park everywhere; hanging from skyhooks, some of them. She wondered instead of doing a fireworks display, maybe they should do something else, like using the pier and do some kind of party at the pier instead of spending the money for the fireworks. Ms. Dodge said it was just a suggestion.

Mr. Smith thanked Mr. Stevens for bringing up all the budget items; good explanations help him to understand the budget better, and he loved fireworks.

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Ms. Mabry reminded everybody that, yes, a lot of people do come into town and that was what we are; a town that invites people in. That was how the town pays its bills, through businesses being successful and they would be successful if tourists came and went to their businesses. It gives an opportunity to show off our town. It was by far the busiest event by the pier, and gives us a chance to show off the pier, so she had to say that this was great fun. Everybody loved it. They walked from Deerfield and from anywhere they can. She thought it was a wonderful thing and she hoped they kept the fireworks.

Mr. Stevens said as far as the fireworks display he understood it was, you might as well say, it was a lot of money going up in smoke. But, in all his years of going to Disney World, when he took his daughter and all her friends, and she grew up down there. the one thing they went to see every night at Epcot was the firework laser light show. If it was dark enough at the Magic Kingdom and MGM, they went to see the fireworks shows there. He said to believe him, those folks who come here in town during the fireworks; he saw them come and park all over the place. He even thought about renting his driveway out one time, but his conscience got the better of him. Mr. Stevens said the fact was that the fireworks show was an excellent show. A lot of young kids and families sat there and watched the fireworks and it was a lot of money. But, it was gone in a short while, but he said face it, the 4th of July was our nation's birthday. What better way to celebrate our Declaration of Independence than all those fires going, the rocket's red glare, the bombs bursting in air. It was great. So, as much as he knew it was money going up in smoke, his father always complained about buying fireworks, and he thought it was a good thing for the tourists that were here and it was probably the busiest time of the whole season. They were enjoying it and they were spending their money. Mr. Stevens said those people sitting in those beach houses, he did not know what they were paying, probably \$4 or \$5 thousand for 4th of July week, and they can sit on a balcony and watch those fireworks blast off and just have a great time.

Mayor Samples agreed.

Ms. Kohlmann said please excuse everyone so they can go to Movies After Dark. She had been waiting years to go to movies in the park!

Mr. Johnson said do not get him wrong, he was not against councilmembers going line by line by line, by any stretch of the imagination. He just thought the time frame and the fact that they were where they were now was his concern. A lot of the questions that were asked at the last meeting and tonight's meeting were repetitive. We already received the answers, and again, he apologized. He respected everyone or else he would not still be serving. He also respected all the employees, but he just thought some of these questions could have been addressed sooner.

Mayor Samples appreciated Mr. Johnson's comments, and wanted to say that Mr. Johnson probably remembered and he knew he remembered prior to Mr. Booth and Mr. Duckett. He really wanted to commend Ms. Fellner. They have returned to fulfilling their obligation, which was to go line by line. He could assure everyone under former mayor Hyman everyone knew what was in the budget. For whatever reasons and it did not matter, because they were where they were today, the only way that the council could fulfill its obligations was to go line by line. There was no other solution. That was what they were elected to do. Council could not delegate its fiduciary responsibility, and that was what happened in the past. He repeated, because it was not a slam on this council, but it was a fact, the budget year they were in now, even taking back \$780,000 from the highway, this council owned the deficit of \$400,000; more was being spent this year and the council had not balanced the budget yet. This council owned it, so you could ask where the money went in the past, but that was water under the bridge. It was gone. It was council's responsibility to balance revenues with expenditures and up to this point, they had not done that.

Mr. Smith understood how the mayor said the total town budget was not in balance, but the general fund has an excess. So, they were ahead of the game in the general fund, and he moved to adjourn.

1229 Mayor Samples said that was true, and if he could, the general fund was over \$5 million of the
1230 almost \$9 million budget. There was no doubt about it. He was glad that the general fund was balanced.
1231 He was equally glad that the council was spending the money legally in accordance with the town's
1232 ordinances.
1233

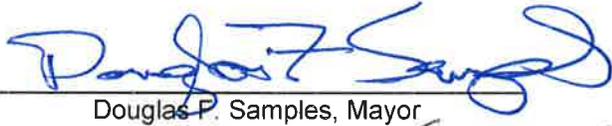
1234 **5. ADJOURNMENT.**

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1236 Mayor Samples said there was a motion by Mr. Smith. Mr. Johnson seconded. All voted in favor.
1237 **MOTION CARRIED.** (Clerk's Note: The meeting adjourned at 8:51 p.m.)
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1239 Prepared and submitted by,

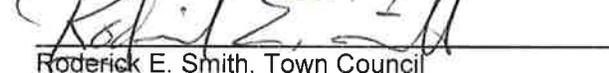
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1241 _____
1242 Debra E. Herrmann, CMC, Town Clerk
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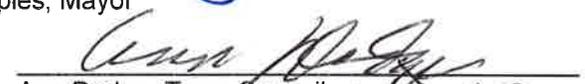
1244 Approved: July 9, 2013

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1247 Douglas P. Samples, Mayor
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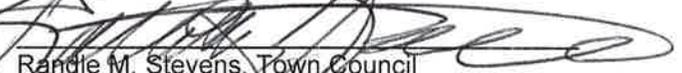
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1251 Mary M. Mabry, Mayor Pro Tempore
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1255 Mark L. Johnson, Town Council
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1259 Roderick E. Smith, Town Council
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1267 Elizabeth A. Kohlmann, Town Council
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1271 Randle M. Stevens, Town Council
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1273 Clerk's Note: This document constitutes minutes of the meeting that was audio taped. These are
1274 detailed minutes documenting each member's comments. Appointments to hear audio tapes may be
1275 scheduled with the town clerk. In accordance with FOIA, meeting notice and the agenda were distributed
1276 to local media and interested parties. The agenda was posted on the town website, the entry door at
1277 Town Council Chambers, and in the Town Hall reception area. Meeting notice was also posted on the
1278 Town marquee. Public Comments and Town Council Comments are transcribed as close to verbatim as
1279 possible. When (**) is used a section of the tape is inaudible.
1280