



**SURFSIDE BEACH TOWN COUNCIL
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
MAY 13, 2014 ♦ 6:30 P.M.
TOWN COUNCIL CHAMBERS**

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7 **1. CALL TO ORDER.**

8
9 Mayor Samples called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. Mayor Samples, Mayor Pro Tempore
10 Mabry, and Councilmembers Dodge, Johnson, Kohlmann, Smith, and Stevens were in attendance. A
11 quorum was present. Others present: Councilmembers-Elect David Pellegrino, Bob Childs, and Ralph
12 Magliette; Town Administrator Fellner; Town Clerk Herrmann; Planning Director Morris; Police Chief
13 Keziah, and Fire Chief Cimini.
14

15 Mayor Samples said a petition was received about Palmetto Lake's condition, which was already
16 being addressed by public works this week. The clerk will distribute copies to all members.
17

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

19
20 Pastor Tim Harmon of Journey Church gave the invocation as Pastor Hammonds could not
21 attend. Mayor Samples lead the Pledge.
22

23 **3. AGENDA APPROVAL.**

24
25 Mr. Smith moved to approve the agenda. Ms. Dodge seconded. All voted in favor. **MOTION**
26 **CARRIED.**
27

28 **4. RESOLUTION #14-145,**

29
30 Declaration of Results, Runoff Election, April 22, 2014, Administrator Fellner. The resolution was
31 read into the record, a recorded copy of which is attached to these minutes and made a part hereof by
32 reference. Mr. Smith moved to approve Resolution #14-145. Mr. Stevens seconded. All voted in favor.
33 **MOTION CARRIED.**
34

35 **5. RESIGNATIONS,**

36
37 Councilmember-Elect Ralph Magliette resigned from the Zoning Board of Appeals and the
38 Construction Board of Appeals. Mayor Samples presented Mr. Magliette's resignation from the two
39 committees, which was accepted by acclamation.
40

41 **6. MINUTES APPROVAL.**

42
43 Ms. Dodge moved to approve the minutes of the April 21, 2014 meeting as submitted. Mr. Smith
44 seconded. All voted in favor. **MOTION CARRIED.**
45

46 **7. SWEARING IN TOWN COUNCILMEMBERS.**

47
48 Mr. Johnson moved to suspend the rules to allow councilmembers whose terms were expiring to
49 make final comments. Ms. Mabry seconded. **MOTION CARRIED.**
50

51 Ms. Dodge said she was looking forward to being a civilian again. She was grateful for all of the
52 candidates. She was looking forward to the successful candidates service and appreciated them for
53 doing so.
54

55 Mr. Smith had no comment.
56

57 Ms. Kohlmann thanked everyone again saying it had been an honor and privilege to serve each
58 and every one of the town's citizens.
59

60 Mr. Johnson moved to reconvene regular session. Ms. Mabry seconded. All voted in favor.
61 **MOTION CARRIED.** *Standing ovation for all three retiring members, and they were excused.*
62

63 **A. Councilmember-Elect, The Hon. David Pellegrino.**

64 Benny Pellegrino read the oath of office for this father, to which Mr. Pellegrino so swore.
65

66 **B. Councilmember-Elect, The Hon. Bob Childs.**

67 Mrs. Nancy Childs read the oath of office for her husband, to which Mr. Childs so swore.
68

69 **C. Councilmember-Elect, The Hon. Ralph Magliette.**

70 Mrs. Patricia Magliette read the oath of office for her husband, to which Mr. Magliette so swore.
71

72 **8. MAYOR PRO TEMPORE ELECTION.**

73 Mr. Stevens moved to elect Mr. Pellegrino to serve as Mayor Pro Tempore. Ms. Mabry
74 seconded. All voted in favor. **MOTION CARRIED.** *(Applause)*
75

76 **RECESS at 6:46 p.m. - RECONVENE at 6:53**
77

78 **9. PUBLIC COMMENTS – Agenda Items (3 minutes.)**

79 There were no comments on agenda items.
80

81 **10. COMMUNICATIONS.**

82 **A. Department Reports.**

83 **i. Fire.** Chief Cimini presented the written report, a copy of which is on file. There was one fire
84 loss at DeFalco's Towing of \$550,000 during the month of April, but staff was able to prevent the fire from
85 spreading into the main office. Horry County and the City of Myrtle Beach assisted with the event. Staff
86 and volunteers continued with mandated training. The department responded to a total of 88 calls, which
87 is a 35-percent increase over 2013. June 5th at 6:30 is the first scheduled hurricane training session for
88 the public.
89

90 Mayor Samples thanked Chief Cimini and his staff for hosting the League of Cities meeting, and
91 preparing the dinner during which they provided excellent dinner service.
92

93 **ii. Planning, Building & Zoning.** Ms. Morris presented the written report, a copy of which is on
94 file. She reported the following statistics: Permits issued: 2014, 177, and 2013, 135; Inspections: 2014,
95 149, and 2013, 126; business license fees collected \$14,612 from 103 businesses, which includes license
96 renewals. The finance department reports on business license renewals, which is the same information
97 given in this report. Beginning next month, the license renewals will not be reported on this report. Town
98 property owners were asked to consider buying flood insurance. Staff was working with Community
99 Rating Service (CRS) to help offset future increases. Flood maps will be changed in the next few years;
100 owners purchasing flood insurance that are not currently in a flood zone will receive a discount. Public
101 workshops will continue being held about the changing flood requirements. The "Open for Business"
102 brochures are being used now; only positive feedback has been heard.
103
104
105
106
107
108
109
110

111 Mr. Magliette asked if a customer service survey card was included in the brochures. Ms. Morris
112 said a postcard is being designed to use for customer surveys that will be sent to the town administrator.
113

114 Ms. Mabry said the 56 page detailed permitting report was included in the package. After
115 discussion, Mr. Magliette was the only member that wanted to receive the detail permit report. The
116 information is published on the town website, and printed copies are available from the planning
117 department, if anyone else wanted a printed copy. Future reports will include a summary of permits
118 issued, and only Mr. Magliette will receive a detailed report.
119

120 Mayor Samples said it was important to share information with the resident and nonresident
121 property owners. The next newsletter will include information. Ms. Morris said the focus group chose four
122 target areas in town that will be sent letters about flood insurance; the first area is the rental district that
123 includes 911 owners. She expects that additional target areas will be added.
124

125 **iii. Police.** Chief Keziah presented the written report, a copy of which is on file. Statistics
126 reported: 11-percent increase in service calls - 1,048 in 2013, 1,167 in 2014; 24-percent increase in
127 arrests and citations - 212 in 2013, 263 in 2014, which is an average increase. There was one use-of-
128 force action. Sergeant Black tackled a suspect who was underage and under the influence of alcohol and
129 marijuana. Mandatory training was done by staff. Sergeant Bailey and the US Marshal Task Force
130 collected \$1,065 and cleared two warrants, which is lower than usual because Sergeant Bailey had
131 training and assisted with staffing issues. A press release was issued April 23 about the arrest of three
132 individuals charged with burglarizing over 30 vehicles in town. Most of the vehicles were unlocked; he
133 encouraged everyone to lock their cars and remove valuables from them.
134

135 Mr. Stevens challenged other councilmembers to participate in the Citizens Police Academy. As
136 part of that program he would participate in a ride-along.
137

138 Mr. Magliette received the message about revamping the beach program. He thought it was a
139 wonderful program and asked what the rationale was for the change. Chief Keziah said the changes
140 were to streamline enforcement and activities on the beach. He explained that not all the members
141 received it, because the message was sent to subscribers to the police department community notices.
142 Anyone who wishes to be included on the list was asked to contact him.
143

144 Mayor Samples said this was a classic case of not every member having the information, and
145 council would work diligently to ensure that all members have the same information so they may make
146 informed decisions.
147

148 **B. Administrator's Report – Update on Current Events.** Ms. Fellner said the South Carolina
149 Department of Transportation (DOT) had finally approved the brown recreational and cultural way finding
150 signs above Highway 17 at the 4-way intersection at Surfside Drive and Glenns Bay Road, which should
151 help to direct traffic to the pier area, and is the first step in the town's way finding signage project. DOT
152 also approved the no parking signs to be installed on the south side of Melody Lane. They will be
153 installed within a few weeks by DOT. First reading of the budget will be presented at the May 27th
154 meeting. She encouraged councilmembers to contact her with any specific budget requests. Ms. Fellner
155 thanked everyone involved in making the Founder's Day Weekend a great success; special thank you to
156 the 50th Anniversary Focus Group members, and all staff members that helped. The town received a
157 huge amount of positive press for the events. She also thanked Ms. Ellis and the fire department staff for
158 their awesome help with the League of Cities dinner.
159

160 Ms. Mabry thanked Ms. Fellner and staff, because of their preparation and hard work, council was
161 able to complete two days worth of work in one day, and spent a half-day discussing visions and goals.
162 The budget package is available on the town's website.
163

164 Mayor Samples agreed and said the introductory narrative was very helpful in understanding the
165 budget. The budget must be adopted by midnight June 30th. It was important to advise Ms. Fellner of

166 any budgetary items quickly. Mr. Eldridge, county administrator, and Mr. Gosnell, county engineer,
167 presented information on the Glens Bay road improvements at the League of Cities meeting. They said
168 Glens Bay is part of a solicitation package that they expect to issue in early summer.

169
170 **11. BUSINESS.**

171
172 **A. Resolution #14-144 Affirmation of Participation in the Community Rating System,**
173 **Councilmember Mabry.** Ms. Mabry said the resolution was presented to confirm the town's participation
174 and support for the Community Rating System. The resolution was read for the record; a copy of which is
175 on file. Mr. Stevens moved adopt Resolution #14-144. Mr. Johnson seconded. All voted in favor.
176 **MOTION CARRIED.**

177
178 **B. Town Council Subcommittee Appointments, Mayor Samples (May be deferred until**
179 **after executive session.)** Mayor Samples said appointments would be made after executive session.

180
181 **12. DISCUSSION – Any matters of concern or information to be discussed by Town**
182 **Council.**

183
184 Ms. Mabry thought the new members should be informed of the parking issues, because that was
185 one of the hot topics during the recent election. After discussion, **COUNCIL CONCURRED** to hold a
186 workshop to discuss parking and to determine whether the parking committee should continue. The
187 administrator was directed to send available dates to councilmembers to schedule the workshop, and
188 also provide information about special event parking options.

189
190 **COUNCIL CONCURRED to suspend parking enforcement town wide during the Memorial**
191 **Day Cookout from 3:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.**

192
193 **13. PUBLIC COMMENTS – General Comments (5 minutes.)**

194
195 Ms. Anita Crone handed Mayor Samples a flyer that was distributed in her neighborhood. She
196 was concerned that it implies that the brochure was done by the town. A copy was given to the
197 administrator for follow-up, if necessary.

198
199 Mr. Ron Ott said workshops were unscripted and were to share information. He believed some
200 workshops had just been round table meetings.

201
202 Ms. Wanda Burgess said it had been over a year since she asked about having dog waste pickup
203 stations on Ocean Boulevard. She was also concerned, because she continued to see people with dogs
204 on leashes while they were on skateboards, bicycles, or rollerblades, or a small child walking a large dog.
205 In her opinion, dogs could not be controlled when individuals were using sports equipment. She asked
206 that someone let her know about the waste pickup stations, and the dog control issue. She also wanted
207 to have it clarified whether bicycles were allowed on the sidewalks. The canal between 13th and 14th
208 Avenues South needed to be cleaned, because it smelled, and needed maintenance. Mayor Samples
209 suggested that Ms. Burgess speak to the administrator, as councilmembers could not respond during
210 public comments.

211
212 Mr. Harry Kohlmann said councilmembers not responding to public comments was offensive,
213 because the public could not get answers to simple questions that the public might need or want to hear.
214 When the council was seated in 2012, he thought council would be willing to engage the public when they
215 had questions. He hoped the parking committee would be invited to show its presentation at the parking
216 workshop, because all of the councilmembers needed to know exactly what the parking committee
217 wanted.

218
219 Mr. John Ard said the citizens own the town; not any one individual. He hoped to see many good
220 things happen during the next two years. The pier is the town's focal point, and there may be some

221 changes there. The town needs those changes to generate revenue and to bring in tourism. He urged
222 councilmembers to carefully consider proposals so the right things would be done for the town.
223

224 **10. COUNCIL COMMENTS.**
225

226 Mr. Childs said he personally wanted to hear the parking committee's presentation. The parking
227 issue was the biggest issue during his recent campaign. He welcomed the committee's and the public's
228 comments during the workshop. He thanked Mr. Smith, Ms. Kohlmann and Ms. Dodge for their service
229 on council. They did good jobs and the town owes them a great deal of gratitude.
230

231 Mr. Stevens agreed with Mr. Ard's comments. The members were elected to do the best they
232 could for the citizens. He hoped that would be accomplished in the next two years. He hoped and
233 prayed that every councilmember was given complete opportunity to know everything about every subject
234 that was presented for consideration, and that councilmembers would work together. He agreed that the
235 parking committee should be at the workshop. The outgoing councilmembers were thanked and told they
236 would be missed. He urged the public to check into the CRS program, because it would lower their flood
237 insurance premiums.
238

239 Ms. Mabry said the public comment section was time to address council; *Robert's Rules*
240 prohibited council from interrupting their time. The dog waste stations were part of a beautification project
241 that could not be funded. Council was planning to implement at least part of that project this year, but
242 nothing would be done until the parking issue was resolved. She encouraged the public to call the police
243 department when they were concerned about loose or uncontrolled dogs.
244

245 Mr. Johnson thanked everyone for attending the meeting.
246

247 Mr. Pellegrino appreciated everyone's support during the election and was glad to be serving on
248 council. He was sure he could have a positive impact and help the council and the public make good
249 decisions for the town. He thanked administration and the 50th Anniversary Focus Group for the
250 Founder's Day Weekend events; they were great. Many positive comments were heard. He appreciated
251 everyone's comments. Mr. Pellegrino said he promised to treat everyone with respect during the
252 campaign. He couldn't make any other promises, because there are seven members on the council. He
253 would not lie as he reports to someone much higher than us. If he does not know an answer, he will do
254 his best to find out. He agreed with transparent government, honesty and public participation. When
255 problems arise like parking, everyone needs to participate so the right answer can be determined the first
256 time. He looked forward to working for the town.
257

258 Mr. Magliette said Surfside Beach is a wonderful place to live, because of the people who live
259 here. He thanked all the volunteers who worked without recognition to beautify the town. He publicly
260 thanked Councilmember Pellegrino and his family for providing an ice cream social at the senior center;
261 the seniors enjoyed the children as much as the ice cream! The Keep Surfside Beach Beautiful
262 committee has been very busy; special thanks to Peggy Sattelmeyer, Mary Ellen Abrams, and Dora
263 Eaddy for their extra work replanting the baskets and beds at the pier on Saturday. Adopt-a-Beach is
264 active; the next event is Saturday, May 17th from 8:00 a.m. to 9:00 a.m. everyone was welcomed to help
265 clean the 10th to 13th Avenues South beach access areas. If you cannot attend Saturday, just contact him
266 to help another day. The South Strand Senior Center at 1032 10th Avenue North was updated with new
267 programs. Membership is \$20 per year; free lunch, free transportation, and free programs. This is a
268 great venue for any elderly residents that need fellowship and assistance. Please call manager Jackie
269 Willis at 843.238.3644 for additional information. The Friends of the Library Book sale is May 14th
270 beginning at 4:00 p.m. for the public. The Friends now have two \$1,000 scholarships that they provide to
271 graduating seniors in the community. Enrichment programs are also provided. The book sale is always
272 the second Wednesday of the month; books are priced very well. Mr. Magliette thanked everyone; said
273 God bless everyone, and it was a privilege to serve the town.
274

275 Mayor Samples said this was a wonderful opportunity for a fresh look and start for the town with
276 new members to address issues.

277
278 **15. EXECUTIVE SESSION.**

279
280 **A. Pursuant to FOIA §30-4-70(a)(2) to discuss proposed contractual arrangements (See**
281 **Business Item)**

282
283 **B. Pursuant to FOIA §30-4-70(a)(1) to discuss the appointment of a person to a public**
284 **body.**

285
286 Mr. Johnson moved to enter executive session at 8:04 p.m. Ms. Mabry seconded. All voted in
287 favor. **MOTION CARRIED.** Mr. Johnson moved to reconvene regular session at 9:07 p.m. Mr. Childs
288 seconded. All voted in favor. **MOTION CARRIED.** Mayor Samples said that no action was taken during
289 executive session.

290
291 Mr. Johnson moved to appoint Mr. Childs and Mr. Magliette to the infrastructure subcommittee.
292 Ms. Mabry seconded. All voted in favor. **MOTION CARRIED.**

293
294 Mr. Johnson moved to appoint Ms. Mabry and Mr. Pellegrino to the organizational subcommittee.
295 Mr. Childs seconded. All voted in favor. **MOTION CARRIED.**

296
297 Mr. Johnson moved to direct the town administrator to pursue legal action as discussed in
298 executive session. Ms. Mabry seconded. All voted in favor. **MOTION CARRIED.**

299
300 Mayor Samples noted that the finance subcommittee members were not changed.

301
302 **12. ADJOURNMENT.** Mr. Johnson moved to adjourn the meeting at 9:10 p.m. Ms. Mabry
303 seconded. All voted in favor. **MOTION CARRIED.**

304
305 Prepared and submitted by,

306
307 _____
308 Debra E. Herrmann, CMC, Town Clerk

309 Approved: May 27, 2014

310
311 _____
312 Douglas F. Samples, Mayor

313
314 _____
315 David L. Pellegrino, Mayor Pro Tempore

316
317 _____
318 Robert F. Childs, Town Council

319
320 _____
321 Mark L. Johnson, Town Council

322
323 _____
324 Mary Beth Mabry, Town Council

325
326 _____
327 Ralph J. Magliette, Town Council

328
329 _____
330 Randle M. Stevens, Town Council

331
332 *Clerk's Note: This document constitutes summary minutes of the meeting that was digitally recorded.*
333 *Audio recordings are published on the town website after the meeting (approximately two weeks) until the*
334 *minutes are approved and published. You may download the recording to your personal computer from*
335 *the website, or bring a flash drive to the town clerk to obtain a copy. Appointments to hear or to obtain*
336 *copies of recordings should be scheduled with the town clerk, telephone 843.913.6333. In accordance*
337 *with FOIA, meeting notice and the agenda were distributed to local media and interested parties. The*
338 *agenda was posted on the town website, the entry door at Town Council Chambers, and in the Town Hall*
339 *reception area. Meeting notice was also posted on the town marquee.*