**SURFSIDE BEACH TOWN COUNCIL**
**REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES**
**APRIL 7, 2014 • 6:30 P.M.**
**TOWN COUNCIL CHAMBERS**

Approved

## 1. CALL TO ORDER.

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

Mayor Samples explained that this meeting was being held on Monday, because Election Day is tomorrow, April 8th. He asked Town Council candidates to introduce themselves: Sandra Elliott, Carrie Johnson, Beth Kohlmann, Ralph Magliette, Rod Smith, and David Pellegrino were present (alphabetical order by last name.)

Mayor Samples reminded everyone that Surfside Beach Night at the Pelican's Ball Game was April 19th. Tickets may be purchased from Debbie Ellis, 843.650.9548 or dellis@surfsidebeach.org. This is a fund raiser for South Strand Helping Hand; almost half of the $9 ticket cost will go to Helping Hand.

## 2. INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE.

Rev. Jeff Wood of Oasis of Hope Church gave the invocation. Mayor Samples lead the Pledge.

## 3. AGENDA APPROVAL.

Mr. Smith moved to approve the agenda. Mr. Stevens seconded. All voted in favor. **MOTION CARRIED.**

## 4. MINUTES APPROVAL.

Mr. Smith moved to approve the minutes of the March 25, 2014 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. Department Reports.

### i. Fire.

Chief Cimini presented the written report, a copy of which is on file. There were 10 fire runs; 48 rescue/emergency medical incidents; 8 service calls; 2 good intent calls, and 5 false alarm/false calls for a total of 73 calls for March 2014 compared to 49 calls in March 2013. There was no fire loss during the month. Ten company inspections were completed; 4 re-inspections; 4 public education events; 6 new business inspections; 33 pre-plans revised/updated, and 5 fire station visits were done during March. Career and volunteer personnel spent 190.5 hours to training; 165.6 hours were spent responding to calls. Training last month focused on rescue equipment, including the "Jaws of Life," hydraulic cutters, rams and stabilizers. DeFalco's Towing donated cars for the crews to use for training. In-service training

continued on-line through County Center Learning. Refurbishing Engine 58 was completed, and it is now in service. A town meeting will be held June 5th in council chambers to discuss and help citizens prepare for the upcoming hurricane season. Representatives will be at the meeting from NOAA ( National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration), Horry County Emergency Management, and meteorologists from two television stations. Brochures and other information will be available for the public. An information flyer will be prepared and distributed soon.

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

Ms. Morris presented the written report, a copy of which is on file. The department issued 190 building permits in March, which was up from 118 in March of 2013. There were 40 new business licenses issued, and 116 inspections were made; 20 residential plan reviews, including new construction, additions and renovations, and there were 3 stormwater plans reviewed. Staff continues to work weekends due to the increased amount of work being performed on weekends without permits. Calls are constantly received from citizens about complaints about property management on which staff investigates and follows-up. There will be a presentation and question/answer time on the Community Ratings System (CRS) on Tuesday, April 15th at 5:30 p.m. in council chambers. The public is encouraged to attend.

Mr. Johnson said it was obviously election season, and some signs were illegally posted. He asked what could be done. Ms. Morris said planning, building, and zoning staff and public works staff pick up signage that is obviously posted in the town rights-of-way daily. Signs are taken to the town clerk. If the sign was obviously supposed to be on private property, it was just relocated. The department has received several calls about political signs that were addressed right away.

Mr. Stevens said if the public was interested in learning more about the CRS, they could visit www.crsresources.org where they would find information from the National Flood Insurance Program Community Rating System. The 2013 Coordinator's Manual could be downloaded onto personal computers.

Mayor Samples said recently there were a number of political signs post at stop signs, and asked if they could be picked up. He said people should follow the rules.

Ms. Mabry said she had been talking about the CRS for two years. Ms. Morris has worked very hard to get the program together. She encouraged everyone to attend on the 15th, because there would be a new mapping system that might place properties in flood zones when they have never been in the past. There is no indication what might be done; flood zones may extend all the way to Highway 17.

Mayor Samples said the reason CRS is important is that there is a rating scale of 10 points that the Federal Government sets out. The town is currently at 10 and does not receive any discount on flood insurance premiums. If the rating is reduced, the discount could be as much as 45-percent off the cost of flood insurance. That is a significant amount for those currently in a flood zone, but it was up to the town to take the necessary steps given the new legislation. He commended Ms. Morris for taking the lead and running with this program. It was serious business to a community like ours, and everyone was encouraged to attend on April 15th at 5:30 in council chambers.

**iii. Police**

Chief Keziah presented the written report, a copy of which is on file. In March 2014, there was a 15-percent increase in the number of calls for service, and a significant increase of 66-percent in the number of arrests and citations over March 2013, which was a normal increase as the busy season approaches. There were three high-risk law enforcement activities: one involved the department assisting very briefly with a vehicle pursuit on March 30th when an escaped mental patient stole a Georgetown County Sheriff's patrol car that came through town. The patient was eventually stopped and arrested in North Carolina. Lieutenant Hofmann and Sergeant Bailey attended a Glock Armor Training

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included recertification course on March 4th. That certifies them to continue inspections and repairs to the issued weapons. The final Citizens Police Academy class was March 22nd. The citizens went to Georgetown airport where they received defensive driving training. He thanked Chief Cimini and his staff for providing lunch when the class was over. March 28th all three recruits at the academy graduated. One is already on the street as he was previously certified and a former employee. Two officers will begin field training and should be on the street just before summer arrives.

Mr. Smith asked for the names of the officers. Chief Keziah said Joseph Carcich, who is the previously certified officer; Patrolman Joseph Muto, and Patrolman Michael Manemeit.

Mr. Stevens encouraged everyone to attend the police academy, and challenged the councilmembers to attend. He said it was well worth the time; he learned a lot about actual functions of the police.

Chief Keziah said representatives from the department attended the South Carolina State Driving Under the Influence Awards Ceremony on April 2nd. The town's department was awarded two of the state awards. Officer Nicole Solorzano was awarded SC DUI Rookie of the Year out of all the rookies in the entire state, and Corporal Chris King was awarded SC DUI Officer of the Year for an agency of the town's size. Officer Solorzano began on the road in August 2013. Her efforts resulted in 33 arrests, 10 of which were DUI arrest. She participates in Law Enforcement Network (LEN) checkpoints, and also the Community Action for Safer Tomorrow (CAST.) During 2013, Corporal King arrested 55 DUI drivers, and he also serves as the liaison for the LEN, and the Horry County CAST. Mayor Samples presented each of them with their state trophy. *(Applause.)* Chief Keziah said the ceremonies are open to the public, and encouraged everyone to attend, because until you attend and hear the victims' statements, and meet the survivors of others driving under the influence, it makes it all the more important to try to make the roads safe for everyone.

**C. <u>Administrator's Report – Update on Current Events.</u>**

**i. Update on Current Events.**

Ms. Fellner reported that

- The CRS meeting cannot be promoted enough, which is April 15th at 5:30 p.m. She really hoped that everyone one attends as it is a very important program to help reduce the cost of flood insurance premiums for the town's citizens. Staff would like to share information about CRS with the public and what staff and the federally mandated focus group are trying to accomplish. She reiterated that she hoped everyone would attend.

- Staff was instructed that parking decals and pier passes may now be issued beginning December 1 of each year for the following calendar year.

- Council asked what the dollar difference for the increase for the additional two hours in the Lanier Budget equaled. The information was emailed to council, but to inform the public, the proposed net for 9:00 a.m. to 7:00 a.m. at $1.25 equals $170,539; the proposed net for 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. at $1.25 per hour equals $183,574, which equals a difference of $13,035.

- The annual safety inspections for town sidewalks are in progress. Replacement of hazardous sections on 10th Avenue South and 14th Avenue South will commence soon.

- Town Council was informed of the following bid awards for budgeted projects and equipment by email:

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- 3rd Avenue South bank stabilization project, $150,000 budgeted for permitting, engineering, materials and labor. The award is to the low bidder for the materials and labor portion, Tim's Construction Services for $79,995.
- Purchase of digital evidence management system for the police department, $31,786.25 budgeted for both the server and software. The bid is awarded to the low bidder, Veripic, for $21,050.96, which includes a sixth license. The server will be purchased off state contract for $5,156.75, so the total project price will be $26,207.71, which is under budget.

- The 12th Avenue North large 12 x 12 deck crossover is completed.

- A new bicycle rack was ordered for the pier parking lot and will be installed near the golf cart parking area.

**ii. Consensus Item**

Ms. Fellner said Easter Sunday is April 20th and asked Town Council if it wished to suspend parking enforcement in the pier and Yaupon parking lots for sunrise services from 7:00 a.m. until 9:00 a.m. After discussion, **TOWN COUNCIL CONCURRED TO SUSPEND PARKING ENFORCEMENT FROM 7:00 A.M. TO 10:00 A.M. ON APRIL 20TH.**

Mayor Samples asked that information about the Blessing of the Beach be distributed as soon as possible, because the parking will need to be addressed for that event. Ms. Fellner said Ms. Ellis is contacting the parties to finalize the plans. She met with Mr. Kish about parking during events to bring a presentation to council, and that would probably be presented at either the next meeting or the first meeting in May.

**7. BUSINESS.**

**A. Second Reading Ordinance #14-0774 to amend §3-23 Registration of Dogs, Administrator Fellner.**

Ms. Fellner explained this was to allow license renewals in December for the upcoming year, and she also reminded council that the issue paper requested that for this year only, proration would be made for those permits purchased in June. **Several members voiced agreement with the proration.**

Mr. Smith moved to adopt second reading of Ordinance #14-0774. Mr. Stevens seconded. All members voted in favor. **MOTION CARRIED.**

**B. First Reading Ordinance #14-0775 to repeal §3-51 Bird Sanctuary, and to amend §3-52 Findings and Determinations, and §3-53 Prohibited Activity, Administrator Fellner.**

Ms. Fellner presented the consideration paper, which is on file, explaining this was a recommendation from the stormwater committee to manage the resident Canadian geese population, and was approved by the town attorney. The proposed changes would achieve the objectives of the stormwater committee.

Ms. Kohlmann moved to adopt first reading of Ordinance #14-0775. Mr. Smith seconded.

Mr. Stevens moved to amend by deleting the word "molest" in section 3-53, paragraph (a). Mr. Smith seconded.

Ms. Kohlmann said if that word was omitted, then residents could run geese off their yards, because that was what the stormwater committees' goal was. Ms. Fellner said yes, they could even addle eggs. Ms. Kohlmann said addling eggs was a federal law; but this change would allow residents to run geese of their property. Ms. Fellner said yes.

Approved

Mr. Johnson said for the public's information that this was first reading, and council would do due diligence prior to second reading.

Mayor Samples, and Councilmembers Johnson, Kohlmann, Smith and Stevens voted in favor. Mayor Pro Tempore Mabry voted against. **MOTION TO AMEND CARRIED.**

Mayor Samples asked if eliminating the bird sanctuary code was giving up the ability to apply for any grants or other resources that would require being designated as such. Ms. Fellner said the town attorney was contacted twice on this issue. Mr. Battle feels this language is fine, and that by adding federal statutes nothing would be given up, because federal trumps local codes. If a situation arises in the future, the council could always amend the code to include the bird sanctuary status.

Mayor Samples, and Councilmembers Johnson, Kohlmann, Smith and Stevens voted in favor. Mayor Pro Tempore Mabry voted against. **MOTION CARRIED AS AMENDED.**

**C. Resolution #14-142, Trial Surfside Beach Resort Pier Pass Program, Administrator Fellner.**

Mayor Samples asked the clerk to read the resolution for the record. Ms. Herrmann read *Resolution #14-142, Trial Surfside Beach Resort Pier Pass Program.*

*Whereas,* the Town of Surfside Beach Town Council in chambers duly assembled in a regularly scheduled meeting held on the 7th day of April 2014 is desirous of establishing a trial pier pass program between the Surfside Beach Resort and the Town of Surfside Beach for marketing purposes: and

*Whereas,* a 5-week pier pass program was successfully tested in 2013 that resulted in an over 20-percent increase in spectator traffic that benefited the businesses on and around the pier; and

*Whereas,* Town Council desires to establish a trial Surfside Beach Resort pier pass program that not only benefits its guests, but the town businesses on and around the pier;

*Now, therefore, Be it Resolved* that the Town of Surfside Beach Town Council does hereby establish a *Trial Surfside Beach Resort Pier Pass Program* that shall be administered as follows:

1. Surfside Beach Resort shall be allowed to purchase pier passes at a 50-percent discount.
2. The program shall end December 31, 2014.
3. Surfside Beach Resort shall distribute pier passes to its guests at no charge.
4. The Town of Surfside Beach reserves the right to cancel this program, if it determines that there is no benefit to the businesses on and around the pier, or to the town.

BE IT SO RESOLVED, this 7th day April of 2014.

Mr. Smith moved to adopt Resolution #14-142. Mr. Stevens seconded. All voted in favor. **MOTION CARRIED.**

**D. Nathan Black Memorial 5K, request to hold October 25, 2014, Mrs. Diane Smith.**

Mrs. Diane Smith presented a request to hold the 3rd Annual Nathan Black Memorial 5K on October 25th, 2014, and that Town Council considering adding the event to the regularly scheduled town event. The race was started in memory of her son, Nathan, who had a doctorate in occupational therapy. Nathan founded the Freedom Scholarship in Occupational Therapy at East Carolina for veterans and their families who wanted to study occupational therapy. Her other son, Lee, currently serves on the

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town's police force. She presented a check to Mayor Samples from proceeds of last year's event that will benefit the police department, and souvenir bags for the councilmembers and staff from last year's race.

Mr. Smith moved to permit the race to be held this year, and that Mrs. Smith work with the administrator to submit the necessary paperwork. Mr. Stevens seconded.

Ms. Kohlmann moved to amend the motion to add the Nathan Black 5K as an annual town event. Ms. Mabry seconded. All voted in favor to amend. **MOTION TO AMEND CARRIED.** All voted in favor of the primary motion as amended. **MOTION CARRIED AS AMENDED.**

**E. Parking Committee Appointment, Edward Hunt.**

Ms. Mabry moved to defer this appointment until the next meeting. Mr. Smith seconded.

Mr. Stevens objected saying that Mr. Hunt was well known and there was no reason to defer.

Ms. Kohlmann asked if there was a reason that could be shared with the council.

Mayor Samples said there had been discussion as to whether the parking committee would be renewed beyond that point.

Mr. Johnson called point of order.

Mayor Samples said a question was asked that was answered. He spoke with Mr. Hunt prior to the meeting. Mr. Hunt is certainly well qualified and would serve very well, but it did not make sense in some members' judgment to appoint him to a committee that might not continue.

Mr. Stevens and Ms. Kohlmann said that was the first they heard of this.

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

Mayor Samples thanked Mr. Hunt for volunteering.

**8. <u>DISCUSSION</u> – Any matters of concern or information to be discussed by Town Council.**

There were no matters to be discussed by Town Council.

**9. <u>PUBLIC COMMENTS – General Comments (5 minutes.)</u>**

"Tom Dodge, 15th Avenue North. I can't believe what I just heard. Wow! (*Speaker's emphasis)* Mr. Hunt, I apologize for what council just did to you. I attended the town debate yesterday, April the 6th, and I was quite dismayed. Geico runs an ad showing Pinocchio lying and his nose growing. Yesterday we listened to four Pinocchios. It's hard for me to believe that someone running for office is not here tonight. It makes me wonder why. Welcome back Joe Carcich to the police department. Congratulations to Nicole and Chris. It's well deserved. They are good officers. And now for something entirely different, I'd like to read one of the Town of Surfside Beach's ordinance [sic] dated 11/27/12. It is the policy of the town to restrict the hiring of family members in accordance with the Ethics Act and to further restrict the hiring of relatives within the same office, program area, or the equivalent work unit. Accordingly, no reporting party as such term is defined in this chapter shall cause the employment, appointment, promotion, transfer or advancement of a family member to a position in which the reporting party supervises or manages. Reporting parties may also not participate directly or indirectly in any action relating to discipline of their family members. No reporting party shall seek to engage or to maintain any personal relationship with another reporting party that may lead to an actual or a perceived conflict of

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interest in the conduct of business of the town wherein the town administrator may reasonably determine that favoritism has occurred or is likely to occur. On 2/26/13, the Town Council amended the above ordinance by adding this sentence: In no case shall relatives of the town administrator or Town Councilmembers be considered eligible, eligible for employment with the town. This passed. The town has broken one of their own ordinances. In the event hell freezes over, and Mrs. Johnson is elected, which Johnson would be on council? The town has already broken their own ordinance even considering Mrs. Johnson eligible to run. If the town is allowed…." Mayor Samples interrupted saying, "Mr. Dodge, Mr. Dodge. Mr. Dodge." Mr. Dodge continued saying "… to break this ordinance, how many have they or will they break?" Ms. Mabry called *point of order.* Mayor Samples: "Mr. Dodge." Mr. Dodge: "I'm reading from the town ordinance, sir." Mayor Samples: "Mr. Dodge, I appreciate that." Mr. Dodge: "Well, you have broken the ordinance. Thank you very much." Ms. Herrmann: "Mr. Mayor, may I respond to Mr. Dodge?" Mayor Samples: "If you, if you feel you must." Ms. Herrmann: "Mr. Dodge, the state law does not have any, wait please, let me finish. State law does not have a problem with spouses serving on councils, nor does the Ethics Commission, and the state law usurps our law." Mr. Dodge: "This town has an ordinance. What good are our ordinances, if we're going to break them?" Mayor Samples: "Mr. Dodge, the people, the people will decide." Mr. Dodge: ** *(speaking from audience.)* Ms. Kohlmann: "Mr. Mayor, Mr. Mayor." Mayor Samples: "Well, thank you, sir."

"The first comment seems to be well deserved. I am impressed with everyone who is running for office." Mayor Samples: "State, please, state your name and address." "Oh, I am so sorry. I am the resident gadfly." Mayor Samples: "Chief, keep an eye on her, okay! *(Laughter)*" "Betty Lowery, 619 4th Avenue North. I am impressed to no end at the number of qualified candidates that we have running for office. I've sanitized my mailbox twice with some of the nasty stuff that has come in, and I, I'm just overwhelmed with the intestinal fortitude that some of you have; those of you currently sitting on council, and those of you who are here tonight, and those who are not here tonight. Wow! *(Speaker's emphasis)* That you survive some of this, and that you volunteer to go through it, it amazes me. It just amazes me. Now, the thing I actually came to ask about tonight originated in a conversation with my plumber as he was installing the dishwasher, and it had to do with the recreational program for the kids. When my husband and I first came to Surfside, we had a recreation department, so to speak. The ball field was out there beside the lake. Jim Daniels, I think, was in charge. Jim would drive his car, and behind it was a rake that was fastened to the back of Jim's car, and my husband would stand on the rake and that's how they prepared the fields for the ball games. Volleyball nets were stored under my house for years. When we were in planning and zoning one time, one of the things that we looked at in doing the comprehensive plan was how to get young families into Surfside. Surfside, like the rest of the community, churches, etc., are graying, and there's not going to be any growth unless we have young people. What concerns me now is the state of the ball program, and I'm very confused by different reports that I get. One, this is the second year that the parents and coaches in the booster club, so to speak, are running the ball program. One, I heard was that the town was going to be dropping the ball program, and ask the parents if they would like to take it over, and the parents said yeah, as opposed to not having a program. We'll do it. The other said, well, a call was placed from town hall to a parent who was fairly involved in the program saying that we're not going to have it anymore. Another said parents and coaches approached town hall about taking on the program, and, and you know, it doesn't matter to me which one it is. I don't, I don't care who's doing it. But we have one ball field in Surfside; we have several off of Glenns Bay Road. I'm concerned that we have invested a lot into this for nothing. The parents are generally very upset. They're being told that the town has fairly much abandoned them. I understand the town is overseeing the program. But, I don't understanding what overseeing means. They've been having bake sales, etc., different fund raisers trying to keep the program afloat. This is where the parents and the coaches (**) and they're struggling. They are struggling. I understand that last year the Rec. department gave them uniform pants and told them just to keep them; do whatever they wanted with them. I don't know about that. You know, these things are just gone. If the town takes 'em back are they responsible for replacing these things? If the parents reach a point where they simply cannot do this anymore, is the town going to take the program back? This is hard work. It really is, and I can understand parents being frustrated, because in addition to their everyday jobs, they're looking for coaches and doing ball schedules, and all of the other things. We also have an issue with the county coming in. I understand that the county has offered fields available off of Scipio Lane out there where the sports complex is, and I think my grandson

is actually gonna be playing on one of those fields this week, as a matter of fact, with his first T-ball game. If this is gonna be a family beach, and we want young people in this community, then we've got to be sure that we are providing them with programs, (*Time ended)* and I'm throwing at you all the different points of view and information that I have been told. I don't know what is and what is not true. I don't know what is rumor, and what's fact." Mayor Samples: "Betty, excuse me. Your five minutes is up." Ms. Lowery: "Oh, darn, and I didn't even get a donut!" Mayor Samples: "But, we're gonna meet again." Ms. Lowery: "You promise?" Mayor Samples: "Yep." Ms. Lowery: "Okay." Mayor Samples: "Thank you."

"My name is Mary Ann Kroll. I live on 723 2nd Avenue North here in Surfside Beach. I've lived here 36 years and I love it. But, you know, I've got a shirt on right now that says like the soft sound of rain, the force of God can bring us peace, and I live by that, and we need to live by that, and we make this Pledge of Allegiance and we say one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all. We need to stand on that as a town, and as a council, and also, this book right here (*indicating the Bible on the podium)* I don't see very many people opening it, but this book says that we come under subjection of those who authority over us, and we need to remember that, and we need to remember that we need to respect not the mayor himself, so much, but we should for the office that he holds, because he is our leader. We voted in him. We trusted him and he's been trustworthy, as far as I'm concerned, and I tell you, there's been so many of you that have done some really nice things, but all this stuff, this trash, I'll call it, that is told about other people that we got in the mailbox that was ridiculous, and whoever thought to do that was wrong, and we need to reconsider that and we need to consider who we are in here, and who we can be, and who we will be, and we need to take into consideration those that are running for office and be respectful, whether we vote for them or not, or one or the other, that's our choice. But, we need to do it in kindness, and in peace, and not in horror and fighting and carrying on. And I just think that we need to take that into consideration and be the town that I moved here to stay in that I love so much, and so many people do love this town, and we love the people that run this town, and it's run real well, and we need to remember that and have that respect. Thank you." *(Applause.)*

**10. COUNCIL COMMENTS.**

Mr. Johnson: "No, sir, I have no comments. Thank you for coming out. I choose to take the high road. I wish other people did, but that's my prerogative. Thank you. God bless you."

Mr. Smith: "Just to remind you, I am running and tomorrow's the day to vote for me. At the debate, a lot of discussion was on businesses in town, and at the last council meeting in the public works report it mentioned four new businesses: Surfside Golf Cart Rentals; the Waffle House, which is a brand new building in Surfside, just think, brand new building; the Tanning Made Fabulous, and a CPA account. So even though we might have problems, we are not going without new businesses. People are coming, we just need more. I tried to take the high road as the lady mentioned. My objective is always to try to find a compromise. I think in most of the issues that we've had I've looked, looked that way. I know the parking, which is a big issue, we compromised on that even though most people don't realize it, but it was a big compromise, and so, I encourage you all to go out to vote tomorrow, and vote your kindness. Thank you."

Ms. Mabry: "I wanna thank everyone for coming out. It is really nice to sit up here and see everybody. Have a great day tomorrow, and we'll see you again at the next meeting. Thank you."

Mr. Stevens: "I've heard a lot of talk about a team of four. That team of four is a myth. It doesn't exist in this town. As a matter of fact, there has been a team of four that voted together about 7-percent of the time, and they very; I know the last time there was a team of four voted, Ms. Kohlmann, Ms. Dodge, and I voted on the negative side. The other four voted on the affirmative. When we voted for a budget retreat, Ms. Kohlmann and I and Ann Dodge voted in the negative. The other four voted into [sic] the affirmative. Ninety-three percent of all votes have been either unanimous, 6:1 or 5:2. This council has acted as a democracy. I hate people to go out and tell stories about that, but these are facts. You can go read your minutes and it's, it's there. Four, four people voted last year not to raise taxes. One vote the other way, you would of [sic] had your taxes raised. There's one vote. It comes down to important things

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like taxes, senior citizens committee was almost deferred like we are deferring the appointment of a citizen to be on the parking committee. Later it was voted 5:2 to establish a senior citizens committee. Four people voted to get money back when the administrator told us we were in financial bad shape. So we did what we thought … (**) this council has voted and worked together. We haven't agreed on everything, but there have been a few hot spots, hot subjects that we didn't agree on. That sounds like a democracy to me. Undoubtedly, numbers don't lie. Lies are usually told by people who don't have the truth. Secondly, I was, I'm kind a shocked. I know there's four or five people out here on a parking committee and I just find out they don't want you no more [sic.] That, that doesn't feel good to me. What committees are going next? Will it be the senior citizens committee? Will it be, we already did away with the rec [sic] committee. What other committees are gonna fall by the wayside? I think citizen involvement is very important to this town. If it hadn't been for Ralph Magliette, I'd never star [sic,] brought up the senior citizens committee and I think it's been a success since he's been at the helm. I want to see citizens involved in this regardless whether it's the beautification, planning and zoning, stormwater, whatever. Citizens being involved in town government is [sic] important. They give us an extra voice that we don't normally have, and believe me, when y'all talk out here, I try to listen because your voice, you know whether it's negative, positive or whatever, I try to listen to you, because that's your freedom guaranteed by the First Amendment. So, just remember, one vote can ruin this town. One vote can make this town better. Vote tomorrow. The polls open at seven and close at seven. Wherever you might vote, whether it's town hall, or I think the other place is at Surfside Methodist Church. Go vote. It's your civic duty as a citizen. Thank you for coming out. I see a lot of good people out there in the audience, and I thank everybody who's served on a committee for being there. Thank you."

Ms. Kohlmann: "First, I would like to say a big thank you, and they're both gone now, but to Chris and Nicole. They do a fabulous job and we need to as a community remember our public safety. Don't take it for granted. Embrace them and support them. They need the support, because they're doing something that other people really don't want to do. And then I wanna just hit for the record at the debates there was a lot of misinformation given out and personal attacks. But, I don't work on misinformation, so I wanna just set the record straight on something that was stated. Of course, first off, I've stated so many times about the parking meters that I would to revisit it and remove them. They're ugly. However, the mailings went out and I hear my face is all over the computer today on, on meters. I'm flattered that you all think that I have that much more power than everybody else on council, because they were all sitting here when those meters were voted on, not just Beth Kohlmann. But, for the record, I'd like to say that the personal attacks on my family, I'll deal with that later on after, but the remark about my husband and I having an agenda on parking in the Town of Surfside Beach, if you go back and look, I didn't think quick [sic] enough on my feet, and now I regret it. Go back and look. The parking committee, which consists, my husband is on it, and Ann Dodge's husband is on it. Yes, that is a true statement. However, there are councilmembers up here whose spouses sit on committees, as well …" Mr. Stevens: "(**)." Ms. Kohlmann: "I have the floor, Randle. … on committees, as well. Committees don't have votes. The council has votes. The committee people, including the spouses of others, work very hard and give of their time to the Town of Surfside Beach. I understand that. But, to sit up there and say other people have agendas, when you don't even have the facts straight, is really, really cruel. Because when they made their recommendation to the Town of Surfside Beach Council, it was Ann Dodge and I that did not vote with what their recommendation was on the original plan for the meters. We went with staff's recommendation on how many meters and where they would be put. So, please, don't go around telling people that I have an agenda, unless you're gonna go by facts. Facts are what you should all be going by, and the personal attacks are ridiculous. I am proudly sitting here to tell you that I took zero contributions to my campaign and I spent $190 on it. I don't believe in taking contributions in any way, shape or form, and I'm not putting anybody down for doing it. I'm just gonna let you know my feeling on it. When I come up here and make decisions, I make them based upon facts, not upon rumors or somebody twisting my arm, or any other reason, and I think I've done that very well. My record does speak for itself. I have not slandered anybody, nor would I. I went out and I represented what I stand for, and why I'm doing what I'm doing, and it's been very difficult. It was much more difficult that I thought it would be. I used to get better treatment from locking up people for homicide, to be honest with you. It is unbelievable what people have stooped to, and it's sad for the Town of Surfside Beach. It brings a black eye where we don't need it, and that's sad. So yes, the people will speak tomorrow, and I hope they've

been paying attention. I hope they've come to meetings, and seen where the diversity really is, and where the comedy is, and that there are certain people here that aren't gonna knee-jerk and just go with the vote, because they're supposed to. They're gonna stand up and do the right thing and fight for our staff when they need to be fought for, and to vote sometimes not the popular vote, but that's okay, because you're supposed to do that. You have to make hard choices in life, so to all the candidates, I wish you all the best of luck and it will be what it will be, and I'll continue to serve the Town of Surfside Beach one way or another. Thank you all very much and I appreciate you coming out." *(Applause)*

Mayor Samples: "We have an election tomorrow, and I hope that everybody will turn out, and parking has been a very divisive issue; very divisive, and the fact is four councilmembers called a special meeting. It's perfectly legal; perfectly legal." Mr. Kohlmann *(speaking from audience **.)* Mayor Samples: "Mr. Kohlmann, I'm speaking. I have the floor. The fact is four councilmembers called a special meeting. I can count. Four members called a meeting and we gave the committee exactly what they asked for. Now, tomorrow is Election Day. We'll see ya. We'll see ya. Remember four members called the special meeting."

## 11. EXECUTIVE SESSION

**A. Pursuant to FOIA §30-4-70(a)(2) to discuss proposed contractual arrangements and B. Pursuant to FOIA §30-4-70(a)(1) to discuss the appointment of a person to a public body.**

Mr. Smith moved to enter executive session at 7:42 p.m. Ms. Mabry seconded. All voted in favor. **MOTION CARRIED.** Ms. Mabry moved to reconvene regular session at 8:08 p.m. Mr. Smith seconded. All voted in favor. **MOTION CARRIED.** Mayor Samples said that no action was taken during executive session.

## 12. ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Smith moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:08 p.m. Ms. Mabry seconded. All voted in favor. **MOTION CARRIED.**

Prepared and submitted by,

[redacted]

Debra E. Herrmann, CMC, Town Clerk

Approved: April 21, 2014

[redacted]

Douglas F. Samples, Mayor

Mary Beth Mabry, Mayor Pro Tempore

[redacted]

Ann Dodge, Town Council

[redacted]

Mark L. Johnson, Town Council

[redacted]

Elizabeth A. Kohlmann, Town Council

[redacted]

Roderick E. Smith, Town Council

Randle M. Stevens, Town Council

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

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