



**SURFSIDE BEACH TOWN COUNCIL
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
DECEMBER 10, 2013 ♦ 6:30 P.M.
TOWN COUNCIL CHAMBERS**

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8 **1. CALL TO ORDER.**
9

10 Mayor Samples called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. Mayor Samples, and Councilmembers
11 Dodge, Kohlmann, Smith, and Stevens were in attendance. Mayor Pro Tempore Mabry and
12 Councilmember Johnson were absent. A quorum was present. Others present: Town Administrator
13 Fellner; Planning Director Morris; Police Chief Keziah; Fire Chief Cimini; Fire Captain Williams, and Town
14 Clerk Herrmann.

15
16 Mayor Samples explained that the absent councilmembers were out because of travelling and
17 medical issues.

18
19 **2. INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE.**
20

21 Pastor David Lyle from Journey Church was unable to attend. Mayor Samples gave the
22 invocation and then lead the Pledge.

23
24 **3. AGENDA APPROVAL.**
25

26 Mr. Smith moved to approve the agenda with an amendment to add a presentation by the Guy
27 Daniels Memorial Foundation immediately after Item 6.A. and before Item 6.B. Mr. Stevens seconded.
28 All voted in favor. **MOTION CARRIED.**

29
30 **4. MINUTES APPROVAL.**
31

32 Mr. Smith moved to approve the minutes of the November 26, 2013 meeting as submitted. Mr.
33 Stevens seconded. All voted in favor. **MOTION CARRIED.**

34
35 **5. PUBLIC COMMENTS – Agenda Items (3 minutes.)**
36

37 "Sandra Elliott, 5th Avenue North. My item is Comprehensive Plan. I'm looking at Mr. Smith's
38 recommended changes, and there's been great thought put into it, and we thank you. I'm not gonna
39 speak as the planning commission; just gonna speak as a citizen. On the very first one where you have
40 everything crossed off on page nine at the very end you have annexation is very low priority for this
41 council, that staff will be ready, blah, blah, blah. Actually, I don't think anybody in town really wants
42 annexation, but this is, this plan is for the future. No one knows what's gonna happen in the future, but
43 also the way it's worded, it seems like you're gonna be on council for ten years, all of you, and your, your
44 term's only four years. I think the wording is incorrect, and then on, on, down to page 26C where we want
45 to increase our tourism industry, I question that because when we go to page 27, we're completely
46 crossing out attracting people to our town for our businesses or using the pier as a hub throughout this,
47 throughout the year. If we cross out throughout the year, how are we gonna attract tourists for our
48 businesses? I have a couple of more. Page 71, 7(f), now 23-percent of our citizens are seniors, but
49 there's 77-percent that are still working people and children. Why are we not trying to explore the grants
50 and other funding to expand, expand wireless services that's being crossed out? I mean, that doesn't
51 make sense to me, and my last thing is I have to say, Mr. Stevens [sic,] outfall pipes at swashes is a very
52 good idea. I've been working with North Myrtle Beach on that for the last several months, but it's a very
53 expensive project, but it's a long term goal that I think we all should reach for. Thank you."
54
55
56

57
58 **6. COMMUNICATIONS.**
59

60 **A. Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (CAFR) June 30, 2013, Harper, Poston, &**
61 **Moree, PA, CPA.**
62

63 Bob Harper presented the CAFR Executive Summary, a copy of which is on file. Highlights were:

64 **Page 1 – Audit Completed**
65

- 66 • Harper, Poston, & Moree did, in fact, prepare the audit report in accordance with *Government*
- 67 *Auditing Standards*.
- 68 • The town received a clean opinion. There were no qualifications in the opinion, which is the
- 69 best opinion that the town could have.
- 70
- 71

72 **Page 2 - Statement of Net Position** is a change in terminology, which addresses the town's
73 assets, liabilities, and net position.

- 74 • Total assets equal \$22,579,856, most of which are capital assets like buildings, police and
- 75 fire vehicles, and sanitation equipment. Capital assets represent \$17,027,634 of the total
- 76 assets.
- 77 • Liabilities equal \$1,790,312.
- 78 • The Total Net Position is \$20,789,544, of which \$16,442,459 represents capital assets, and
- 79 \$1,040,331 is restricted assets primarily related to accommodations taxes and hospitality
- 80 funds received that were earmarked for specific expenditures.
- 81 • Unrestricted assets total \$3,306,754.
- 82
- 83

84 **Page 3 - Statement of Activities** of the town identifying revenues
85

- 86 • General revenues totaling \$6,228,732
- 87 • Program revenues (charges for services), \$1,918,393
- 88 • Operating Grants \$296,602
- 89 • Capital Grants and contributions of \$296,415.
- 90 • Direct Expenditures for Governmental Activities \$6,678,064
- 91 • Direct Expenditures for Business-type Activities \$7,865,192
- 92 • Change in Net Position \$874,950, which was a positive change in position
- 93

94 **Page 4 - Statement of Revenues**
95

96 • Category	Percentage	Dollar Amount
97 • Taxes and Fees	54.24	\$3,850,207
98 • Licenses and Permits	23.30	1,653,590
99 • Intergovernmental	16.97	1,204,567
100 • Other	3.20	229,198
101 • Fines	2.26	160,154
102 • Total Revenue		<u>\$7,097,716</u>

103 **Page 5 - Statement of Expenditures**
104

105 • Category	Percentage	Dollar Amount
106 • Public Safety	38.13	\$2,704,284
107 • General Government	14.01	994,020
108 • Street	13.61	964,627
109 • Capital Outlay	9.02	639,709
110 • Debt Service	7.32	518,499
111		

Regular Town Council Meeting
December 10, 2013

112	• Non-Departmental	4.63	328,211
113	• Grounds	4.23	299,839
114	• Culture and Recreation	4.01	284,250
115	• Building & Zoning	3.32	235,210
116	• Maintenance	1.72	<u>121,971</u>
117	• Total Expenditures		<u>\$7,090,620</u>

Page 6 – Enterprise Fund Operations (Sanitation and Pier funds)

122	• Revenue:		
123	• Category		Dollar Amount
124	• Sanitation Services		\$1,171,778
125	• Pier Admissions and Rentals		299,298
126	• Transfers from other funds		375,000
127	• Other miscellaneous revenues		<u>2,860</u>
128	• Total Revenue		<u>\$1,837,936</u>

130	• Expenses:		
131	• Category		Dollar Amount
132	• Operating Expenses – Sanitation		\$994,438
133	• Operating Expenses – Pier		120,243
134	• Interest Paid to General Fund for Pier		
135	Purchase		25,564
136	• Loss on Disposal of Assets		8,111
137	• Transfers to other funds		<u>130,477</u>
138	• Total Expenses		<u>\$1,278,833</u>
139	NET INCOME (Loss)		<u>\$ 559,103</u>

142 Mr. Harper explained that the highlights gave an overview of the town's revenue sources and
143 expenditures.
144

145 Mayor Samples asked for an explanation of compensated absences set out on page 35 of the
146 CAFR, personal time off (PTO) a liability in the amount \$366,113; he asked if that amount represented
147 earned leave that personnel had not used, and if it was a future liability. Ms. Moree responded from the
148 floor saying that was correct and it was based on the rate of pay as of June 30, 2013. Mr. Harper said
149 that would be liability if everyone cashed out today. Mayor Samples said the personnel policy manual
150 allows PTO accrual up to 640 hours, which represented roughly three months.
151

152 Mr. Smith referred to page 33 on the same subject, paragraph L Compensated Absences, the last
153 sentence states "A liability for these amounts is reported in governmental funds only if they have
154 matured," and asked for an explanation. Ms. Moree replied from the floor that the liability accrued at the
155 fund level only when an employee resigns or retires within 60 days of year-end. However, in the
156 Government Wide Statements and proprietary statements required by accounting rules, the entire
157 compensated balance is reflected. The fund balance statements only reflect liability that would be paid
158 within the 60-day resignation or retirement. Mr. Harper said this was a very complicated issue and the
159 number that Town Council should focus on was the \$366,133 as that was the "real number." Ms. Moree
160 said that was the true liability. (**)
161

162 Mayor Samples said the finance committee discussed reconciliation of fixed assets because of
163 changes to the software package that was employed by the town. He asked Mr. Stevens if he would like
164 to speak on that.
165

166 Mr. Stevens said during the finance committee meeting on December 5th they discussed
167 problems with the financial accounting computer software that specifically deals with fixed assets. During
168 the meeting, Mr. Harper said that the problem had forced him to rely on handwritten projections, which
169 may not be accurate or precise. Mr. Stevens said Mr. Harper also said that the problem was identified as
170 a software issue that he had identified in our town, as well as other public entities after the latest CSI
171 updates. Mr. Stevens said CSI is the town's accounting computer software. The mayor and administrator
172 said during the meeting that a manual asset inventory had not been prepared in the past seven years.
173 Everyone present thought it would be a good time to do a complete inventory of fixed assets to drop old
174 items off the list and to correct other anomalies. The administrator said the inventory should be done at
175 department levels, which would give the town a better starting point from which to make assumptions on
176 how the computer software was failing and take steps with the computer programmers to make
177 corrections.
178

179 Mr. Harper said Mr. Stevens' summary was "dead on point," and he believe the point was that
180 clearly the software package the town has was periodically updated. As packages were updated,
181 sometimes the pool of information was different, which resulted in errors that show up in the course of
182 printing the report. CSI is a standard software package that many governmental agencies use, and
183 similar problems have been identified in other users throughout the state.
184

185 Mayor Samples said the committee agreed that Town Council should direct the administrator to
186 conduct a complete, transparent audit of equipment that meets the threshold and reconcile the physical
187 inventory with the CSI report.
188

189 Mr. Stevens said the committee believed it would be in the best interest of the town to present the
190 matter as a business item on the next council meeting agenda as a consensus item so that council could
191 direct the administrator to proceed with a manual fixed asset inventory to be completed prior to the first
192 budget meeting next year. In his opinion, this would correct the problem and also help current
193 councilmembers and any new councilmembers that might be elected to make well informed decisions on
194 any budget matters that may come before council in the way of purchasing or disposing of town assets.
195

196 Mayor Samples agreed. He asked if council wished to have the matter presented as a
197 consensus item. **COUNCIL CONCURRED.**
198

199 Ms. Kohlmann referred to page 74 regarding the pier revenue and said it appeared that 2010 was
200 a banner year, because the receipts were much higher than any other year. Mr. Harper explained that
201 2010 was a 15-month year when the town changed its fiscal year.
202

203 Mayor Samples explained that the then administrator recommended to council to change its fiscal
204 year from April 1 to March 31 to coincide with the state's fiscal year of July 1 to June 30. There have
205 been discussions in the finance committee regarding the fiscal year. The town's revenue is received
206 mainly during the summer season. Under the current structure, that revenue is split between two fiscal
207 years. The same happens with business license revenue to some extent, because of late payments.
208 Under the old schedule, April 1 to March 30, set up by the town's founders, it seemed to work better.
209 Mayor Samples said the finance committee wanted to bring this to Town Council's attention. He believed
210 that the finance director concurred that the nature of the town's revenue cycle is more conducive with the
211 old fiscal year schedule.
212

213 Mr. Stevens agreed with Mayor Samples. The town is a tourist town. The bulk of revenue was
214 received beginning in April through October. Right now, all the revenue was split between two different
215 fiscal years. Mr. Stevens said it definitely made sense.
216

217 Mayor Samples said personally and on behalf of Town Council, thank you to Ms. Moree and Mr.
218 Harper for the presentation stating the town had a "clean bill of health" and also for their work on the
219 audit. The work done by the finance department and administrator was also appreciated.
220

221 **Guy Daniels Memorial Foundation, Mr. Mikey Pruitt.**

222
223 Mr. Pruitt presented the town with an appreciation plaque for being one of the biggest supporters
224 of the foundation and its efforts to support local students through scholarships. During the past 13 years,
225 the foundation awarded over \$60,000 in scholarships to Horry and Georgetown county students. The
226 foundation established an endowment fund so the community contributions would live perpetually. Mr.
227 Pruitt said thank you to Town Council and the town for its past and future help. (*Applause*)
228

229 Mayor Samples said it was great to live in a community where people really care. The town
230 appreciated the recognition very, very much.
231

232 **B. Proclamation #13-88, Arbor Day – December 6, 2013.**

233
234 Mayor Samples presented the proclamation declaring December 6, 2013 as Arbor Day in the
235 Town of Surfside Beach.
236

237 **C. Department Reports.**

238
239 **ii. Planning, Building & Zoning.**

240
241 Ms. Morris presented the written report, a copy of which is on file. Ms. Morris said 132 permits
242 were issued in November compared to 91 in November 2012; 69 inspections were performed; 20 building
243 plan reviews were completed, and 2 stormwater reviews were completed. The department received
244 notification from the International Code Council (ICC) that it is 100-percent certified. ICC recognizes
245 departments with technical requirements and a commitment to safety. Because the department is 100-
246 percent certified it was entered into a drawing for \$1,100 in credit for ICC educational offerings to
247 continue the education process. A department's picture will be posted on the ICC website showing the
248 entire department's staff is certified. Police Chief Keziah, Police Lieutenant Hofmann, and she completed
249 the training, exam, and earned the CPTED (Crime Prevention through Environmental Design)
250 Professional Certification. She believed this would be very helpful for the community, and they were
251 excited about the program. The police chief and she discussed making a presentation to Town Council
252 and the community after the first of the year.
253

254 Ms. Kohlmann congratulated Ms. Morris for completing the CPTED program, because she knew it
255 was difficult for non-police personnel. She looked forward to seeing the presentation.
256

257 **iii. Police**

258
259 Chief Keziah presented the written report, a copy of which is on file. The November statistics
260 were up 5.2-percent from last month and also up from November 2012. Arrest and citation data
261 increased 9.7-percent. Much of that had to do with the town's participation in the state's initiative, Target
262 Zero, which is a goal of zero fatalities. Unfortunately, there was a fatality on Highway 17 Bypass this
263 afternoon. Michael Manemeit started police academy last week. He will work part time and complete
264 academy and field training. A full time officer plans to retire in September; Officer Manemeit will be
265 prepared to take that position. He was selected class leader for his section on his first day at academy,
266 which says a lot about the quality of candidates the town sends for training. Joe Carcich, a previous
267 employee, found out it was too cold in New Jersey, so he moved back and has returned to the
268 department. He will attend academy beginning January 5th, and he will be ready for the summer season.
269 There was one use of force that involved a minimal taser deployment. There were no injuries.
270 Mandatory weapons training was completed on the 19th and 21st. Staff was recertified on all weaponry.
271 Staff is taking risk management training through the Municipal Association of South Carolina (MASC).
272 These are new classes offered online that apply to law enforcement, and some staff have taken additional
273 classes for extra credit. Sergeant Bailey continues to participate in the US Marshal Task Force; 21
274 outstanding warrants were cleared and \$8,974 in bond and fine money was collected for the town. Chief
275 Keziah said the US Marshal Task Force is a good resource and explained that participation costs the

276 town a minimal amount of money. Sergeant Bailey is federally certified to participate in the task force.
277 There were two high profile arrests just this morning as a result of participation. Around 5:30 a.m., an
278 arrest was made in town of a suspect for check fraud and forgeries. The arrest cleared several in-town
279 incidents. As it turned out, this suspect was part of a bigger ring that hit victims in Columbia, Charleston,
280 North Charleston, and North Myrtle Beach. A suspect was located in town who was wanted for murder in
281 Connecticut. It was a cold case and the detectives were able to find DNA (deoxyribonucleic acid) that
282 matched the individual. A warrant was issued and the suspect was arrested at 14th Avenue South this
283 afternoon. The detectives are on their way to pick him up from J. Rueben Long Detention Center. One
284 phone call to the US Marshals had five officers here within an hour to make the arrest. These are two
285 examples of how worthwhile those contacts are and how important it is that the town continues its
286 participation in the task force, because it helps solve high profile cases. Chief Keziah said the Wildfire
287 camera system was operational. Two arrests were made off video surveillance; one was in progress
288 where a perpetrator jumped the fence to gain access to the pier. The dispatchers saw the activity as they
289 monitored the cameras; officers were dispatched to the scene where they made the arrest. On
290 December 29th the department participated in a CAST (Community Action for a Safer Tomorrow)
291 checkpoint, which is a county-wide enforcement effort targeting impaired drivers and underage drinking
292 drivers. A federal grant funds CAST, and it was operated through Shoreline Behavioral Consultants in
293 Conway. There were 15 officers at the checkpoint; 4 driving under the influence arrests were made; 13
294 physical arrests for other charges, and there were 48 total charges during the approximate 6-hour event.
295

296 Mayor Samples said Chief Keziah was doing a great job.
297

298 Mr. Stevens asked for updates on the citizens watch and the citizens police academy. Chief
299 Keziah said the new citizens police academy will be in late January or early February. It was being
300 launched in conjunction with the new "Coffee with Cops" program discussed during the January meeting,
301 which is an informal program where citizens may interact with officers to explain their concerns and ask
302 questions. Lieutenant Hofmann will attend a training class being offered by the state for the Coffee with
303 Cops program. Mr. Stevens asked what efforts would be made over the holidays to curb drunk driving.
304 Chief Keziah said there is a special enforcement group through the Law Enforcement Group in which the
305 town participates. Extra officers will be on the streets. Sober or Slammer and other special enforcement
306 programs run from just before Christmas until the first week of January. Mr. Stevens asked if any citizens
307 were offering sober rides. Chief Keziah said a cab company in Myrtle Beach offers free rides and they
308 usually advertise that closer to Christmas. Mr. Stevens asked when crime watch would be instituted.
309 Chief Keziah said the initial meetings were held; as soon as the community gets organized and ready to
310 launch the program staff is ready. Mr. Stevens thanked the chief and said he was doing a great job.
311

312 Ms. Kohlmann said she hoped everyone noticed the statistics, because in November last year
313 there were nine burglaries, and there were none this year. She believed everyone should thank the chief
314 and police officers for that. She asked if there was anything special being done to eliminate burglaries.
315 Chief Keziah wanted to think it was great leadership (laughter), but officers were doing some community
316 efforts. The two new SUVs (sports utility vehicles) approved in this year's budget were now on patrol.
317 They patrol the beach three or four times a night when the tide is low. The last couple of times they
318 arrested burglary suspects in town, they told them they should have known better; the word on the street
319 was do not go into Surfside Beach. He believed it was a matter of officers doing the best job they could
320 to curb burglary activity.
321

322 **i. Fire.**
323

324 Chief Cimini presented the written report, a copy of which is on file. Statistics for November were
325 10 fire runs; 29 rescue and emergency medical incidents; 3 hazardous conditions with no fire; 5 service
326 calls; 6 good intent calls; 10 false alarms, for a grand total of 63. There was no dollar loss during
327 November. Routine inspections continued throughout the month. Fire prevention activities were 15
328 completed inspections; 32 pending re-inspections; 8 public education events; 1 plan review; 1 new pre-
329 fire plan review; 1 revised pre-plan review; 3 fire station visits, for a total of 61 activities. Volunteers and
330 career personnel dedicated 308 hours to training and 242 hours responding to calls during the month.

331 Career personnel completed the MASC Risk Management Services on-line training to receive an
332 additional five hours of training. All career personnel are actively using Centre Learn between two and
333 four hours weekly, which is the Horry County Fire and Rescue System training system, to keep skills and
334 knowledge current, and to stay up to date with the national trends as first responders. There are now
335 seven nationally recognized first responders and four emergency medical EMTs (emergency medical
336 technicians) who are members of the town's department. Captain Hans will retire January 1st; he is taking
337 vacation time in the meanwhile. There is a pool of candidates that the town administrator will meet with to
338 fill the position he is vacating. Chief Cimini was pleased that the candidates who were either career
339 personnel or volunteers in the department. November passed quickly with a lot of work being completed
340 on the State of South Carolina and NIFRS (National Fire Reporting System) reports, which were required
341 to be recognized as a fire fighting unit. Specifications were completed for turnout gear; bids were
342 prepared for firefighting nozzles, additional items for refurbishing Engine 58 and the fit test machine.
343 Chief Cimini reminded everyone that the holiday season was quickly approaching. This was the most
344 dangerous time of the year for fires. He asked everyone to make sure their real trees were kept outside
345 and wet until they are ready to be brought inside and decorated. Make sure all decorative lighting wires
346 were free of any breaks or pinches. Extension cord use should be kept to a minimum, and make sure the
347 extension cords can handle the load you place on them. If the extension cord is warm to the touch, it is
348 overloaded. Please make sure candles are not left unattended and are extinguished before leaving the
349 room. Many residents are using space heaters. He recommended using ceramic heaters that have
350 automatic shutoffs if they are knocked over, and timers to prevent them from staying on overnight. The
351 space heater should be at least three feet from any object or furniture.

352
353 Mr. Stevens asked for an update on the chief's presentation to the business committee about the
354 proposed inspection fees. Chief Cimini said the concept was presented to the business committee at the
355 direction of Town Council. His impression was that the business committee believed it was a good idea
356 and he believed the committee would send a recommendation to council to proceed with the project. Mr.
357 Stevens said the business committee met with the chief. The business committee believes the small fee
358 would result in a large savings on insurance premiums; a \$50 fee with a \$200 savings.

359
360 C. Administrator's Report – Update on Current Events.

361 Ms. Fellner reported:

- 362 • Magazine production has been postponed until after the first of the year. Advertising sales now
363 total \$23,452.
 - 364 • The winter street paving projects were delayed due to the rain and cold weather. The projects
365 were deferred until February. Letters were delivered today to residents in the affected areas.
366 The information was also posted on the website. The streets involved are 14th Avenue South
367 from Dogwood Drive to Highway 17; Oak Drive North from 1st Avenue North to Myrtle Drive North,
368 and 13th Avenue North from Ocean Boulevard to Cedar Drive North.
 - 369 • Staff met with the engineer and the contractor with regard to the improvements at the pier parking
370 lot. It was decided at the preconstruction meeting that the excavation and paving would need to
371 include an additional area that is damaged and would compromise new infrastructure and would
372 not facilitate the improvements to the stormwater runoff. To ensure that council was aware of the
373 scope and cost of the project, Ms. Fellner explained that the original bid for the pier parking lot
374 ADA (Americans with Disabilities Act) enhancements was \$38,000 by J. W. Hardee. The
375 expenditure to include the additional damaged area is change order number 1 in the amount of
376 \$6,957.50. The project was budgeted for \$43,500; with change order number 1, cost would be
377 approximately \$1,457.50 over budget. Work on the project started with excavation of pervious
378 materials and sand. The project will close only half of the pier parking lot and will last
379 approximately two weeks, depending on the weather. The contractor hopes to have it completed
380 by Christmas.
- 381
382
383
384
385

- 386 • A preconstruction meeting to discuss the pier roof is scheduled Friday, December 13th. The
387 project, weather permitting, is scheduled to commence next week. Materials were ordered.
388 Thompson believes that it should not take longer than four days to complete, depending on the
389 weather.
390
- 391 • Staff will begin work tomorrow on the 12th Avenue South dune walkover. When completed, it will
392 measure 12-feet by 12-feet with increased seating, approximately doubling its size.
393
- 394 • Interviewing for the battalion captain position will conclude tomorrow. As mentioned by Chief
395 Cimini, the position was open due to retirement of Mike Hans.
396
- 397 • Staff started on the budget process and will be working diligently on the budget over the next few
398 months.
399
- 400 • Work on the employee manual is on-going.
401
- 402 • At the last meeting, Ms. Fellner reported that SCDOT (South Carolina Department of
403 Transportation) would send additional \$162,252 from cancellation of the Highway 17 resurfacing
404 project. A check was received in that amount and was deposited.
405
- 406 • On behalf of herself and all town employees, she wished Town Council and all local citizenry a
407 safe and happy holiday season.
408

409 Mr. Smith asked if the restaurant must close during the roof repair. Ms. Fellner said yes, and staff
410 was working closely with the owners who also will attend the preconstruction meeting.
411

412 **7. BUSINESS.**

413 **A. Second Readings of Ordinances**

414 **I. #13-0767 to adopt 2013 Comprehensive Plan, Director Morris.**

415 Ms. Morris said a public hearing was held at the last council meeting. Town Council also
416 approved first reading at the last council meeting. It was requested at that meeting that councilmembers
417 get in touch with staff to propose their recommended changes and corrections. She appreciated
418 councilmembers that made recommendations and corrections; a list of recommended amendments was
419 presented in the package.
420

421 Ms. Morris recommended that on the title page under the list of councilmembers that Ann Dodge
422 be changed to Anna F. Dodge.
423

424 Mr. Smith moved to approve second reading of Ordinance #13-0767 to adopt 2013
425 Comprehensive Plan. Ms. Dodge seconded.
426

427 Mr. Smith moved to amend the Comprehensive Plan "to include the suggestions by Councilman
428 Smith, that's me, and these have been given to councilmembers by way of email and also, I think they
429 were on the website." Mr. Stevens seconded. All voted in favor. **MOTION TO AMEND CARRIED.**
430

431 Mr. Smith moved to amend the Comprehensive Plan title page as recommended by Ms. Morris to
432 change Ann Dodge to Anna F. Dodge.
433

434 Mayor Samples asked Ms. Dodge if that change was agreeable. Ms. Dodge said she suggested
435 the change.
436

437 Ms. Kohlmann seconded. All voted in favor. **MOTION TO AMEND CARRIED.**
438
439
440

441
442 Ms. Kohlmann asked if the Comprehensive Plan could be amended in the future. Ms. Morris said
443 that was correct.

444
445 Mayor Samples believed Ms. Kohlmann's question was relevant. This is a plan, and like all
446 plans, is subject to change.

447
448 Mayor Samples called for vote on the primary motion as amended. All voted in favor. **MOTION**
449 **CARRIED AS AMENDED.**

450
451 **ii. #13-0764 to amend §§13-52, 13-57, 13-60 & 13-61 Planning, Building & Zoning Fees,**
452 **Director Morris.**

453
454 Ms. Morris said the department fees had not been updated for several years. Town Council
455 directed staff during the budget meetings to evaluate fees and make recommendations, which were
456 incorporated into the ordinance. The fees were comparable to surrounding area fees, but still remained
457 lower than amounts charged by others. The fee structure promotes economic development, while
458 improving revenue.

459
460 Mr. Smith moved to adopt second reading of Ordinance #13-0764, Planning, Building and Zoning
461 Fees. Mr. Stevens seconded.

462
463 Mayor Samples asked again whether any individual fees were greater than the amounts charged
464 by Horry County. Ms. Morris said there were no fees higher than the county's.

465
466 All voted in favor. **MOTION CARRIED.**

467
468 **B. Stormwater Committee Resignation and Appointment (may be deferred until after**
469 **executive session.)**

470
471 **i. Resignation: Ken Harbin.**

472
473 **ii. Volunteer: Heather Hertel.**

474
475 This item deferred until after executive session.

476
477 **8. DISCUSSION – Any matters of concern or information to be discussed by Town**
478 **Council.**

479
480 Mr. Smith said the 50th Anniversary Focus Group chairman, Bob Childs, recommended that the
481 town's first mayor, T. J. "Bill" Harrison be recognized by naming the park on Poplar Drive in his honor.
482 Mr. Smith recommended that the administrator be directed to bring a resolution to the first meeting in
483 January to accomplish the recommendation. The resolution should state the reason and what specifically
484 would be done to accomplish the recommendation.

485
486 Mayor Samples agreed with Mr. Smith.

487
488 Mr. Stevens concurred with Mr. Smith.

489
490 Ms. Kohlmann also agreed.

491
492 **COUNCIL CONCURRED.** Mayor Samples said the administrator had council's direction.

493
494
495 **9. PUBLIC COMMENTS – General Comments (5 minutes.)**

496
497 "Ron Ott, 7th Avenue North. If I remember correctly, Terry Cooper passed away (**) we were
498 gonna name a street after him and this, the council which the mayor now resides on, voted never to name
499 anything after a person. (**) Did we forget that? I guess we did. Wasn't that made into an ordinance?"
500

501 Mayor Samples asked to interrupt and ask that time be stopped to allow Mr. Ott his comment
502 time. Mayor Samples said to answer Mr. Ott's question, and he apologized for failing to do so during the
503 discussion, there was a policy adopted to prohibit naming infrastructure or buildings after individuals,
504 because there was a feeling that someone always had hurt feelings. It was a policy and was never
505 codified as an ordinance. In this particular instance, he believed that council all agreed that the first
506 mayor should be recognized. The Harrison family had been very involved in the community since the
507 town's inception. 'North Poplar Park' just was not a suitable name, and it was due time that former mayor
508 Harrison was recognized.
509

510 Mr. Ott: "Mr. Mayor, a policy is a policy. We don't like it out there when we want it, and then hide
511 it when we don't want it."
512

513 Mayor Samples said that was why it was a policy, not an ordinance.
514

515 Mr. Ott: "(**) if the council voted for a policy, and I'm sorry, I, I, I don't mind (**) and it should have
516 a name. We did do something."
517

518 Mayor Samples said the council passed a policy.
519

520 Mr. Ott: "Yes, you did. I don't remember everything, but I do remember some things. I
521 remember that, because there was a lot of squawking going on. I wanna remind myself that I, I moved
522 here and everybody said how nice the town is. It's a beautiful town. I moved here because of the people.
523 The people are nice, and that you can't get away from, and I would try to help you remind ourselves that
524 we need to remember our neighbors and our neighbors are our greatest asset. The people that are
525 around us who can help; they help each other and we should all stand behind everybody. I'm sorry I had
526 to bring that up, but I, (**) you know, I just wanted to make that known. You know, if one person can't
527 have it, (**) can't have it on everybody. I want to thank everybody and have a happy, Merry Christmas
528 and a Happy New Year. Thank you very much for your service everybody.
529

530 "Ralph Magliette, Harbor Lights Drive. I'm here for, to represent the South Strand Helping Hand.
531 Just want to thank everyone in town, everyone in administration, the fire department, police department,
532 administrator, all the council people for all the wonderful work and generosity you have shown to South
533 Strand Helping Hand, and I'm here just to thank you and to say that from my perspective it has been
534 miraculous. We had gone into the Thanksgiving season wondering if we were gonna have resources to
535 provide 250 meals for our clients, which was a frozen turkey, all the fixings and dessert, because of our
536 monetary problems, but we were able to provide 262 complete meals to people. In fact, the nice thing
537 and the blessing about the kind of work that we do is that we had walk-ins come in and we had sufficient
538 to be able to provide walk-ins actual Thanksgiving meals that came in on Wednesday, so it's truly a
539 blessing and I'm honored to represent them, and to live in a town where we have such loving,
540 compassionate and caring people. Secondly, we are also doing the Christmas toys for South Strand
541 Helping Hand and it's the same thing. When we had first looked at it and our member churches, because
542 of the way the economy is and some problems, we had thought that maybe we could support and be able
543 to provide 450 Christmas toys and clothing to children this year. But again, you know I'm a believer in
544 miracles, and I asked God for help. You've heard me say before, and this is the truth that I pray on it, and
545 being an engineer that's one of the most difficult things for me to do is to give it up to the Lord, because
546 as an engineer I need to define it and control the process, and so it is extremely difficult for me to pray
547 and my faith weebly-wobbles and sometimes I get very angry with the Lord, but having said that to date
548 we've been able to provide a minimum of 500 toys to children. We keep getting donations in every day
549 and checks from people and probably will exceed 600 toys and clothing for children, which is a
550 remarkable achievement to everybody who lives in Surfside Beach and the general area, so God bless

551 you all for a wonderful thing that you've done, and the positive difference that you make. On a separate
552 issue very quickly, since I volunteer at the South Strand Senior Center, Jackie Willis couldn't be here, but
553 she wanted me to thank everybody for the wonderful donations and help that you provided the Senior
554 Center and some of the events that were made possible through donations from people. Many of these
555 donations are invisible. People just come and say that we, we're gonna donate money, or they're gonna
556 donate time, or whatever it is, but I have a list here that she had given me just to thank everybody for the
557 events that were made possible through your donations to the South Strand Senior Center. We had a
558 social tea. We had a barbeque. We had a hula Hawaiian party. We had a disco dancing [sic.] We had a
559 Halloween party, a Thanksgiving meal, a Christmas meal. We're gonna have a New Year's Eve party,
560 and we also had a pier visit. None of these could have been possible without the donations from people
561 and the volunteer efforts of people within this town, because many of the people who go to the senior
562 center have a limited income and they're relatively old, and so we need to have the support of the town
563 and the volunteers here to make it happen. So, thank everyone for remembering our aged, and helping
564 South Strand Senior Center, and I would be remiss without thanking people for the donations that were
565 made, and I'll list that; we have donations of a chest freezer, a large popcorn machine, a DVD (digital
566 video disc) player, DVD movies, card tables, records, decorations, stationery and postage stamps were
567 all donated through the kindness and generosity of the people of Surfside Beach and the surrounding
568 communities, and I would thank you for them and say God bless you, and Merry Christmas, and I'm very
569 proud to live here, and thank you again." (*Applause*)
570

571 **10. COUNCIL COMMENTS.**

572
573 Ms. Dodge: "I wanna thank, personally, and I'm sure every member of this council will verify as
574 well, I want to thank all of the citizens in our town who volunteer to help this town in any capacity, great or
575 small, it doesn't matter, but it makes our town better and better. It's so, so much appreciated. Thank you
576 very much."
577

578 Mr. Smith: "Merry Christmas and Happy New Year."
579

580 Mr. Stevens: "I wanna thank everybody for coming out. I wanna wish everybody in the audience,
581 Mayor, Town Council, staff, everybody a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. May all your wishes
582 come true. May your new year be safe, and productive."
583

584 Ms. Kohlmann: "Thank you. I'd just like to wish everybody a Merry Christmas and a Happy New
585 Year, and please remember on Christmas and New Year's the police and firemen are out there working
586 to keep us all protected and we're all home safe and warm and enjoying our families. They, they don't
587 get to do that. So, please remember them. Thank you all."
588

589 Mayor Samples: "Remember Saturday; that's the Christmas parade. It's the 34th annual Surfside
590 Beach Christmas Parade. It begins at two o'clock. Let's keep our fingers crossed and hope that the
591 weather is, is, works with us. (**) There will be some detours out there, but I'm sure, if you've lived here
592 for a little while, you'll figure your way out around the grid, but be nice to those guys and gals that tell you
593 you've gotta drive the other way, cause they're, they're just doing their jobs. God bless you all. Take
594 care. We'll see you next year."
595

596 **11. EXECUTIVE SESSION - Pursuant to FOIA §30-4-70(a)(1) to discuss the appointment of**
597 **a person to a public body (See Business Item 7.B.)**
598

599 Mr. Smith moved to enter executive session at 7:48 p.m. Ms. Dodge seconded. All voted in
600 favor. **MOTION CARRIED.**
601

602 Mayor Samples noted that in the past he had not been clear about citing the reason for entering
603 executive session and said that pursuant to Freedom of Information Act Section 30-4-70(a)(1) to discuss
604 the appointment of a person to a body. He explained that recently he read where a town was being sued
605 for failing to state the purpose of executive sessions and he wanted to comply with statutes.

606
607 Mr. Smith moved to reconvene regular session at 8:01 p.m. Ms. Dodge seconded. All voted in
608 favor. **MOTION CARRIED.**

609
610 Mayor Samples said that no action was taken during executive session.

611
612 Mr. Smith moved to accept the resignation of Ken Harbin from the stormwater committee. Mr.
613 Stevens seconded. All voted in favor. **MOTION CARRIED.**

614
615 Mayor Samples said a vacancy was declared on the stormwater committee.

616
617 **12. ADJOURNMENT.**

618
619 Mr. Smith moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:01 p.m. M. Stevens seconded. All voted in favor.
620 **MOTION CARRIED.**

621
622 Prepared and submitted by,

623 _____
624 _____
625 Debra E. Herrmann, CMC, Town Clerk
626

627 Approved: January 14, 2014

628 _____
629 _____
630 _____
631 Douglas F. Samples, Mayor

632 _____
633 _____
634 Mary Beth Mabry, Mayor Pro Tempore

635 _____
636 _____
637 Ann Dodge, Town Council

638 _____
639 _____
640 Mark L. Johnson, Town Council

641 _____
642 _____
643 Elizabeth A. Johnson, Town Council

644 _____
645 _____
646 Roderick E. Smith, Town Council

647 _____
648 _____
649 Randle M. Stevens, Town Council

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