



**SURFSIDE BEACH TOWN COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES**  
**REGULAR MEETING August 10, 2015 ♦ 6:30 P.M.**  
*Special meeting day, because SC House 106 Primary Election Runoff on Tuesday.*  
**TOWN COUNCIL CHAMBERS**

1  
2  
3  
4  
5  
6  
7  
8  
9  
10  
11  
12  
13  
14  
15  
16  
17  
18  
19  
20  
21  
22  
23  
24  
25  
26  
27  
28  
29  
30  
31  
32  
33  
34  
35  
36  
37  
38  
39  
40  
41  
42  
43  
44  
45  
46  
47  
48  
49  
50  
51  
52  
53  
54  
55  
56

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, Magliette, and Stevens were in attendance. Councilmember Mabry was absent. A quorum was present. Others present: Administrator Fellner and Town Clerk Herrmann.

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

A. Invocation: Reverend Jeff Wood of Oasis of Hope Church gave the invocation.

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

3. **AGENDA APPROVAL**

Mr. Childs moved to adopt the agenda as presented. Mr. Stevens seconded.

Mr. Magliette moved to amend the agenda to allow Ms. Diane Taylor from the Keep Surfside Beach Beautiful Committee to speak during communications. Mr. Stevens second. All voted in favor.  
**MOTION TO AMEND CARRIED.**

All voted in favor of the primary motion as amended. **MOTION CARRIED.**

4. **MINUTES APPROVAL**

**A. Regular Meeting July 27, 2015 and B. Special Meeting July 31, 2015.** Mr. Childs moved to adopt the July 27, 2015 regular meeting minutes and the July 31, 2015 special meeting minutes as presented. Mr. Stevens seconded. Mr. Johnson noted a scrivener's error on Line 17 of the July 27<sup>th</sup> minutes saying that "Hyman" should be changed to "Samples." All voted in favor. **MOTION CARRIED**

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

Ms. Anita Crone, 15<sup>th</sup> Avenue South, was opposed to a Memorial Day golf cart parade. She said Memorial Day was a day to honor those who gave the ultimate sacrifice, and she did not believe that type event was appropriate. Thank you.

Mr. Harry Kohlmann, South Ocean Boulevard, said the golf cart ordinance was a good thing, and should be passed. Having said that, he said the ordinance must be enforced, unlike the no smoking ordinance, the fireworks ordinance, or the bottles and drinking on the beach ordinances. Some people on council are afraid they are going to chase away tourists, if we enforce things. If you can, require or request the rental companies to have a form that tells renters the rules about golf cart operation. This way everyone will know what the rules are. If police have to tow the golf cart because it was being driven at night or by a minor, then the user is responsible for paying the tow fee. [Enforcing the ordinance] should be about safety. Thank you.

Ms. Allison Bencie, Harbor Lights Drive, said one reason she moved here was that she loves being in Surfside Beach and taking her golf cart to the beach, which she does three or four times a week. When she goes to the beach, it is difficult to park her 4-passenger golf cart, because of the "limousine"

57 sized carts being parked at the beach. She suggested that larger golf carts park where there are wider  
58 areas, and reserve the narrow areas for smaller golf carts.  
59

60 Mr. Ron Ott, 7<sup>th</sup> Avenue North, said a driver's license is required to drive a golf cart so that cuts  
61 out all those little guys that are driving carts around. Memorial Day golf cart parade; everybody loves a  
62 parade. It does not have to be on Memorial Day. It could be on Saturday or Sunday. Myrtle Beach has a  
63 bike rally on Memorial Day that does not do anything for those that offered up their lives. Thank you.  
64

## 65 **6. COMMUNICATIONS**

66 **Administrator's Report.** Ms. Fellner reported the following updates:  
67

68 BikeFest. Last Friday Chief Keziah and Captain Miller met with the task force to go over the draft  
69 of the After Action Report for BikeFest 2015 and to discuss the way forward for the 2016 planning  
70 meetings. A draft of the After Action Report for the task force was discussed, but details are not for public  
71 release until the final report is complete, possibly in September. The first official meeting of the 2016  
72 BikeFest Task Force will be sometime in September, but the date has not yet been set.  
73

74 Town Website. All applicable staff members have been working on the new website. She  
75 expressed her appreciation to those who have pointed out needed edits and also to the staff members  
76 who have been working diligently on their pages to bring them up to date and make them more  
77 informative for the public. Over the next three months we will be working toward maximizing interactivity  
78 throughout the site. Public input is always welcome.  
79

80 Historical Property Purchase. This past Thursday the closing documents were executed for the  
81 purchase of the three historical lots at 3<sup>rd</sup> Avenue South and Willow Drive, site of the circa 1700's Ark  
82 Plantation.  
83

84 Christmas Lights. Five bids were submitted and the bid opening was held for the Christmas  
85 Lights.  
86

87 Bid #1 – Display Sales, Bloomington, MN - \$23,372

88 Bid #2 – Plant Professionals, Inc., Miami, FL - \$13,396

89 Bid #3 – Holiday Designs, Gainesville, GA - \$12,416

90 Bid #4 – Mosca Designs, Raleigh, NC - \$11,760

91 Bid #5 – GP Designs, Inc., Marian, IN - \$11,200  
92

93 Staff recommends that Holiday Designs be awarded the bid. Its price is \$1,216 over the lowest  
94 bid, but is still within the budgeted amount. The decorations being replaced were purchased from Holiday  
95 Designs 15-years ago. Its products are of higher quality and are longer lasting, because of the following  
96 components: cold-rolled steel; "heavy weather" C-7 LED bulbs made by "Minleon" rated at .096 watts,  
97 and 60,000 hours with "watertight" inner core system. All bulbs are attached to frame via UL listed  
98 electrical tape with a minimum of three wraps on frame and four wraps on socket to prevent stripping and  
99 breakage. Holiday Designs has excellent customer service and has always honored its warranties. If  
100 there are no objections by Town Council, Ms. Fellner would award the bid to Holiday Designs. **THERE**  
101 **WERE NO OBJECTIONS BY TOWN COUNCIL.**  
102

103 Sanitation. Regarding the sanitation issues in the R3:  
104

- 105 1. DHEC approved Ms. Vicki Blair attending an upcoming workshop to explain the feral cat  
106 program. The date has not been set yet;
  - 107 2. Baiting continues by Lanes Pest Control;  
108
- 109

Town Council Regular Meeting  
August 10, 2015

- 110 3. Lids for all the beach trash cans were ordered;  
111 4. Additional trash receptacles for all the non-parking beach accesses were ordered;  
112 5. A Saturday trash pickup was collected last weekend. Sanitation tipped 6.38 tons;  
113 6. A Sunday trash pickup was also collected; sanitation tipped approximately 6.93 tons.  
114 Total tonnage for the Monday tip was 20.79. The crew said approximately one third of that was  
115 attributable to the Sunday pickup in the R3 district and the rest was from their usual north end route;  
116 7. This past weekend Saturday trash pickup was collected; 6.1 tons were tipped;  
117 8. A Sunday trash pickup was also done this past weekend. Approximately 6.53 tons were  
118 tipped. Total tonnage for the Monday tip was 19.59. The crew said approximately one third of that was  
119 attributable to the Sunday pickup in the R3 district and the rest was from their usual north end route; and  
120 9. Ms. Fellner spoke with Mike Bessant and Danny Knight regarding extending the hours of  
121 the landfill. They explained some challenges they had with this. One is that on the last day of the week  
122 that the landfill is open, DHEC requires that they cover the landfill with dirt, which takes a significant  
123 amount of time. They agreed to research the possibility of shifting the hours on Saturday to accommodate  
124 a later closing and said they would get back to her.

125  
126 Consensus Items. There were no consensus items.

127  
128 Responses to Public Comments.

129  
130 *Comment:* A resident stated that they saw two golf carts at the intersection of Highway 17 and 5<sup>th</sup>  
131 Avenue North with unrestrained children and felt it was dangerous and needed to be stopped. They  
132 further stated that they thought the feral cat program was a bad one and that it would only bring problems  
133 and disease.

134 *Response:* State law and local ordinance currently do not include language regarding seatbelts  
135 in golf carts so our police cannot enforce this. With regard to the feral cat program, they are thoroughly  
136 examined, neutered and vaccinated. They do not reproduce or spread disease. Furthermore, this  
137 strategy has been used in many coastal communities and has proven to be a great success.

138  
139 *Comment:* Another resident stated that we have a rat issue and they talked to DHEC about it.  
140 They stated that the rats are all around the pools at rental houses and have already moved from the  
141 dunes to backyards. They further stated that the trash cans on the beach are not being emptied and we  
142 should pick up the trash more often. They also felt that feral cats were not a good idea.

143 *Response:* The trash on the beach is being picked up seven days a week since before July 1<sup>st</sup>.  
144 Lane's Pest Control was contracted to bait the accesses that are suspect and the feral cat strategy has  
145 been used in many coastal communities successfully.

146  
147 *Comment:* Another resident stated that the rat problem is caused by overflowing trash cans at  
148 the rental properties on Sundays. Pickup on Saturday instead of Sunday would solve the problem. Also,  
149 condos and bars don't have enough recycle cans.

150 *Response:* Until the summer's end, measures to cover the beach refuse cans are being taken,  
151 as well as servicing the roll-out route on a fourth day. The current program of providing larger recycling  
152 carts, beginning in the R3 district, has been ongoing for four years, and has placed 400 larger recycling  
153 carts in the pickup stream. With regard to condos and bars not having enough recycle cans, the ones that  
154 do recycle are given additional cans when needed to handle overflow. Recycling in South Carolina is not  
155 mandatory.

156  
157 *Comment:* A resident said that the rat problem has gone on long enough and he is embarrassed  
158 by it.

159 *Response:* As stated in my report, we are working on it.

160  
161 *Comment:* A resident asked why we did not just change the trash pickup schedule to  
162 Saturday. He also asked if we buy the 3rd Avenue South Ark Plantation lots, who would maintain them.

163 *Response:* With regard to the pickup schedule, short-term we are picking up Saturday and  
164 Sunday until school opens and then next year on Saturday. With regard to the Ark Plantation lots, the  
165 grounds department will be tasked with maintaining them.

Town Council Regular Meeting  
August 10, 2015

166  
167  
168  
169  
170  
171  
172  
173  
174  
175  
176  
177  
178  
179  
180  
181  
182  
183  
184  
185  
186  
187  
188  
189  
190  
191  
192  
193  
194  
195  
196  
197  
198  
199  
200  
201  
202  
203  
204  
205  
206  
207  
208  
209  
210  
211  
212  
213  
214  
215  
216  
217  
218  
219  
220  
221

*Comment:* A resident stated that rats are an issue and felt we should change the trash pickup to Saturday. They also stated that recycling should be mandatory and monitored.

*Response:* Again, with regard to the pickup schedule, in the short-term we are picking up Saturday and Sunday until school opens and then next year trash will be collected on Saturday. Recycling is not mandatory in the State of South Carolina. Therefore, if recycling carts are refused, we cannot force the service on our customers. Council could ask that this be brought forward as an addition to the existing ordinance, if they so choose.

*Comment:* A citizen asked that council not raise fees on town residents by charging more for trash service. They stated that the problem could be solved by picking up garbage on Saturday, Monday, and Wednesday or Thursday. They stated that a best sanitation practices brochure was a good idea for distribution by the renters in the R3. They further stated that there is 5-percent discretionary money from the Chamber that can be appropriated by the accommodations tax committee for this purpose.

*Response:* The schedule is being modified after the first of the year to accommodate Saturday pickup. Due to the use of Chamber funds under the proviso for BikeFest, it is unclear if that 5-percent will even be available any longer. Ms. Fellner's understanding was that this has yet to be decided. An email message was sent to Brad Dean, the Chamber chief executive officer. In addition, the town's 5-percent that went to the general fund was already appropriated when the budget was adopted.

*Comment:* A resident stated that best practice brochures would be a good thing. They further stated that the drainage canal between 14th & 15<sup>th</sup> Avenues South needs to be cleaned and needs a sea wall to prevent erosion.

*Response:* This particular canal is cleaned out as needed and inspected regularly. At this time it is scheduled for service two weeks from now.

Ms. Fellner said there was one other comment, which did not require an answer or follow-up.

Mr. Magliette said he had sent an email to Ms. Fellner requesting information about the feral cat program to which she responded there were none. He asked how she could report a program was successful without any data or reference materials. Ms. Fellner said that oral data was given to her by Ms. Vicki Blair from the South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control (DHEC), who was involved with the program. Ms. Blair told her that Myrtle Beach had a huge problem with rats. When Ms. Blair researched feral cats, she found where islands around Charleston were successful using feral cats. She facilitated the program with Myrtle Beach, and subsequently, rat related complaints to DHEC went to nothing. Although that was not written data, she believed that was compelling evidence. Mr. Magliette said that Ms. Blair found articles, so there has to be reference materials somewhere. He asked why information had not been provided to councilmembers. He did not want hearsay; he wanted data. He hoped the program worked, because he wanted to resolve the problem. But, he wanted to see some reference or article in writing that demonstrated the efficacy of the program. He asked if DHEC had even a one page report on the success or failure of the program.

Mayor Samples understood Mr. Magliette's position as he, too, was accustomed to getting a lot more information when he worked in a different place. The fact of the matter was that the state was poor. Its agencies were understaffed. He asked if Ms. Blair was still employed by DHEC. Ms. Fellner said yes, to the best of her knowledge. Mayor Samples said he was not interested in having a workshop unless a representative from DHEC was present. Ms. Fellner said a DHEC representative would be present.

Mr. Childs said that DHEC no longer has the feral cat program, but would allow Ms. Blair to attend just one meeting with the town to explain how the program works. DHEC will not sponsor the program, it will be the town's responsibility. Ms. Fellner said that same process was used in Myrtle Beach. Mr. Childs said he personally spoke with the director at DHEC who assured him that Ms. Blair could meet with Town Council in a workshop to explain the program.

Mayor Samples said the first time he heard about the feral cat program, he laughed. He remembered citizens complaining about feral cats during council meetings; we need to do something

222 [about them]; about the coyotes, and the geese. Mayor Samples said people came to his home  
223 complaining about the number of squirrels in town. He really believed this was about trash pickup on  
224 Ocean Boulevard. He thought he had made that comment before publicly. Mayor Samples said he  
225 wanted to make sure that everybody understood that the rat problem was everywhere. He quoted a  
226 businessman from the last meeting, "Rats are in Georgetown County. They're in Horry County, and  
227 they're on our beach." Mr. Servant confirmed from the audience that Mayor Samples was correct. Mayor  
228 Samples said rats are wildlife.  
229

230 Mr. Stevens concurred with Mayor Samples and Mr. Magliette. He did not want to start a  
231 program that might create more problems. He asked if there was any overflowing trash since the  
232 Saturday pickup was started. Ms. Fellner said trash was being picked up Saturday and Sunday. To her  
233 knowledge there were no reports of overflowing cans, but she was sure there would always be one or  
234 two. Mr. Stevens asked if any reports were available from the pest control company on its success. Ms.  
235 Fellner said the company is baiting, not trapping.  
236

237 Ms. Diane Taylor said on behalf of the Keep Surfside Beach Beautiful Committee (KSBB) that  
238 volunteers were sought to meet on the beach on Saturday, August 22<sup>nd</sup> at 7:30 a.m. between 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup>  
239 Avenues North to help eradicate the invasive Vitex plant that has started growing on the sand dunes.  
240 Supplies will be furnished, and proper instruction will be given by Iain Gray. Beach Vitex is a major threat  
241 to the dune system, because it spreads rapidly and easily strangles sea oats. Ms. Taylor thanked public  
242 works director John Adair, and grounds supervisor Mary Lynn Stalnaker for their friendly and positive  
243 attitude in assisting the committee with watering plants and all other aspects of the town beautification  
244 projects.  
245

## 246 **7. BUSINESS**

247  
248 **A. Second Reading Ordinance #15-0807 to amend §6-28, §12-23(b), §7-62(b), §7-92(e)(2),**  
249 **§7-99, §9-16(4) and §12-62 to properly reflect responsible staff and to clarify longstanding codes,**  
250 **and to repeal §12-86 Registration of Sailboats, Administrator Fellner.** Copies of the decision paper  
251 and ordinance are on file.  
252

253 Mr. Stevens moved to adopt second reading of Ordinance #15-0807 as presented. Mr. Childs  
254 seconded. All voted in favor. **MOTION CARRIED.**  
255

256 **B. First Reading Ordinance #15-0808 Golf Cart Operation, Administrator Fellner.** Ms.  
257 Fellner presented the decision paper and ordinance, copies of which are on file.  
258

259 Mr. Childs moved to adopted first reading of Ordinance #15-0808 as presented. Mr. Johnson  
260 seconded.  
261

262 Mr. Johnson mirrored the comments by one of the public speakers. Town Council adopts  
263 ordinances, but they some of them were not enforced. He hoped that this ordinance would be enforced,  
264 as it should be.  
265

266 Mr. Stevens moved to amend the ordinance to require that all rental companies deliver a copy of  
267 the ordinance to the people that rent golf carts. Mr. Childs seconded. All voted in favor of the  
268 amendment. **MOTION TO AMEND CARRIED.**  
269

270 All voted in favor of the primary motion as amended. **MOTION CARRIED.**  
271

## 272 **8. TOWN COUNCIL DISCUSSION**

273  
274 **A. 2016 Memorial Day Golf Cart Parade, Councilmember Magliette.**  
275

276 Mr. Magliette said a note was sent to councilmembers regarding his desire to have a 2016  
277 Memorial Day golf cart parade. He suggested a minimum of three to five volunteers to help organize and

278 plan the parade that should have at a minimum of 25 participants, and if the parade plan was approved  
279 by council, to publish advertising as required. At this time, he wanted to gather a few interested people to  
280 formulate plans, including the date, route, and other details. Mr. Magliette said some Veterans  
281 approached him with the idea as there was a Memorial Day parade in the past, and they would like to see  
282 it done again. Mr. Magliette believed that a commitment of 25 participants would justify staff and  
283 volunteer time. He said Memorial Day is a day to commemorate and remember those who died in service  
284 to our Country. Memorial Day traditions and activities involve a variety of events. The town has a  
285 ceremony and celebration of the heroism of the people who lost their lives. Parades are another regular  
286 event. He hoped the participants would be Veterans and families of those who lost family members in the  
287 wars, so the parade would receive all the respect it deserved.  
288

289 Mr. Stevens thought it was an excellent idea. Memorial Day was a day to praise our Veterans  
290 [sic.] If the Veterans have golf carts and want to have a parade, he had no problem with that. It is  
291 another way to celebrate Memorial Day weekend.  
292

293 Mr. Childs said not too long ago he was involved in a golf cart parade. The participants met at  
294 the large parking lot at 3<sup>rd</sup> Avenue South, and the parade route ended up at the Veterans Memorial for the  
295 service. It was difficult coordinating the parade to arrive at the park in time for the ceremony. There were  
296 about 50 golf carts participating in that parade.  
297

298 Mayor Samples recalled that there was a golf cart parade one time. He had very strong feelings  
299 about Memorial Day. It was the only day of the year during which those who paid the ultimate sacrifice  
300 were honored. He respected Veterans, but Memorial Day was not Veterans Day, which has its own day.  
301 On Memorial Day, the town historically has honored those who gave their lives in the service of our  
302 Country. There is a street party the day before Memorial Day on Sunday, and everyone has a good time.  
303 Blessing of the Beach was added to that Sunday, and he thought a golf cart parade would fit perfectly in  
304 an all-day celebration. Mayor Samples respected Mr. Magliette's suggestion and his optimism about the  
305 golf cart parade being solemn. He, personally, had not seen a parade like that. They seem to be about  
306 having fun, as they should be. He supported the concept and would like to hear more about it. Mayor  
307 Samples said Memorial Day Monday should be reserved to honor those who paid the ultimate sacrifice.  
308 It was not the right day for a golf cart parade.  
309

310 Mr. Stevens said the Memorial Day service was held around two o'clock in the afternoon. If the  
311 parade was held on that day or the day before, it could be finished before the service. Fallen Veterans  
312 could be honored by dedicating the individual golf carts to them.  
313

314 Mayor Samples said they would look into the golf parade. He was sure that the street would have  
315 to be closed for the parade. Ms. Fellner was asked if the assembly location for the town's parades was  
316 being considered, since the former location changed ownership. Ms. Fellner said staff was working on  
317 alternate locations.  
318

#### 319 **B. TOSB Tour Guide & Map, Councilmember Magliette**

320  
321 Mr. Magliette said the tour guide and map distribution at the library was successful. He delivered  
322 75 brochures in April; 100 in May; 150 in June, and 150 in July. He was at the library frequently and  
323 spoke with people who say they like the brochure. We need to do a better job of promoting the town and  
324 telling people about the wonderful businesses in town. He thought this was a great way to promote the  
325 town. He plans to continue the brochure distribution until they run out. He asked if 1,000 extra brochures  
326 could be printed in 2016 for this purpose. Ms. Fellner said that could be arranged, but the brochures  
327 could not be funded by accommodations tax revenue.  
328

#### 329 **C. Any matters of concern or information to be discussed by Town Council.**

330  
331 Mayor Samples said his concern over rules and regulations as they relate to the ability of  
332 homeowners to improve their property went back as far as when he ran for Town Council the first time.  
333 Everyone that lives in town knows that there is a wide range of housing stock that was constructed during

Town Council Regular Meeting  
August 10, 2015

334 the last 50- to 60-years. That is one of the things that make the town different. He believed that Town  
335 Council should direct planning, building and zoning to "survey the literature," i.e. research what other  
336 communities were doing to encourage improvement to some of the older homes, because with the  
337 current rules, the town makes it difficult. Mayor Samples said what has happened over time is that the  
338 current rules have been sent down from the Federal Government because of FEMA (Federal Emergency  
339 Management Act) rules. Many of these homes are not in flood zones, and the town can do nothing. It is  
340 probably true that in a generation or more that the private market will redevelop those older homes as  
341 they become dilapidated. In the meanwhile, those dilapidated homes will be an eyesore. He had spoken  
342 with constituents that wanted to improve their homes, but could not do so because of the rules. Mayor  
343 Samples was certain that there were planning schools and other municipalities that had policies for R1  
344 residential housing improvements. The town needs to be creative to encourage owners to spend their  
345 own money to improve their homes without running into impediments. He was not saying to sacrifice  
346 safety, but setbacks, and other requirements should be reviewed. He asked if other members had heard  
347 comments or had similar concerns over efforts to improve homes.  
348

349 Mr. Pellegrino said there was a recent problem. The individual is appealing to the board of zoning  
350 appeals, because everything they wanted to do was prohibited by ordinance. He thought Mayor Samples  
351 made a great suggestion to benchmark other small towns to see how they manage development. We  
352 need to be sure that codes are updated to best benefit the town and residents, and not just make  
353 exceptions that create inconsistencies. In the end, when the right direction is determined, the codes  
354 should be updated.  
355

356 Mayor Samples agreed with Mr. Pellegrino. He said the town is 50-years old. There are many  
357 different kinds of houses. If you are by the beach, the property will be redeveloped by the private market.  
358 However, the areas further back from the ocean may need some creative, positive assistance by way of  
359 relief from some of the regulations.  
360

361 Mr. Childs thought that was a great idea. He agreed that the smaller towns that had this situation  
362 should be researched. The town could benefit by examining how they managed.  
363

364 Mr. Johnson said as a town resident, he had heard similar comments for 31-years. That was why  
365 the planning and zoning commission members were paid so much money; (*laughter*) so they can figure it  
366 out.  
367

368 Mayor Samples said this conversation was not a slight or criticism of past actions, but recognition  
369 of where the town is today.  
370

371 Mr. Stevens agreed and said it was important to allow residents who live in the R1 areas to  
372 improve their older homes, if they can. Improvements would only make the town more beautiful, and  
373 creates improved property that can sell for more money. It was a win-win situation. He agreed that the  
374 planning commission should review the ordinances to make sure that there are not so many restrictions in  
375 the code that people do not want to improve their property.  
376

377 Mr. Johnson apologized for his earlier comment, and said on a serious note that this process  
378 would not happen overnight. It would be a major undertaking that involved public hearings, changing  
379 ordinances, and reviewing years of work.  
380

381 Mayor Samples said that was why the process should begin now. Since most members have  
382 responded affirmatively to the comment, he asked if the matter could be added to the next meeting  
383 agenda to ask staff to identify resources that are in the region that may be able to assist in this planning.  
384 He formerly worked for the Waccamaw Regional Council of Governments (COG) that was previously  
385 named Waccamaw Regional Development and Planning. That organization had some of the best  
386 planners around. If the COG cannot provide assistance, they would know where to find help.  
387

388 Mr. Childs said that Tommy Britton who works with the COG was an excellent planner. Mr.  
389 Britton spent a lot of time reviewing the ordinances with the planning commission a few years ago. Mr.  
390 Childs was sure that Mr. Britton would be glad to help with research and assist the planning commission.  
391

392 Mayor Samples said it was very important to define the scope of work to control spending, which  
393 is why the matter was introduced during discussion. He believes what has made the town great are the  
394 beach, and the people that have lived here and actually reside in the Town of Surfside Beach. Mayor  
395 Samples said to keep the community together, we have to have the ability to sustain for the next and  
396 future generations. **There were no objections to bringing the matter under Business at the next  
397 meeting.**  
398

399 **9. PUBLIC COMMENTS – General Comments.** (5-minutes per speaker)  
400

401 Ron Ott, 7<sup>th</sup> Avenue North, said we have a void on Memorial Day. There was a classic car show  
402 that should be brought back, and there should be other things planned for that holiday, not just a golf cart  
403 parade. The Vitex plant that Ms. Taylor was talking about is not a bad looking plant. But, it was in the  
404 wrong place. It has a little purple flower, but its root system is very shallow. It does not belong on the  
405 dunes, because big waves would wash all the sand out to sea. You cannot force people to improve their  
406 property, but you may encourage them. The round house located at 6<sup>th</sup> Avenue North and Cedar has  
407 recently been improved so much that he believed it should be recognized for yard of the month. The  
408 KSBB committee has a terrific group of people that could help. We may not need to bring in outside  
409 people. Mr. Britton is a great guy, but KSBB has very talented people that could give people ideas that  
410 should be utilized as much as we can.  
411

412 Mr. Harry Kohlmann, South Ocean Boulevard, said as anyone that lives in the area knows,  
413 Highway 17 Business is very hard to get on to and to get across. He has lived in town about seven years,  
414 and we always keep talking about what we're going to do and what the state is going to do. He thought a  
415 few months ago traffic lights were brought up again. The big problem was "not in my own backyard."  
416 Nobody wants a traffic light on their street. The problem is that it is very dangerous and the traffic lights  
417 were needed. One councilmembers said it was in preliminary stages. Another councilmember said we  
418 had been doing this for ten years. It was time to take action. We need these traffic lights, and if people  
419 on the north end do not want the light, can the light be put on the south end? At 10<sup>th</sup> Avenue South there  
420 is nobody complaining. We want a traffic light on 10<sup>th</sup> Avenue South. Hopefully, we can get the light  
421 installed. It is a nightmare. Thank you.  
422

423 Mayor Samples said he should not respond, but again South Carolina is a very poor state, which  
424 was why it was very important, *very important (speaker's emphasis)* that the municipality and all of its  
425 residents let the county and state representatives know the problems. Town Council knows the  
426 problems, and has been working and continues to work diligently. The South Carolina Department of  
427 Transportation (DOT) controls traffic lights, and we do not want to upset DOT.  
428

429 Ms. Carrie Johnson, Harbor Lights Drive, wanted to remind some of the speakers that discussed  
430 Highway 17 improvements that the town had a matching grant and our former council took it away.  
431 Otherwise, the work could have already been started.  
432

433 **10. TOWN COUNCIL COMMENTS**  
434

435 Mr. Magliette thanked everyone for coming. He reminded everyone that the South Strand  
436 Helping Hand August Food Drive was in gear. If you want to donate any food, collection boxes are at BI-  
437 LO and Piggly Wiggly grocery stores, and at town hall, and the fire station. He thanked KSBB volunteers  
438 for planting the flowers under the pier sign, and all their other efforts to beautify the town. In July, the 22  
439 Adopt-A-Beach volunteers collected 38 bags of trash totaling about 50 pounds. He thanked them for  
440 providing the data. There were many other anonymous volunteers that picked up litter on the beach and  
441 throughout town on a daily basis. Items collected on the beach in July include: 5,100 cigarettes; 700  
442 caps and lids; 1,000 firework fragments, and 35 piles of dog poop. Thank you, again, to the volunteers.  
443 Mr. Magliette volunteers for water testing and was happy to report that Dogwood Lake was back to its



Town Council Regular Meeting  
August 10, 2015

444 normal turbidity level of about 5. Mr. Magliette said getting Dogwood Lake back to normal levels in two  
445 months was a huge accomplishment by public works and Horry County employees. Mr. Magliette said  
446 kudos to them, and to the water monitoring volunteers who collect data twice monthly. The town has 5-  
447 years of data that was collected by volunteers. Mr. Magliette said again, thank you to all the volunteers  
448 and to those came tonight. God bless you all.  
449

450 Mr. Pellegrino said thank you for coming and your comments. We appreciate your input, and we  
451 do consider it, although you may not always like the final result. But, we also consider and welcome all  
452 your insight, because many times the public fills in gaps. Thank you to the beautification committee.  
453 There is an issue with the Vitex. The KSBB committee is already addressing the Vitex to eradicate it and  
454 keep the dunes beautiful. The town has great citizens and is a great place to live. Any issues that come  
455 up can be resolved, if we all work together. Thank you very much for your involvement.  
456

457 Mr. Stevens thanked everyone for coming out and their comments. He especially thanked Mr.  
458 Kohlmann for his suggestion. He was glad the ordinance was amended. Chief Keziah told him this was  
459 a much needed ordinance. He often sees young children driving golf carts, usually rental carts, around  
460 the library as late as eleven o'clock. He thanked Mr. Ott for his comments and the lady from Harbor  
461 Lights about the large golf carts. He had seen those in the beach accesses. He thanked Mr. Magliette  
462 for the golf cart parade idea. There are many good things in town, and we are doing a lot of good things.  
463 He wanted to thank the Mayor for thinking about the people who want to make their homes better. Any  
464 time you improve your home, you improve the value. If you sell the home that is more taxes coming into  
465 the town. These are a lot of positive things we are doing. Thank everybody for coming. Have a good  
466 night.  
467

468 Mr. Childs said he and Mr. Ott were meeting tomorrow about a car show to be scheduled this fall.  
469 He asked Mr. Kohlmann if he would meet with him after the meeting, because he personally spoke with  
470 DOT engineers about Highway 17 and he would be glad to share his conversation with him. For some  
471 time he had been working with the South Carolina Department of Natural Resources (DNR) to develop an  
472 artificial reef off the pier. He received an email message from Mr. Martore at DNR that said a permit  
473 application was submitted to the Corps of Engineers for an artificial reef site off of Surfside Beach. After  
474 extensive survey all around the area, DNR found a suitable location six miles off the pier. Mr. Childs had  
475 a chart showing the location, a copy of which is on file. Notification will be sent if the Corps approves the  
476 permit. Mr. Martore will be glad to meet with Town Council once the permit is approved to answer any  
477 questions from councilmembers and the public. Mr. Childs said his understanding was the artificial reef  
478 would help local fishermen and with charter fishing.  
479

480 Mr. Johnson thanked everyone for coming out. He hoped they voted early tomorrow, and often.  
481 (*Laughter.*) If you wanted to know who he would vote for, please see him after the meeting. There are  
482 two good candidates. Thank you, again, for coming out.  
483

484 Mayor Samples explained for the benefit of the newer residents that the town has a council form  
485 of government. He commended Mr. Childs for his efforts with DNR. Town Council already authorized the  
486 reef. The mayor has no authority to act individually, except during an emergency. The council works as  
487 a group and is much more effective when we work together; talk with one another, and as he said a few  
488 meetings ago, he was very, very proud of the effort and initiative that the councilmembers have shown.  
489 They do not always agree, but as Mr. Stevens pointed out tonight, we have done a lot of good things in  
490 this town over the last 3.5 years. We are a little town government in a big county, with two big coastal  
491 cities, Myrtle Beach and North Myrtle Beach. The town has trouble politically competing with them.  
492 When we work together we are much more effective.  
493

494 Mr. Childs said he wanted to remind councilmembers that when the artificial reef first came up, all  
495 of Town Council was invited to attend the meeting at the pier with DNR. Mayor Samples was glad to  
496 hear the project was still a possibility. Six miles offshore may help reduce risk from hurricane storm  
497 surge. Mr. Childs said DNR said the location is just as good as a closer location.  
498

Town Council Regular Meeting  
August 10, 2015

499 Mayor Samples thanked everyone for coming out and reiterated Mr. Johnson's request that you  
500 do your civic duty. Get out and vote. It was important that our district was represented.

501  
502 **11. ADJOURNMENT.**

503 Mr. Childs moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:47 p.m. Mr. Stevens seconded. All voted in favor.  
504 **MOTION CARRIED.**

505  
506 Prepared and submitted by,

507  
508 \_\_\_\_\_  
509 Debra E. Herrmann, CMC, Town Clerk

510 Approved: September 8, 2015

511  
512 \_\_\_\_\_  
513 Douglas F. Samples, Mayor

514  
515 \_\_\_\_\_  
516 David L. Pellegrino, Mayor Pro Tempore

517 \_\_\_\_\_  
518 Robert F. Childs, Town Council

519  
520 \_\_\_\_\_  
521 Mark L. Johnson, Town Council

519 \_\_\_\_\_  
520 Mary Beth Mabry, Town Council

521  
522 \_\_\_\_\_  
523 Ralph J. Magliette, Town Council

521 \_\_\_\_\_  
522 Randle M. Stevens, Town Council

523  
524 Clerk's Note: This document constitutes summary minutes of the meeting that was digitally recorded.  
525 Contact the town clerk for appointments to hear recordings. Bring a flash drive to obtain a free copy. In  
526 accordance with FOIA §30-4-80, meeting notice and the agenda were distributed to local media and  
527 subscribers on the town's email subscription list. The agenda was posted on the town website and the  
528 entry door at Town Council Chambers. Meeting notice was also posted on the Town marquee.  
529  
530  
531

Approved