



**SURFSIDE BEACH TOWN COUNCIL
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
NOVEMBER 26, 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; Public Works Director Adair; Recreation Supervisor Ellis, and Town Clerk Herrmann.

Mayor Samples reminded everyone that the Christmas Tree Lighting would be Thursday, December 5th at seven o'clock in front of town hall. He hoped everyone would attend.

2. INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE.

Missionary Jack Narvel with Youth with a Mission gave the invocation. Mayor Samples lead the Pledge.

3. AGENDA APPROVAL.

Mr. Smith moved to approve the agenda with an amendment to defer Business Item 7.A.i. second reading of Ordinance #13-0764 Planning Building and Zoning Fees until the December 10th meeting. Ms. Mabry seconded. Mr. Smith explained that second reading should be held after the public hearing. All voted in favor. **MOTION CARRIED.**

4. MINUTES APPROVAL.

Ms. Dodge moved to approve the minutes of the November 12, 2013 meeting as submitted. Mr. Johnson seconded. All voted in favor. **MOTION CARRIED.**

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

There were no public comments on agenda items.

6. COMMUNICATIONS.

A. Employee Recognition – James Behrens, 5 years.

Mayor Samples presented Mr. Behrens with a certificate, service pin, and check. Mr. Behrens, who works in the public works grounds division, received a standing ovation.

B. Department Reports.

i. Finance.

Ms. King presented the written report, a copy of which is on file. In general funds property collections were over last year by \$78,000. Much of that was due to four mils being allocated to general fund, instead of the capital projects fund. This year only one mil is allocated to capital projects. There were 42 new business licenses, which includes new owners for existing businesses. There were eight brand new businesses: a dentist; a hairdresser; a lawyer; a masseuse; a marketing firm; a sales company, and a new owner for an existing restaurant. There were ten out of town companies; eight new rentals, and 16 contractors. Funds were transferred from accommodations tax and local accommodations tax to the general fund, which is scheduled quarterly after monies were received from the state. Reimbursement for underground utilities was \$177,000, which was received from Santee

57 Cooper and Lee Electric; \$14,500 is still due from Verizon, which is now known as Frontier. DDC
58 Engineers was asked to help the town get payment, because DDC was the project engineer. General
59 fund expenditures exceeded last year by \$78,000, which was mostly due to transfers of salaries and
60 parking expenditures that were previously charged to hospitality funds. Capital projects fund has
61 expenditures year-to-date of \$41,000 for water quality and the 6th Avenue South pond project. An
62 accommodations tax check was received from the state in the amount of \$336,000, which was \$80,000
63 more than last year. Some of the excess was for money owed to the town that the state is slowly paying.
64 Ms. King explained that some of the excess may have to be returned to the state during the next quarter,
65 because they state was paying the town for some of its neighbors, i.e. Plantation Resort. State staff was
66 contacted and asked to correct its records to avoid the overpayments. Local accommodations taxes and
67 hospitality were ahead of last year by \$17,650. Payments in the month of October were for the months of
68 July, August, and September. This would be the last big payment for this revenue. Both of the enterprise
69 funds were higher than last year. Sanitation had a rate increase, and the pier fund now receives its share
70 of the parking revenue. Under the accounting rules, when a monthly financial statement was reported, a
71 statement of the beginning and ending fund balances was required for each fund so that it would conform
72 to the comprehensive financial report at year end. That change was implemented beginning with this
73 report.
74

75 Mayor Samples said to ensure that everyone understood that the monthly reports were now
76 consistent with the audit requirements for reporting. The monthly reports track along with the annual
77 audit. Heretofore, they were not prepared that way. The reports now show a 'real picture' following
78 certified rules, because the fund balances could be tracked monthly instead of annually. Ms. King said
79 those numbers would be most accurate on the quarter, because the town booked depreciation quarterly.
80

81 Ms. King proceeded to highlight various portions of the reports –
82

- 83 • General fund - quarterly payments received from Time Warner Cable, and the monthly payment
84 Grand Strand Water & Sewer, and \$301 from HTC for the cable at Harbor Lights, quarterly local
85 aid to subdivisions payment, and the Horry County quarterly road maintenance fee payment, and
86 Lanier, \$11,000, Lee Electric, \$177,000
- 87 • Capital Projects – Expenses exceed revenue by \$30,000
- 88 • Accommodations Tax, Local Accommodations Tax & Hospitality funds - \$336,000 was received
89 for the quarter from the state. The Chamber of Commerce receives 30-percent of that amount
90 pursuant to state code, which totals \$93,000 and will show next month as an expenditure.
91 General fund receives \$25,000, also pursuant to state code.
- 92 • Pier fund – Revenue equals \$190,000 year-to-date and expenses of \$65,000, netting \$124,000
- 93 • Sanitation fund – net positive \$131,000
- 94 • Lanier Parking fund – seasonal meter revenue receipts equal \$226,000. Lanier has outstanding
95 citations that will continue to generate revenue during the next few months. Charges were
96 estimated at \$9,000, but the invoice was received today for \$12,000. Based on this report, Lanier
97 has charged the town \$109,000 so the amount after that payment would be \$156,000. Other
98 expenditures were made in the amount of \$7,500, so the net to the town is \$148,000. The
99 parking season is over, so very little revenue would be received during the coming months. She
100 expected Lanier to charge the town between \$5 and \$6 thousand for November and December.
101 The \$137,000 estimate was probably fairly accurate when the \$7,500 other charges were
102 deducted.
103

104 Ms. Kohlmann referred to page 5 and asked for an explanation of the police \$61,621 expenditure.
105 Ms. King said that was to purchase two police vehicles during October.
106

107 Mr. Smith asked if the fund balances were the beginning of the fiscal year or the beginning of the
108 month. Ms. King said that was the number that would be the audited fund balance number in the financial
109 report. Mr. Smith asked over what period of time.
110

111 Mayor Samples said the beginning of the fiscal year. Ms. King said yes, July 1st.
112

113 Mr. Smith asked about the ending fund balance. Ms. King said it was year-to-date as of the end
114 of the report, October 31st. Mr. Smith asked why the budget was the same as the year-to-date number.
115 Ms. King said the budget was the same as the beginning balance, because the goal was to make your
116 budget number be what the end of the year balance would be. Mr. Smith asked if there were eight new
117 businesses. Ms. King said there were eight new licenses; one of the restaurants in town changed
118 owners, so it was not technically a new business.
119

120 Mayor Samples said last year the town had already received about \$100,000 from the Municipal
121 Association business license revenue. Less than \$2,000 was received this year. Ms. King said that was
122 because that money was actually due in June of the prior fiscal year and was paid late. It was
123 erroneously counted in last year's budget; the \$111,000 was a non-recurring item. Business license fees
124 were due in June, but some paid late. Mayor Samples hoped that councilmembers understood the
125 report more clearly. The contents were more comprehensive than it had been in the past. He
126 appreciated staff's efforts very, very much.
127

128 ii. Recreation.

129
130 Ms. Ellis presented the written report, a copy of which is on file. The Nathan Black Memorial 5K
131 race was held on November 26th; 57 runners participated. Ms. Diane Smith sent a very nice thank you
132 card for the town's support and participation. The Veterans Day service was November 11th. About 100
133 people attended. It was a wonderful service. She thanked the grounds crew who prepared the memorial
134 park and got it looking great. Christmas decorations were being put up. The annual Christmas tree
135 lighting would be December 5th. Mr. Behrens did a great job hanging tree lights. Highway 17 will be
136 decorated the week of December 9th. Lakewood Elementary Chorus and Steel Band will provide
137 entertainment at the tree lighting along with Low Country Community Church Praise Team and the
138 Socastee Bravettes. Children from Gateway Academy will distribute programs and candy canes.
139 Invitations to march in the parade were sent to 17 high schools; St. James High School and Hemingway
140 High School will march. To date there were 55 parade entrants. The Turkey Trot would be Thursday at
141 eight o'clock at the pier parking lot. It happens that that is going to be the coldest day of the year! The
142 Christmas parade is December 14th at two o'clock. The employee Christmas luncheon is Friday,
143 December 20th at noon. Breakfast with Santa is December 21st from 9:00 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. at the
144 Golden Egg.
145

146 Mayor Samples asked if councilmembers agreed to have a float again this year. **There were no**
147 **objections.**
148

149 Ms. Dodge said the Veterans Day services were always good, but she thought this year's
150 Veterans Day service was exceptional. Mr. Howard Barnard's comments were wonderful. She really
151 appreciated it.
152

153 Mr. Smith asked what time council should assemble for the parade. Ms. Ellis said a message
154 would be sent to Town Council with the details. The float has benches this year. Mr. Smith asked if there
155 were cushions, too. Ms. Ellis said cushions could be added, if council wanted them. Mr. Smith thought
156 the Veterans Day service was very good. He also thought the monument looked very nice. He thanked
157 Mr. Adair and Ms. Ellis for their work.
158

159 Mr. Johnson commented that the Breakfast with Santa time was 9:00 to 10:30 a.m. Ms. Ellis said
160 that was correct.
161

162 Mayor Samples said there is a volunteer appreciation drop in on December 6th at the civic center
163 from 2:00 to 4:00 p.m. Ms. Ellis was helping with the event. He hoped everyone would participate.
164

165 iii. Public Works.

166
167 Mr. Adair presented the written report, a copy of which is on file. Sanitation crews removed eight
168 Moby carts; five accounts were no longer active and three no longer had overflow. Commercial service

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169 routes continued to be updated based on business needs. Five accounts reduced service days. The
170 supervisor explained the commercial service schedule to two new business owners, Southern Auto Mart
171 and US Marine Marketing. Pelican Pass replaced its dumpster with a new one. Ocean Garden Buffet
172 closed and cancelled its account. Thanksgiving week recycling will be collected on Friday, November
173 29th, instead of Thursday. Once a week winter rollout in the R-3 and C-3 districts began September 11th
174 and will continue until May 8th; 14 accounts opted out. The September household hazardous/e-waste
175 collection received 2,810 pounds of electronic waste that was properly disposed by Creative Recycling.
176 The town received a Solid Waste Grant that will pay the \$237.05 cost. October collections include 327.9
177 tons of solid waste; 38 tons of mixed debris; 160 tons of yard debris, and 41.4 tons of recyclables. Street
178 and drainage crews continue to rake the beach and empty the trash and recycling cans. Swashes were
179 dug out as needed. Landscaping, decks and seating upgrades at 16th Avenue North were completed at
180 the Magnolia lake outfall. Work was almost completed on the 6th Avenue South pond filling and green
181 space restoration project. Trimming trees and removal of overhanging branches continue throughout
182 town. Winterization of the beach shower towers started and should be completed by mid-December.
183 Street sweeping continues on Mondays and Fridays, weather permitting. Seven reports were sent to
184 Santee Cooper identifying improperly working street lights. Grounds crews continue to remove trees that
185 pose safety hazards; pruning was completed in the passive park. Crews were installing Christmas
186 decorations at town hall and around town. Winter rye grass seeding was completed on most town
187 properties. Fleet maintenance completed 54 repairs on town vehicles and equipment; 29 vehicles had
188 preventive maintenance performed. Facilities crew installed a new welcome sign and lighting at the
189 intersection of Melody Lane and US Highway 17. The new sign is constructed of high-density urethane
190 that would not rot and should last 20 to 30 years or longer. Lights were repaired at the town hall flag pole,
191 so the flag are properly lit. Hanging flower baskets at the pier were replanted with winter flowers by the
192 beautification committee. Updated decorative lighting continues to be installed at the pier, in addition to
193 path lighting for the handicapped ramp. Mr. Adair said in addition to Mr. Behrens' completing five years of
194 service, he also serves as a volunteer firefighter for the town, and he and his wife just welcomed their first
195 baby. Mr. Adair welcomed Mr. Bert Power, the new mechanic. Public works office will be closed
196 Thursday and Friday to observe Thanksgiving holidays.

197
198 Ms. Dodge asked if the town was paid for the work employees did on the Turkey Trot. Mr. Adair
199 believed the vendor reimbursed the town.

200
201 Mr. Smith asked if any work was done for the Nathan Black race. Ms. Ellis said only she and
202 police officers were involved; they donated their time. Mr. Smith congratulated Mr. Adair on the quote in
203 *RecyclonomicsSC* magazine. That was great. Recycling was a big thing in our town. He had a problem
204 recycling small batteries, AAA to D sizes, and asked if any accommodations could be made to collect
205 them in advance of the semi-annual events. Mr. Adair said plans were underway to provide a collection
206 station at the town hall complex. Alkaline batteries were recyclable, and the Solid Waste Authority would
207 accept them. Mr. Smith asked if a collection place could be made to accept small fluorescent light bulbs.
208 Mr. Adair said those type bulbs were part of the hazardous household waste stream. They could not be
209 stored safely, and would have to be held until a drop-off event.

210
211 Ms. Kohlmann asked if lights could be placed at the welcome sign on the north side of town. Mr.
212 Adair said there was no power near that sign. He could contact Santee Cooper to install a meter, but it
213 would be an additional monthly cost of about \$25. He would be happy to move forward as council
214 directed. Ms. Kohlmann suggested that councilmembers view the sign at night and bring their opinions.
215 The sign was so dark that drivers could not see it at night.

216
217 Mr. Johnson agreed with Ms. Kohlmann. Since the signs were being upgraded, he believed up-
218 lighting was needed on the sign. He was in favor of identifying funding.

219
220 Mayor Samples asked if there was any objection to having Mr. Adair bring the matter back for
221 consideration as a business item.

222
223 Mr. Smith wanted Mr. Adair to present costs. Mr. Adair said if Santee Cooper had a pole nearby,
224 it should not be too difficult to connect.

225
226 Ms. Kohlmann asked if accommodations or hospitality revenue could be used to pay for the
227 lighting, since the town is a tourist destination.
228

229 Mayor Samples said that could be checked and Mr. Adair could present recommendations for
230 funding with the cost information.
231

232 **There were no objections.**
233

234 **C. Administrator's Report – Update on Current Events.**
235

236 **i. Update on Current Events.**
237

238 Ms. Fellner reported:
239

- 240 • Magazine production – ad base sales had not increased since the last meeting and are still at
241 \$19,852.
- 242 • Winter street paving projects were delayed due to weather and are scheduled for the coming
243 week, weather permitting. New flyers were being delivered to affected residents to inform them of
244 the new schedule. Streets involved are 14th Avenue South from Dogwood Drive to Highway 17;
245 Oak Drive North from 1st Avenue to Myrtle North, and 13th Avenue North from Ocean Boulevard
246 to Cedar Drive North.
- 247 • The bid for the pier parking lot ADA (Americans with Disabilities) enhancements would be
248 awarded to the low bidder, J. W. Hardee for \$38,000. The budget was \$43,500; the town will not
249 to spend \$5,500 of what was budgeted. The only other responsive bidder was Coastal Asphalt
250 with a bid of \$43,620.84.
251

252 Mayor Samples asked if this was the bid that was rebid. Ms. Fellner said it was. The previous
253 bid was \$48,000, so the town saved \$10,000 by rebidding the project. Mayor Samples said thank you, for
254 the record.
255

- 256 • The parking committee would meet on December 2 at 10:00 a.m. at the fire house to review
257 some additional scenarios that staff will provide. Council will, of course, receive copies of all
258 information presented. When the parking committee makes formal recommendations for council
259 review, a workshop would need to be scheduled, but it was premature at this time.
260

261 Mayor Samples asked if the committee recommendations could be heard during a regular
262 meeting instead of scheduling a workshop. Ms. Fellner said it could be done in a regular meeting. Mayor
263 Samples asked that the meeting time be published on the marquee. Unless there was objection, a
264 workshop would be postponed until the committee made its formal recommendations. **There were no**
265 **objections.**
266

- 267 • A passage in the November 12th minutes was confusing to some public readers. Beginning at
268 Line 713, "Ms. Kohlmann said a business license was required for the company, and asked if an
269 additional license was purchased for the race." Ms. Fellner explained they were discussing the
270 Turkey Trot. "Mr. McKnight said no additional license was purchased for the specific race."
271 Some readers were unsure if the additional license referenced a business license for the current
272 year, or some other type of license. Just to be clear for the record, there was only one type of
273 license required by the town for event promoters, and that was a business license. Festival
274 Promotions had paid a business license fee for each year since 2011, including this year.
- 275 • Correspondence was received from the SCDOT (South Carolina Department of Transportation)
276 that the town will receive an additional \$152,252 back from the cancellation of the Highway 17
277 resurfacing project. This will mean that the town recouped everything except \$17,748. A
278 breakdown of those expenditures was available, if anyone was interested in seeing those.
- 279 • On behalf of herself and all town employees, Ms. Fellner wished Town Council and all citizens a
280 safe and happy Thanksgiving holiday.

281
282 Mayor Samples asked if Town Council could be provided with a list of in-town businesses that
283 had purchased ads in the magazine. He said members know various business owners in town, and might
284 be successful marketing the magazine advertising. He continued to be concerned that it was not
285 adequately marketed. Ms. Fellner agreed; folders were prepared with ad copies, statistics, and the
286 magazine cover that would be distributed to councilmembers to show business owners. She suggested
287 that contractors and Brandon Advertising could be approached. Mayor Samples asked Ms. Fellner to
288 provide in-town advertising rates. He hoped that councilmembers would take time to visit in-town
289 businesses to give them an opportunity to participate, because he could hear comments once the sales
290 end, "nobody told me about it." Mayor Samples was certain the business committee knew about the
291 magazine, and was curious to know how many of those businesses were participating.
292

293 Mr. Johnson asked for the information as quickly as possible, because of the deadline. Ms.
294 Fellner said the deadline was moved. Everything was prepared; she was waiting for the list from the
295 Chamber, which she expected soon. Mayor Samples said he would call Mr. Dean, if the information was
296 not received as expected.
297

298 Mayor Samples reciprocated holiday greetings and wished the administrator and staff, happy
299 holidays.
300

301 **7. BUSINESS.**

302 **A. Second Readings of Ordinances.**

303 **i. #13-0764 to amend §§13-52, 13-57, 13-60 & 13-61 Planning, Building and Zoning Fees,** 304 **Director Morris.**

305 This item deferred until the December 10, 2013 regular meeting. Please see Item 3, Agenda
306 Approval, hereinabove.
307

308 **ii. #13-0768 to amend Flood Ordinance, Director Morris.**

309 Ms. Morris presented the ordinance explaining that first reading was approved at the last meeting.
310 Changes were made to comply with the state code model ordinance. The proposed ordinance includes
311 changes required by FEMA (Federal Emergency Management Agency.) A certified copy of the approved
312 ordinance has to be sent to FEMA prior to December 9th to show that the town was in compliance.
313

314 Mr. Smith moved to adopt second reading of Ordinance #13-0768 Flood Ordinance. Mr. Stevens
315 seconded. All voted in favor. **MOTION CARRIED.**
316

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

320 Mayor Samples said the latest on the Bigger Waters legislation according to the *Post and Courier*
321 out of Charleston is that the congressional leadership had no interest in delaying implementation of
322 Bigger Waters. We happen to live in an area that will be significantly impacted by the increase to flood
323 insurance premiums. Mayor Samples agreed philosophically that flood insurance should not be
324 subsidized, which was essentially one of the major pieces of the legislation, i.e. to remove all subsidies.
325 The problem was that system that developed over years and years had always been subsidized. There
326 was no doubt that it would have a chilling effect on property sales, unless the market adjusts the value of
327 those properties. By that, Mayor Samples meant decreases the value of property that had flood
328 insurance. He believed that would have a ripple impact on everything back from the coast. There did not
329 seem to be much to do about it, since it was the law of the land. He believed it was important for
330 members to understand a little about the Act. Summaries were available on line. This would be a big
331 change; council had to be very careful about its actions that it did control, because council had no control
332 over the Bigger Waters.
333
334
335
336

337
338 Mr. Johnson said he was in the insurance business. He did not fully understand everything
339 happening. That was sad, because if he did not fully understand it, then the resident property owners
340 may or may not understand it. The first implementation was for secondary homes and rental property. It
341 would hit the owners like an "atom bomb." The increases would be incremental, but again, the bottom
342 line was the government would no longer subsidize the premiums. It would be residents living in an AE,
343 VE, or any type flood zone paying extremely high premiums for flood insurance, whether they wanted to
344 or not. It would be a matter of affording flood insurance premiums, which would perhaps be higher than
345 the mortgage payments. Mayor Samples was right; there does not seem to be any concern to do
346 anything about it on the state or national levels.

347
348 Mayor Samples said initial implementation was on second homes, but primary residences would
349 be phased in when they were sold. That would have a chilling effect on potential buyers.

350
351 Ms. Mabry was going to attend a conference at Coastal Carolina University on December 5th
352 where FEMA representatives would be present. Selling a home here would be "mighty difficult." The
353 town has an overlay district with triggers. Buying and selling is the number one trigger. You cannot get
354 an extension. No one knows what the actual premiums will be on investment property, because they
355 have not been published. The town is fortunate to have some FEMA regulations in place. Many homes
356 are built on stilts. It was fortunate that previous councils saw fit to implement some guidelines after
357 Hurricane Hugo, which may help some. The one thing the town can do is work on the CRS (Community
358 Rating System) to try to get the flood insurance down as much as possible. The better rating may not
359 help a lot, but when premiums are \$8 to \$10 thousand, a 5- or 6-percent savings would help. Big cities
360 are having trouble getting CSR ratings that give the maximum 10-percent discount, so she did not expect
361 that in town. The town had to start changing the way that it did business.

362
363 Mr. Johnson moved to reconvene regular session. Mr. Smith seconded. All voted in favor.

364 **MOTION CARRIED.**

365
366 **B. Surfside Pier Roofing Bid Award, Administrator Fellner.**

367
368 Ms. Fellner said this was a non-budgeted expenditure that was originally planned to be done as
369 an emergency expenditure, and it needed Town Council approval. She presented the bid information for
370 the Surfside Pier roofing repair. Six bids were submitted and were published on the town website. Ms.
371 Fellner explained that even though Thompson Roofing was not the lowest bidder, she recommended that
372 the bid be awarded to Thompson for the following reasons:

- 373
374
- Thompson Roofing was a local company with an impeccable reputation
 - It would be easy to schedule any future work against the 20-year guarantee with a local company
 - Thompson Roofing can meet the work commencement scheduling requirements (the first two weeks in December)
 - Thompson Roofing is a certified FiberTite installer as specified in the bid package, (the low bidder was not a certified installer, which would void the 20-year manufacturer's warranty)
 - The bid was only \$3,800 over the lowest bid
- 375
376
377
378
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381
382 Mr. Smith moved to award the bid for replacement of the pier roof to Thompson Roofing in the
383 amount of \$24,750. Mr. Stevens seconded. Mr. Smith asked if the money for this award would come out
384 of the pier fund. Ms. Fellner said that was correct. All voted in favor. **MOTION CARRIED.**

385
386 **8. DISCUSSION – Any matters of concern or information to be discussed by Town**
387 **Council.**

388
389 Mr. Smith said since it was the season to install Christmas decorations, when the lights were
390 installed on the palm trees on Surfside Drive he wanted to keep those on all year long. Mr. Smith wanted
391 Mr. Adair to consider the possibility of keeping the lights on all year, and give Mr. Adair a chance to
392 present any reasons why that should not be done before council made a decision. Mayor Samples said

393 this was an item that was agreed to by council during the team building retreat when a volunteer took
394 minutes. Ms. Kohlmann said that was already agreed to, and it did not have to come back to council (**)
395 formal motion. Ms. Mabry said costs had to be considered. Mayor Samples said absolutely; that was
396 what Mr. Smith was asking. Mr. Smith said it was always best to ask staff for facts so that Town Council
397 made informed decisions. Mayor Samples asked Mr. Adair to bring information for council's
398 consideration.
399

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

401
402 "Melodye Lane-Laveglia, 1510 Cedar Drive North. Just wanted to thank you for bringing up the
403 Bigger Waters issue, because it is huge. I don't know how many citizens are aware of what's going on. I,
404 I sell real estate, so it's my livelihood. I live in town right now in the flood zone X, where I'm not required
405 to have flood insurance right now. However, this time next year when the new maps come out, it's very
406 possible that many of our homes are gonna be in a different zone. We just don't know, and it can have a
407 huge impact on our economy, not just in the prices of our homes, but it could have a huge impact on our
408 economy. So, I thank you guys for bringing it up, and for being aware of it. You can, and I hope that
409 everybody will, email your senators and your congressmen. We are; real estate agents are emailing our
410 congressmen like crazy right now, because we are at a crucial time. Right now they are deciding whether
411 they are going to delay things or not. There hasn't been an impact study. There were supposed to have
412 done an impact study, a feasibility study, and it has not been done. So, it is a huge issue so much bigger
413 than most of us realize. There was a home on the inlet in Murrells Inlet, and some of you may have read
414 about it in the newspaper, that just recently sold. A couple of days before closing the new buyers found
415 out that the flood insurance that the current owners had been paying \$1,300 a year for went to \$16,000;
416 \$16,000. Now, you know that house had the correct elevation, but it had cement piers instead of wood
417 driven pilings. So, there are all kinds of things that can and will impact what your flood insurance is
418 gonna be. So, I appreciate your bringing it up and I hope that we'll stay on top of it. Thanks."
419

420 **10. COUNCIL COMMENTS.**

421
422 Ms. Mabry: "I want everybody to have the best holiday, and we'll see you back on the 10th of
423 December. We have only one meeting that month, so, have a great Thanksgiving. If you're travelling,
424 stay safe."
425

426 Mr. Stevens: "I wish everybody a happy Thanksgiving. May all your neighbors, and friends, and
427 relatives come visit you, and enjoy Thanksgiving. Thank you."
428

429 Ms. Kohlmann: "Ralph and Patti aren't here tonight, but I wanted to just let everybody know,
430 cause he's not gonna talk about what he does. So, they did an amazing job at South Strand Helping
431 Hand feeding over 200 people just as of this afternoon, and they're not done yet. They'll be there all day
432 tomorrow, and Thanksgiving he's also feeding families separately. I asked him who was cooking at his
433 house, but they're taking care of other people, and a big part of what they did at Helping Hand was done
434 with staff of our town. The fire department set up bins in their lobby. They collected toys and food, and
435 delivered it, and it's just really important that the town, people in this town know what Helping Hand is and
436 where it is, and it's a great place. So, if you have time to stop in there, because really, honestly, any one
437 of us could end up in a situation like that, and that's what it's there for, and the people that are there
438 really, really care about doing it; so with that said, happy Thanksgiving everybody. When you see Ralph
439 and Patti, just say thank you to them, because really, they are amazing."
440

441 Mr. Smith: "Happy Thanksgiving, and thank you for coming out in the rain."
442

443 Ms. Dodge: "Happy Thanksgiving from the Dodge household to your household. Also, wanted to
444 remind you Ms. Anna Johnson, as far as I know, is still in the hospital. Am I right?" Ms. Kohlmann:
445 "She's home today." Ms. Dodge: "Then, somebody go see her. I will. Also, I'm going to wish, I already
446 did. I also wanted to talk about how we honor our employees. I think the town does a really good job.
447 We have outstanding employees. We recognize them for that, and I think it is so important for morale to

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448 do that, so thank you as citizens, because you tell them what a good job they're doing, and thank you,
449 councilmembers. I think it's a great idea. Happy Thanksgiving."
450

451 Mr. Johnson: "Thank you, Mr. Mayor. God bless you all for coming out. I sincerely hope that you
452 have a wonderful holiday season, if I don't get to see you again, and Melodye just reminded me that we
453 really do need to contact our legislators on this flood issue. Some names come to mind. All of our local
454 guys, Tim Scott, Lindsay Graham, Tom Rice, James Clyburn; let 'em all know, all the way up, you know,
455 as high as you can go, because you know, they don't know that it's an issue unless we tell them about it.
456 So, I, I just urge you all to, to do that, and good night, and have a safe trip home."
457

458 Mayor Samples: "Well, I think it's all been said. So, have a happy Thanksgiving. God bless you
459 all. Be safe."
460

461 **11. ADJOURNMENT.**
462

463 Mr. Smith moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:35 p.m. Ms. Mabry seconded. All voted in favor.
464 **MOTION CARRIED.**
465

466 Prepared and submitted by,
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469 Debra E. Herrmann, CMC, Town Clerk

470 Approved: December 10, 2013
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474 Douglas F. Samples, Mayor
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477 Mary Beth Mabry, Mayor Pro Tempore
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480 Ann Dodge, Town Council
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483 Mark L. Johnson, Town Council
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486 Elizabeth A. Kohlmann, Town Council
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489 Roderick E. Smith, Town Council
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492 Randle M. Stevens, Town Council

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