



**SURFSIDE BEACH TOWN COUNCIL  
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES  
MAY 12, 2015 ♦ 6:30 P.M.  
TOWN COUNCIL CHAMBERS**

**1. CALL TO ORDER.**

Mayor Samples called the regular meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. Mayor Samples, Mayor Pro Tempore Pellegrino, and Councilmembers Childs, Johnson, Mabry, Magliette, and Stevens were in attendance. A quorum was present. Others present: Administrator Fellner; Town Clerk Herrmann; Finance Director King; Acting Fire Chief Cimini; Planning Director Morris; Police Chief Keziah; Recreation Supervisor Ellis, and in-coming Fire Chief Otte.

Mayor Samples said the town was fortunate to only have minimal damage from Tropical Storm Ana this past weekend. He asked citizens to be aware that Ana was a very minor storm, even though it was sensationalized by the media. If and when an evacuation order is issued for any storm, citizens should follow that order for their own safety.

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

A. Invocation: Pastor Brad Bellah, Shepherd of the Sea Church, gave the invocation.

B. Pledge of Allegiance: Mayor Samples lead the Pledge.

**3. PUBLIC HEARING.**

Mayor Samples opened the public hearing at 6:33 p.m. and explained that this was the time for the public to make comments regarding Ordinance #15-0801, the proposed fee change to Section 9-9 to establish Value Parking at 50 cents per hour.

Mr. Harry Kohlmann, 16<sup>th</sup> Avenue South, encouraged council to reconsider the price cut for the two parking lots, saying that the town should take "baby steps." There were over 138 parking spaces just eliminated on Ocean Boulevard. Visitors that would have parked there will move into the lots at 13<sup>th</sup> Avenue South and 16<sup>th</sup>-17<sup>th</sup> Avenues North lots. He suggested waiting until after this season ends to see how it worked. But, if Town Council believed the rate should be lowered, do not lower it to 50 cents. With that rate, the town would lose money even if the usage doubled.

There were no other public comments.

Mayor Samples closed the public hearing at 6:35 p.m.

**4. AGENDA APPROVAL**

Mr. Johnson moved to adopt the agenda as presented. Ms. Mabry seconded. All voted in favor.  
**MOTION CARRIED.**

**4. MINUTES APPROVAL**

**A. Public Hearing Minutes April 28, 2015 and B. Regular Meeting April 28, 2015.** Mr. Stevens moved to adopt the April 28, 2015 public hearing minutes and the April 28, 2015 regular meeting minutes as presented. Mr. Childs seconded. All voted in favor. **MOTION CARRIED**

**5. PUBLIC COMMENTS – Agenda Items Only. (3-minutes per speaker)**

There were no public comments on agenda items.

57 **6. COMMUNICATIONS**  
58

59 **A. Oath of Office Fire Chief Kevin L. Otte, Charge by Mrs. Terrie Otte.** Mrs. Otte delivered  
60 the charge as Mayor Samples held the Holy Bible. Chief Cimini presented Chief Otte with his badge. Fire  
61 Chief Otte received a standing ovation.  
62

63 **B. Employee Award, Becky Small, Police Department 15-years.** Mayor Samples presented  
64 Ms. Small with an awards plaque, 15-year pin, and check. She received a standing ovation.  
65

66 **C. Senior Citizens Advisory Committee 2014 Report by Wanda Stonebraker, Chairman,**  
67 **Councilmember Magliette, Liaison to the Committee.** Mr. Magliette explained that Chairman  
68 Stonebraker could not attend this meeting. The presentation would be made at the May 26<sup>th</sup> meeting.  
69

70 Mayor Samples appreciated the Keep Surfside Beach Beautiful Committee members who worked  
71 all day yesterday planting flowers at the pier parking lot and at the welcome signs to beautify the town. It  
72 was nice having people in town that were committed and dedicated to giving of themselves freely.  
73

74 **B. Department Reports.**  
75

76 **i. Fire.** Chief Cimini presented the departmental report, a copy of which is attached to these  
77 minutes and made a part hereof by reference. At the end of the report, Chief Cimini thanked Town  
78 Council and the administrator for allowing him the honor of serving as acting chief and assisting with the  
79 appointment process. Chief Cimini gave a brief history of Chief Otte's career, which began as a volunteer  
80 firefighter with the Bethlehem, West Virginia Fire Department over 30-years ago, and then presented  
81 Chief Otte with a gold-leaf helmet badge.  
82

83 Mr. Magliette referred to the medical assist/assist EMS and the persons in distress and assist  
84 invalid asking if those calls were for town residents. Chief Cimini said the medical assist/assist EMS were  
85 actual support for EMS, a few incidents were in Horry County under the mutual aid agreement. The  
86 persons in distress and assist invalid was assistance to residents, i.e. getting down stairs. Mr. Magliette  
87 appreciated all the department does. But to protect the "little gem" that is Surfside Beach, he asked as  
88 the number of calls increased, if there were sufficient resources to continue giving critical services and  
89 keep the three minute response time to residents. Chief Cimini said for now he thought the current  
90 staffing, volunteers, and equipment could manage the call volume. He noted that the town's volunteers  
91 were the lowest compensated volunteers in the area, and suggested that the chief evaluate their  
92 compensation for a future recommendation. Mr. Magliette said the department gave wonderful service  
93 and thanked him, staff and the volunteers for their work.  
94

95 Ms. Mabry said the night that Chief Otte was announced, her phone blew up with calls from her  
96 friends at Myrtle Beach Fire Department. Evidently, every member of the Myrtle Beach Fire Department  
97 was from Wheeling, West Virginia. They said Chief Otte was well thought of in Myrtle Beach, and he was  
98 a great, great choice. Congratulations.  
99

100 Mayor Samples said in regard to Mr. Magliette's comments, the town is 2-square miles. The fire  
101 department, in terms of budget when you look at the trends over the last ten years, is growing at a rate  
102 that is not sustainable, in his opinion. He was sure the question of auto aid and mutual aid would be  
103 revisited. The town's taxpayers support the town's fire department. The legislative requirements  
104 continue changing, and those requirements do not fit every department. He appreciated councilmembers  
105 that took time to look further down the road. Mayor Samples said in his opinion, all alternatives should be  
106 considered, but there were some things that the town would lose, if all the town did was seek additional  
107 revenue; growing to be bigger, and trying to serve unincorporated areas of Horry County. He thanked  
108 both Chief Cimini and Chief Otte, saying they were both outstanding gentlemen.  
109

110 **ii. Planning, Building and Zoning.** Director Morris presented the departmental report, a copy  
111 of which is attached to these minutes and made a part hereof by reference. Ms. Morris added that  
112 Councilmember Stevens and she met with Myrtle Beach Regional Economic Development Corporation

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113 (MBRED) representatives. It was a very good meeting during which they discussed how the MBRED  
114 could assist with bringing new businesses to the town. A tour was made of the town, and maps given to  
115 them. Since that meeting, she was contacted by MBRED as there are prospects for one or two of the  
116 vacant warehouses in town. MBRED representatives were impressed with what the town had to offer.  
117

118 Ms. Morris introduced Mr. Russell Lee, the town's code enforcement officer. She said he does a  
119 great job for the town, and was responsible for the March 2015 Violations actions report and for sending  
120 the 24 letters.  
121

122 Ms. Mabry appreciated that Mr. Lee provided the violations report. Town Council never received  
123 that report in the past. She asked if the unresolved issues would be followed-up. Ms. Morris said Mr. Lee  
124 would continue to contact the offenders to ensure they were resolved. The next report would include a  
125 follow-up section to show progress.  
126

127 **iii. Police.** Chief Keziah presented the departmental report, a copy of which is attached to these  
128 minutes and made a part hereof by reference.  
129

130 Mr. Magliette asked if "alarms" and "premise check" were different. Chief Keziah explained that  
131 premise checks were done for residents that were out of town. Officers actually go by their homes to  
132 ensure everything is in order; the checks were logged in to track the activity. The alarms calls were  
133 responses to alarms activated accidentally, by animals, faulty wiring or other causes.  
134

135 Mayor Samples said the new speed sign with the message board was a good idea. It is on  
136 Surfside Drive, if you want to see it.  
137

138 **C. Administrator's Report.** Ms. Fellner gave the following updates:  
139

140 Appointment to COG. Congratulations were in order for Mr. Childs who was appointed by the  
141 Horry County Legislative Delegation to serve on the Waccamaw Regional Council of Governments. His  
142 term will end in 2017.  
143

144 MBRED. Thank you to Mr. Stevens for arranging the meeting with the new MBRED chairman,  
145 town staff, and some councilmembers. Their procedures were discussed for consideration regarding  
146 business relocations. The representatives were shown vacancies and areas of opportunity for  
147 development within the town. Thank you to Ms. Morris for the extra spent with them, and her dedication  
148 to improving the overall business profile within the town limits. It was a very informative meeting, and she  
149 hoped the town could capitalize on some of the information.  
150

151 Beach Renourishment. Mr. Adair, she, and other coastal municipality representatives met with  
152 the US Army Corps of Engineers (Corps) to discuss the upcoming renourishment. The earliest date  
153 anticipated is 2018. At this time, the Corps estimated the cost for Reaches I to III at \$100 million. The  
154 town's portion is for its 2-miles of beach is estimated at \$1,060,500, based on best information to date.  
155 The Corps performs a study before renourishment occurs, which determines the actual price for each  
156 municipality. Each municipality will pay the Corps \$15,000 for its share of the study cost. If the town  
157 wants additional sand, the cost would be \$200 - \$300 thousand more. Mayor Samples said Mr.  
158 Pellegrino had been adamant about being sure the funds were available when it is time for beach  
159 renourishment. Ms. Fellner said this information might impact the resolution to make an additional  
160 payment from the pier fund to the general fund; if the extra funds remained in the pier fund, the funds  
161 could be used for beach renourishment. Over three years, there would be \$127,500 in the pier fund. To  
162 reach the \$1,060,500, the town would need to save \$336,000 per year over the next three years.  
163 Discussions have not been held about other funding sources, but the town is in a "pretty good place."  
164 However, if the town needs extra sand, that would add cost. If there is a storm event, the Corps will fund  
165 100-percent of renourishment.  
166

167 Organizational Focus Group. The group had its initial meeting to begin consideration regarding  
168 possible restructuring of the current compensation plan. Ms. Messall, the human resource coordinator, is

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169 heading the effort and is collecting additional requested data for the members prior to scheduling the next  
170 meeting, for which no date has been set.

171  
172 Pier Way-Finding Signs. The South Carolina Highway Department (SCDOT) finally approved the  
173 pier way-finding signs and they have been placed on both sides of Highway 17. She thanked Mr. Adair  
174 for his persistence to get the approval. There were about eight renditions before SCDOT accepted one.

175  
176 Pier Signs. Public works staff will be installing the pilings for the sign and flower box in front of  
177 the pier during the next week or so. It will be a nautical theme with two short piles on both sides, and a  
178 rope wrapped around them.

179  
180 Taste of Surfside Beach Critique. This morning Mr. Stevens, liaison to the business committee,  
181 Mr. Truett, the committee chairman, and staff met to critique the recent Taste of Surfside Beach event. A  
182 number of strategies were discussed to improve the event next year, and also discussed a number of  
183 things to avoid. It was a productive meeting. The business committee is meeting tonight to perform its  
184 critique on the event and to hear the strategies discussed this morning.

185  
186 Consensus Item. Request for authorization to add a second dog to the Surfside Beach Police  
187 Department K-9 unit with the donation of certified dog and training from a current town resident (over  
188 \$13,000 value.) Ms. Fellner presented the issue paper, a copy of which is on file, with a recommendation  
189 to approve adding K-9 Viking to the K-9 unit.

190  
191 Mayor Samples asked if officers were assigned to the individual dog. Chief Keziah said yes; a  
192 current officer would be assigned to K-9 Viking. Mayor Samples questioned establishing a 501(C)(3) not  
193 for profit organization to accept donations for the care and treatment of the K-9s. Chief Keziah said the  
194 dog's donor, Mr. Matt Reed, wanted to set up an organization to accept donations to support both K-9  
195 dogs. He explained that donations were regularly received for K-9 Biko, which were deposited into the  
196 general fund. He believed that establishing an avenue to handle the donations to reimburse the town for  
197 costs would be a win-win. Mayor Samples believed if adding the dog was worth doing, the town should  
198 bear the cost instead of taking on, in his opinion, the distraction of setting up the nonprofit organization.  
199 Chief Keziah said the donor was going to establish the 501(C)(3), and a member of the police department  
200 would sit on its board. Mayor Samples asked if there were liability issues. Chief Keziah said the dog  
201 would be attached to the town, and would be covered under the umbrella dog policy that currently covers  
202 K-9 Biko. K-9 Viking is a search and rescue dog; not an attack dog.

203  
204 Mr. Pellegrino said this was another service for which over time he was sure there would be costs  
205 associated, even though it appeared most cost would be paid by donations. The monthly report stated  
206 that K-9 Biko was deployed 14 times during April. He asked what the standard was for K-9 deployment.  
207 Chief Keziah said April was a very slow month due to scheduling with the trainer; he worked two days one  
208 week, and five days the next week. He believed the standard depends on the dog's age, but he was not  
209 qualified to answer the question. Concerns have been expressed by professional trainers and handlers  
210 that too much work will result in a shorter life expectancy for K-9 Biko.

211  
212 Mr. Childs thought this was an excellent opportunity to add another dog. Concern was expressed  
213 at previous meetings about overworking K-9 Biko. The tracking ability was important, because just about  
214 every week reports were on the news about lost senior citizens and children. He was 100-percent in  
215 favor.

216  
217 Mr. Stevens said this was a no-brainer [sic.] It was a \$13,000 dog. He watched K-9 Biko perform  
218 his duties during his recent attendance at the police academy. He found things [snapped fingers] like  
219 that. Adding another dog is an asset for the town and its citizens. Having a tracking dog is invaluable to  
220 anyone that has lost a child.

221  
222 Mr. Johnson asked if K-9 Biko, and the new dog, if accepted, were assigned to one officer. Chief  
223 Keziah said yes, but the officer has not been vetted, because they were waiting for the approval to add K-  
224 9 Viking. Mr. Johnson asked when the dog would be deployed. Chief Keziah said if approved, the goal is

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225 Memorial Day. Mr. Johnson was concerned that was too soon. There was a K-9 dog several years ago  
226 and the town lost the officer when the town decided to stop using the K-9. He did not want that to happen  
227 again. Chief Keziah said the dogs belong to the town; if the officer leaves the town, a new trainer would  
228 be assigned. He explained that the time frame was because the dog was already trained. K-9 Viking has  
229 already received accolades for work with many other agencies. The town's officer had to be trained to  
230 work with the dog. Mr. Johnson was undecided at this time.

231  
232 Ms. Mabry said everyone knew her stance on drugs. When the town gets a reputation for not  
233 tolerating drugs the dealers would actually go around the town limits. The town has a high rate, as any  
234 coastal town does, of breaking and entering. The offenders do not work nine to five. They want money to  
235 buy drugs. We have an opportunity to do something about that kind of activity. Whether it happens close  
236 to Memorial Day or Christmas, the results were the same: crime is crime and we want to keep it out of  
237 town. It is a fact that the town has an elderly population. A search and rescue K-9 dog would be a great  
238 tool; another police officer to assist our citizens. A dog can find in 10 minutes what it would take two  
239 officers hours to find. This is efficient and she supports adding the K-9 dog 100-percent.

240  
241 Mr. Magliette was a big supporter of the additional K-9 dog, because it supported quality of life.  
242 He asked who would be in charge of the nonprofit. Chief Keziah said there would be a board for the  
243 501(C)(3). A representative from the police department command staff would serve; the donor; an in-town  
244 business owner, and one town resident would also serve. Mr. Magliette asked who was paying for the  
245 incorporation. Chief Keziah said a local attorney is helping. Mr. Magliette said once the nonprofit was  
246 established, people could donate there for the dogs, which would be a tax deduction. There would be no  
247 additional work by staff, because the 501(C)(3) would collect and disburse donations. He assumed there  
248 would be an annual report. Chief Keziah said that was correct; the nonprofit would be transparent.

249  
250 Mayor Samples asked if there were any other legal attachments other than a staff member  
251 serving on the board, and asked who owns the dog. Chief Keziah said the town owns the dog.

252  
253 Mr. Pellegrino asked who would pay for the dog's treatment if he was injured. Chief Keziah said  
254 the 501(C)(3).

255  
256 Mr. Matt Reed, the donor, said that the dog would belong to the town, and could not leave the  
257 town. If the officer assigned to the dog left, he would train another officer to work with the dog.

258  
259 After discussion, Town Council agreed to separate the question to address accepting the K-9  
260 dog, and whether to approve the not for profit organization which would accept donations for the dog's  
261 care. Mayor Samples called for consensus to accept K-9 Viking as a second dog in the town's K-9 unit.  
262 **COUNCIL CONCURRED.**

263  
264 Ms. Mabry thanked Mr. Reed for his generous gift. This was discussed at the vision meeting, but  
265 the town could not afford another dog. Mayor Samples said for the record, "I'm gonna clarify, we talked  
266 about it at the budget, but we got, the answer we got was that Bilko, not Bilko, Biko, Biko was not being  
267 overworked. That was the answer we got, for the record. For the record, let it show that the mayor has  
268 three dogs at his house right now."

269  
270 After additional discussion, Mayor Samples called for consensus to ask the town attorney for an  
271 opinion about setting up the 501(C)(3) not for profit organization to accept donations for the care and  
272 treatment of all K-9 dogs. **COUNCIL CONCURRED.**

273  
274 Mayor Samples thanked Mr. Reed for the donation to the town. Mayor Samples called *point of*  
275 *order* [sic] and asked if the town had been sued since 2012 when this council was seated. Ms. Fellner  
276 said no. Mayor Samples said there was a reason for that.

277  
278 Responses to public comments:  
279

280 *Comment:* With regard to the tree ordinance it made no sense to wait for foundation damage  
281 before a tree can be cut. Council was asked to please find a way to encourage proper trimming without a  
282 fee and also to let the public know why the town was not planting legacy trees.

283 *Response:* Staff encourages proper pruning as part of tree preservation. Staff does not have the  
284 expertise to determine if a tree root system will cause damage to foundations without visibly seeing the  
285 damage. Experts, i.e. arborists, foresters, and engineers, are trained to evaluate the type of tree in  
286 relation to the vicinity of the structure and determine if the tree will cause damage. The town does plant  
287 legacy trees, but not every year. Many legacy trees are larger species that would not survive in rights of  
288 way or many of the areas under consideration each year.

289 *Comment:* With regard to the tree ordinance, the planning committee had already done the  
290 research and asked the council to approve the ordinance without amendments.

291 *Response:* The planning commission held a workshop on the proposed amendments to the tree  
292 ordinance and sought advice from an arborists before making recommendations to council on the  
293 proposed changes. Council passed it without making amendments.

294 *Comment:* With regard to the parking fee ordinance the reduction to 50-cents per hour was too  
295 much. A recommendation was made to reduce the fees at 13<sup>th</sup> South and 16<sup>th</sup>-17<sup>th</sup> North to \$1.00 or 75-  
296 cents at the least.

297 *Response:* The resident made a valid point. Consequently, council was provided with complete  
298 revenue information for the affected lots and areas by the month so all facts and figures could be  
299 examined prior to this meeting so a more informed decision could be made. The information was also  
300 provided to the public on the website under item 8.A. in the meeting packet.

301 *Comment:* With regard to the lake water quality data there were many reasons for the poor water  
302 quality, including high ammonia levels, and wanted to know if this affected the ocean waters.

303 *Response:* To the extent that all retention ponds empty into the ocean, it does affect the ocean  
304 water. South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control (DHEC) monitors all discharge  
305 points along the coast from May to October for pollutants of concern to recreational use and shellfish  
306 harvesting. When a water quality standard is exceeded, a swimming advisory is made. There have been  
307 studies, one recently in which the town participated that examined the relationship between swashes and  
308 periodic hypoxic, which means low oxygen conditions. It is generally accepted that this phenomenon  
309 occurs when prevailing winds are on shore, preventing the rapid dilution of pollutants and organic  
310 material. The vast majority of the time ocean waters dilute contaminates quickly, and they present no  
311 significant impact to the environment. A copy of the 3-year study completed by University of South  
312 Carolina Professor Eric Smith and DHEC testing data can be found online using Google.

313 *Comment:* With regard to the tree ordinance that the permitting department use common sense.  
314 In the past a tree was growing under the foundation and they had to hire a tree specialist to recommend  
315 removal of the tree.

316 *Response:* If a tree is showing visible growth/damage to a foundation, staff can approve removal  
317 of the tree. In accordance with the ordinance, if there is no visible evidence of damage, an expert must  
318 provide documentation that the tree has, or in their professional opinion, will cause damage to the  
319 structure. This is because staff does not have the expertise to determine if a tree root system will cause  
320 damage to foundations without visibly seeing the damage. Only experts, i.e. arborists, foresters, and  
321 engineers, are trained to evaluate the type of tree in relation to the vicinity of the structure and determine  
322 if the tree will cause damage.

## 323 **7. BUSINESS**

324 **A. Second Reading Ordinance #15-9891 to establish Value Parking at 50 cents/hour,**  
325 **Administrator Fellner.** Ms. Fellner presented the ordinance and decision paper, copies of which are on  
326 file. The lots should perform better during the peak months, since the spaces were eliminated on Ocean  
327 Boulevard.

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335 Mr. Childs moved to suspend the rules on this matter to allow discussion. Mr. Stevens seconded.  
336 All voted in favor. **MOTION CARRIED.**  
337

338 Mr. Childs said after reviewing the financial data provided in the packet he saw that the amount of  
339 money made at 16<sup>th</sup>-17<sup>th</sup> Avenue North was in excess of \$11,000. He hoped council would allow an  
340 amendment to remove those meters from the value parking, and only have 50-cent value parking at the  
341 13<sup>th</sup> Avenue South parking lot. Mayor Samples agreed, and said there was general agreement.  
342

343 Mr. Magliette believed the 13<sup>th</sup> Avenue South parking lot should be eliminated. He believed  
344 council received bad advice during the initial discussion. When the discussion was held about  
345 underutilization of these two lots, council agreed that more signage would direct visitors to the two lots.  
346 The elimination of the 140± parking spaces on Ocean Boulevard will drive visitors into these lots. In his  
347 opinion, council should wait until the end of this season to review the data, and revisit the issue next year.  
348

349 Mayor Samples said there was also a discussion about selling the 13<sup>th</sup> Avenue South property  
350 and finding lots on the boulevard. Ms. Fellner said the property is encumbered by park grant funds.  
351 Mayor Samples believed lowering the rates to see if there would be increased parking was still worthwhile  
352 for one year.  
353

354 Ms. Mabry agreed with Mayor Samples. She liked the idea of having a value parking lot where  
355 people can park for a low cost. However, 13<sup>th</sup> Avenue South was not a prime parking place. With proper  
356 signage and a rate reduction to 50-cents, if the lot filled every day, she would be "tickled to death." It was  
357 certainly worth trying. The property can be swapped for another property as long as the new property is  
358 also used for a park area. She agreed with removing 16<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> Avenues North from value parking,  
359 because those meters generated money.  
360

361 Mr. Pellegrino asked how many parking spaces were in each lot. Mr. Kohlmann, parking  
362 committee chairman, said from the audience 36-38 at 13<sup>th</sup> Avenue South and 48 at 16<sup>th</sup> Avenue North.  
363 Mr. Pellegrino said the 13<sup>th</sup> Avenue lot was used about 3,000 hours out of a possible 40,000 hours during  
364 June, July and August. The lot was empty. He asked why the town would not want to entice visitors to  
365 use it. There was an argument for not changing the 16<sup>th</sup>-17<sup>th</sup> Avenue lot, but it was also underutilized.  
366

367 Mr. Childs moved to reconvene regular session. Ms. Mabry seconded. All voted in favor.  
368 **MOTION CARRIED.**  
369

370 Mr. Childs moved to adopt second reading of Ordinance #15-0801 to establish value parking at  
371 the 13<sup>th</sup> Avenue South parking lot at a rate of 50 cents per hour, with an amendment to delete any  
372 reference to 16<sup>th</sup>-17<sup>th</sup> Avenues North parking lot. Mr. Stevens seconded.  
373

374 Mayor Samples, Mayor Pro Tempore Pellegrino, and Councilmembers Childs, Johnson, Mabry  
375 and Stevens voted in favor. Councilmember Magliette voted against. **MOTION CARRIED.**  
376

377 **B. First Reading Ordinance #15-0802 FY2015-2016 Municipal Budget, Director King.** Ms.  
378 King presented the ordinance and decision paper, copies of which are on file.  
379

380 Mr. Johnson moved to adopt first reading of Ordinance #15-0802 FY2015-2016 Municipal Budget  
381 as presented. Mr. Magliette seconded.  
382

383 Ms. Mabry moved to amend Attachment B under Hospitality, Non-Departmental, to change the  
384 description from "improvements to rescue squad building," to "planning of the use of the rescue squad  
385 building." Mr. Stevens seconded. All voted in favor. **MOTION TO AMEND CARRIED**  
386

387 All voted in favor. **MOTION CARRIED AS AMENDED.**  
388

389 **C. First Reading of Ordinance #15-0803 to amend §11-3(b) & (c) to comply with South**  
390 **Carolina Code regarding Statements of Economic Interest (SEI), Administrator Fellner.** Ms. Fellner

391 presented the ordinance and decision paper, copies of which are on file. She explained that this was a  
392 housekeeping matter as the State Code regarding SEI filing was changed in 2013 which now requires all  
393 SEI to be filed electronically via the internet, and the Ethics Commissions publishes SEI for public review.  
394

395 Mr. Stevens moved to adopt first reading of Ordinance #15-0803 to amend §11-3(b) & (c) to  
396 comply with South Carolina Code regarding Statements of Economic Interest. Mr. Childs seconded. All  
397 voted in favor. **MOTION CARRIED.**  
398

399 **D. Resolution #15-157 to Accelerate Pier Fund Repayment to the General Fund, Director**  
400 **King.** Mayor Samples explained this was to make an additional payment annually to the general fund  
401 from the pier fund. Given the information discussed earlier in the meeting about beach renourishment, he  
402 asked if this should proceed.  
403

404 **Mr. Johnson moved to suspend the rule to allow discussion. Mr. Childs seconded. All**  
405 **voted in favor. MOTION CARRIED.**  
406

407 Mr. Johnson said the early repayment sounds wonderful, but he asked if the additional beach  
408 repayment should be saved for beach renourishment. Mayor Samples, Mr. Magliette and Mrs. Mabry  
409 agreed that funds should be saved for beach renourishment. Mayor Samples asked if the funds would be  
410 available for beach renourishment if they were left in the pier fund. Ms. King said yes.  
411

412 Mr. Johnson moved to reconvene regular session. Mr. Childs seconded. All voted in favor.  
413 **MOTION CARRIED.**  
414

415 Town Council **CONCURRED to DEFER Resolution #15-175 to a later date to be determined.**  
416

417 **8. TOWN COUNCIL DISCUSSION.**  
418

419 **A. Free Parking for Blessing of the Beach Sunday, May 24, 2015, 7:00 a.m. to 9:00 a.m.,**  
420 **Councilmember Magliette.** Ms. Fellner already instructed Ms. Ellis to cancel parking enforcement from  
421 one hour before, during, and one hour after the event at the pier parking lot. [Note: Council concurred to  
422 use this policy at the June 2, 2014 meeting for all town events at the pier and Yaupon parking lots.]  
423

424 **B. Any matters of concern or information to be discussed.** There were no other matters to  
425 discuss.  
426

427 **9. PUBLIC COMMENTS – General Comments.** (5-minutes per speaker)  
428

429 Mr. Matthew Reed, South Hollywood Drive, appreciated the council wanting to take its time on the  
430 501(C)(3). He has worked with these organizations in the past. They are an independent source to fund  
431 equipment or any other needs for the K-9 dogs, i.e. surgery to repair a torn ligament, instead of charging  
432 the taxpayers. He reiterated his appreciation for council doing due diligence. That made him feel secure  
433 as a resident. Mr. Reed also said thank you for putting his dog back to work. It meant a lot to him.  
434

435 There were no other public comments.  
436

437 **10. TOWN COUNCIL COMMENTS**  
438

439 Mr. Magliette thanked everyone for coming out tonight. As he always said, we really need to  
440 have citizen participation. That was how the process worked, by input from citizens. The April Adopt-a-  
441 Beach was very successful. There was a record of 42 volunteers who donated 100 hours and collected  
442 60 bags of trash during the month. He thanked all the volunteers. The town is a little gem; we have  
443 tremendous citizens who volunteer their time and effort. It could not be done without the volunteers,  
444 almost all of whom live in town. God bless our people and volunteers who make this a wonderful place.  
445 Mr. Magliette said the beautification committee also weeds and waters the flower beds. That is another



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446 valuable group that serves, because they want to beautify the town, and they love where they live. That  
447 was a win-win for him. Thank you again for coming out and keeping us transparent. Have a good night.  
448

449 Mr. Pellegrino thanked everyone for coming tonight. He thanked Mr. Reed very much for  
450 donating the police dog. It was very generous. He was sure it would help the town. He still had some  
451 questions about the 501(C)(3), but they would figure that out. The reason for his concern was that the  
452 town has great services, and there is no debt in Surfside. He got "touchy" every time there is a  
453 discussion about adding on another service. This one looks like it will be funded, but when additional  
454 services are added they have to be paid for. The town can only pay for so many services. To be only a  
455 2-square mile town, we have a "ton of services." That was why he asked all the questions and wanted to  
456 make sure it would be funded by the organization. Mr. Pellegrino thanked Mr. Reed again, and said it  
457 was a very kind gesture. He thanked Ms. King and Ms. Fellner for the budget, along with others who  
458 worked on it. It was very well organized and presented well. The workshop went great, and in his  
459 opinion, council and staff worked very well, because this was a truly balanced budget and it puts money  
460 away for beach renourishment. It obviously was not enough, but it was a good bit more. Monies were  
461 also placed in emergency funds and other funds that in the past were unfunded. Ms. King cleaned up all  
462 the accounts so that monies are now properly accounted for in the various accounts and organized  
463 properly. He thanked staff and council again, saying he thought they all did a fine job on the budget this  
464 year.  
465

466 Ms. Mabry thanked everyone for coming out, and definitely wanted to thank Mr. Reed again for  
467 the gracious gift of the dog. It meant a great deal for the Town of Surfside Beach. Not only did the town  
468 balance the budget this year for the first time in seven or eight years, expenditures were actually a little  
469 under budget. They were making progress; funds were being built up considerably from previous  
470 balances. She thought this council along with staff had done a fantastic job. The citizens have really  
471 supported the town, and she thanked them for that.  
472

473 Mr. Stevens thanked everyone for coming out, and thanked Mr. Reed for the donation of the dog.  
474 A \$13,000 asset was nothing to "sneeze about." Being that he was in the Citizens Police Academy, he  
475 saw the dog work in person, so he knew the value was there. He echoed Ms. Mabry's comments that we  
476 do not need drugs in the Town of Surfside Beach. We're the Family Beach. Anytime we can use an  
477 extra method of stopping drug trafficking, drug abuse, any type of drugs from coming into the town, he  
478 was all for it. Drugs ruin too many lives and he sees it happen. These dogs will be [worth it.] We already  
479 have one dog, and he did not see what the problem was adding another one. It was a great thing. He  
480 thanked staff for working on the budget. They did a great job, and made it simple to understand. He  
481 appreciated all the work they did. He thanked the people who came to meet the CEO of the MBRED, Jim  
482 Moore, and Sandy Davis, direction of operations. The town is now in the mix when businesses were  
483 looking for locations for family businesses. As Ms. Morris reported, there are already some prospects,  
484 which is a step in the right direction to bringing business revenue into the town. Thank you so much, and  
485 have a good day.  
486

487 Mr. Childs also thanked the staff for a great job. They went above and beyond the call of duty.  
488 He also thanked Mr. Reed for the generous gift of the dog. He was sure the police department was more  
489 than appreciative for that. He thought it would be a great help. Thank you very much.  
490

491 Mr. Johnson said council stole all of his glory. (*Laughter*) He thanked Mr. Reed and he hoped  
492 that his comments were not taken to mean that he did not want the dog. It is a generous gift, but he did  
493 have some concerns as other councilmembers did about the different situations. Thank you very much.  
494 You are a blessing to the town for giving the dog. Thank you all for coming out, and thank you council,  
495 because the town is actually financially stable. It took a while to get there, but just remember it can "stop  
496 on a dime." (*Laughter*) Something could happen and we would be trying to get our heads above water  
497 again. We need to be on our toes, so to speak. Thank you. Good evening.  
498

499 Mayor Samples thanked everybody for coming out. That was why the mayor got to be mean and  
500 hard, and grill people, because we do due diligence. In the past there were times when it was not done  
501 and as a result [there were problems.] This council is ready to recognize its mistakes and move forward.

502 Mayor Samples said thank you to everybody for coming out. Staff knows they are public servants. They  
503 are all happy; whether they are or not, when he asks in town hall they know to say yes. *(Laughter)*  
504 Things are going pretty well. Two weeks from tonight, Memorial Day will have come and gone. There will  
505 be many people in town. The town has great people working for it. This is not a bureaucracy, if the chief  
506 thinks the department needs something, in consultation with the administrator they will take care of the  
507 business that needs to be done. It will not be a political show. Some people think the councilmembers  
508 are politicians, but they really are not, because they are residents of the Town of Surfside Beach who  
509 decided they wanted to serve the town. There is a great group of people in town. Happy, safe Memorial  
510 Day weekend. Also, remember to watch out for motorcycles on the road. Be careful.

511  
512 **11. EXECUTIVE SESSION.**

513  
514 **A. Pursuant to FOIA §30-4-70(a)(1) to discuss employment, appointment, compensation,**  
515 **promotion, demotion, discipline, or release of an employee, or the appointment of a person to a**  
516 **public body, and B. Pursuant to FOIA §30-4-70(a)(2) to discuss proposed contractual**  
517 **arrangements.**

518  
519 Mr. Johnson moved to enter executive session at 8:23 p.m. Mr. Stevens seconded. All voted in  
520 favor. **MOTION CARRIED.** Mr. Magliette moved to reconvene regular session at 9:26 p.m. Mr. Childs  
521 seconded. All voted in favor. **MOTION CARRIED.** Mayor Samples said that no action was taken during  
522 executive session.

523  
524 Mr. Johnson moved to proceed with the contractual agreement as discussed during executive  
525 session. Ms. Mabry seconded. All voted in favor. **MOTION CARRIED.**

526  
527 **12. ADJOURNMENT**

528  
529 Mr. Johnson moved to adjourn the meeting at 9:27 p.m. Ms. Mabry seconded. All voted in favor.  
530 **MOTION CARRIED.**

531  
532 Prepared and submitted by,

533  
534 \_\_\_\_\_  
535 Debra E. Herrmann, CMC, Town Clerk

536 Approved: May 26, 2015

537  
538 \_\_\_\_\_  
539 Douglas F. Samples, Mayor

540  
541 \_\_\_\_\_  
542 David L. Pellegrino, Mayor Pro Tempore

543  
544 \_\_\_\_\_  
545 Robert F. Childs, Town Council

546  
547 \_\_\_\_\_  
548 Mark L. Johnson, Town Council

549  
550 \_\_\_\_\_  
551 Mary Beth Mabry, Town Council

552  
553 \_\_\_\_\_  
554 Ralph J. Magliette, Town Council

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556 \_\_\_\_\_  
557 Randle M. Stevens, Town Council

558  
559 Clerk's Note: This document constitutes summary minutes of the meeting that was digitally recorded.  
560 Contact the town clerk for appointments to hear recordings. Bring a flash drive to obtain a free copy. In  
561 accordance with FOIA §30-4-80, meeting notice and the agenda were distributed to local media and  
562 subscribers on the town's Email Updates list. The agenda was posted on the town website and the entry  
563 door at Town Council Chambers. Meeting notice was also posted on the Town marquee.