



**SURFSIDE BEACH TOWN COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
REGULAR MEETING JULY 26, 2016 ♦ 6:30 P.M.
TOWN COUNCIL CHAMBERS**

1. CALL TO ORDER.

Mayor Childs called the regular meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. Mayor Childs, Mayor Pro Tempore Ott, and Councilmembers Courtney, Johnson, Pellegrino, and Stevens were in attendance. One seat is vacant. A quorum was present. Others present: Administrator Fellner; Town Clerk Herrmann; Fire Chief Otte; Planning Building & Zoning Director Morris; Police Chief Keziah; Public Works Director Adair; Events Supervisor Ellis, and Finance Manager Gardner.

2. INVOCATION, PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE, and CANDIDATE INTRODUCTION.

A. Invocation. Councilmember Johnson gave the invocation.

B. Pledge of Allegiance. Mayor Childs led the Pledge.

C. Candidate Introduction. Mayor Childs welcomed the candidates for the August 8th special election and asked them to introduce themselves. Candidates: Ms. Mary Beth Mabry, 15th Avenue North; Ms. Julie Samples, North Hollywood Drive, and Ms. Wanda Spanuth, Harbor Lights Drive were present. Mayor Childs announced a Candidate Forum on Sunday, August 7th, from 3:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. in Council Chambers. It should be interesting and everyone should try to attend.

3. AGENDA APPROVAL

Mr. Courtney moved to adopt the agenda as with an amendment to change Item 7.A. from "Motion to Table" to "Motion to Defer any Action." Mr. Stevens second. All voted in favor. **MOTION CARRIED.**

4. MINUTES APPROVAL

A. Special Meeting July 11, 2016; B. Regular Meeting July 12, 2016, and C. Special Meeting July 20, 2016. Mr. Stevens moved to adopt the July 11, 2016 special meeting minutes; the July 12, 2016 regular meeting minutes, and the July 20, 2016 special meeting minutes as presented. Mr. Ott second. All voted in favor. **MOTION CARRIED**

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

Mr. Harry Kohlmann, South Ocean Boulevard. I'd like to talk about the sanitation. It is great reading the report about how many garbage cans were fixed. We put a lot of effort and time in trying to figure out the sanitation schedule. At first it was reported that it would cost tens of thousands of dollars to fix it and keep the landfill open, and then it was reduced a little bit. I'm just curious. I know from personal experience during the June time period both trucks were at the dump well before one o'clock. I'm hoping that one of you will ask the public works director how much this is actually costing and whether it is working. Is any overtime being incurred at the landfill? When are the trucks getting to and back from the landfill? It was said that it couldn't be done. Regarding spouses prohibited serving on committees, I don't know how this came up. I know my wife was on council and I was on a committee. Unfortunately, the council didn't listen to the committee, including my wife, and we wasted \$56,000 and four of the councilmembers are no longer seated partially because of the parking conditions. I don't know what the big deal is. Having spouses not serving on the beautification committee or the senior citizens committee; there's no life or death situations there. There are no laws that they are affecting or

54 will influence. I don't know what the big push was. But, if you're going to do this, then do it. Do it now.
55 Nobody gets grandfathered in. Be adults. Make the hard decision. If it is good for the future, then it is
56 good to do now. One of the spouses just got reappointed two weeks ago. That gives them a four year
57 term. Like I said, I don't have a position either way. But, if you're going to do it, you do it like adults
58 and you make the hard decision. Thank you.

59
60 **6. COMMUNICATIONS**

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62 **A. Employee Live Saving Awards: i. Mr. Ted Westmoreland; ii. Captain Prentice**
63 **Williams, Fire Department; iii. Corporal Vincent Canfora, Police Department; iv. Patrol Officer**
64 **Kimberly Decker, Police Department; v. Patrol Officer Wilson James, Police Department; and**
65 **vi. Patrol Officer Aaron Hans, Police Department. Mayor Childs and Police Chief Rodney**
66 **Keziah.**

67
68 Mayor Childs and Chief Keziah presented the awards to each individual, thanking them for their
69 heroic efforts. A standing ovation was made by the audience. Copies of the awards and narrative are
70 attached to these minutes.

71
72 **B. Department Reports**

73
74 **i. Events.** Supervisor Ellis presented the written report, a copy of which is attached hereto.

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76 **ii. Finance.** Manager Gardner presented the written report, a copy of which is attached hereto.

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78 **iii. Fire.** Chief Otte presented the written report, a copy of which is attached hereto.

79
80 **iv. Planning, Building & Zoning.** Director Morris presented the written report, a copy of
81 which is attached hereto.

82
83 **v. Police.** Chief Keziah presented the written report, a copy of which is attached hereto.

84
85 Mr. Ott thanked Chief Keziah saying he was back by popular demand, and it was well worth the
86 cost of admission. *(Laughter.)*

87
88 Mr. Courtney asked how many defibrillators the grant purchased, and how many were in cars at
89 this time. Chief Keziah replied the grant purchased one defibrillator. There is one defibrillator on the
90 beach; one on the beach truck; one in the office, and some that will be placed in various town buildings.

91
92 **vi. Public Works.** Director Adair presented the written report, a copy of which is attached
93 hereto.

94
95 Mr. Pellegrino asked Mr. Adair to address the sanitation changes as requested by Mr. Kohlmann.
96 Mr. Adair briefly explained the changes, and said a comprehensive report will be made at the end of the
97 season. Pickup days on the boulevard were changed to Monday, Thursday, and Saturday; on the north
98 side of town, pickup days are trash on Wednesday. Recycling is done town-wide on Friday. New Moby
99 stickers cost about \$2,500 and there was some overtime. The rollout season is going very well. A great
100 deal of material is being picked up on Saturdays that dovetails with continuing to distribute large
101 recycling carts. Staff is getting everything done in good time. They have arrived at the dump by three
102 o'clock at the latest, so far. The trucks start around eleven, so delays aren't bad. The replacement carts
103 are being issued after one incident of overflow, instead of two; 93 cans were issued due to overflow. I've
104 worked a couple of Saturdays and haven't seen any major overflow problems on the boulevard. Unless
105 there are complaints that I'm not aware of, the program is working well.
106

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107 Mr. Stevens asked if this new program pretty much solved the problem we had a year ago. Mr.
108 Adair said there is definitely less overflow than there was a year ago. I think we all agreed that overflow
109 was the main problem.

110
111 Mr. Pellegrino said thank you for that update. It's good to hear that it's working out better than
112 last year; we have improvement. When we started talking about doing this, we discussed extra costs as
113 high as \$20,000. Has that been realized, since we are getting to land fill prior to closing? Mr. Adair
114 thought because the trucks arrive at the landfill within a half-hour of the previous closing time, the Solid
115 Waste Authority has not even brought up or sent any notices for the town to pay for overtime.
116 Sanitation staff has done a very good job making sure pickups and deliveries are made in an expeditious
117 manner.

118
119 Mr. Ott said last Saturday he was looking at a rental house, and the odor was extremely strong.
120 He never realized it was that bad. He asked how long that trash would have sat before the new collection
121 schedule was implemented. Mr. Adair said prior to the new schedule, the rollouts were done Friday,
122 Sunday, and Wednesday. The Saturday pickups are starting at eleven o'clock now, instead of six o'clock,
123 which allows staff to pick up the check out materials. Many commercial customers at the larger
124 condominiums have daily dumpster service during the season. Mr. Ott said he returned to the house
125 later in the afternoon, and it was a huge difference. He thanked everybody involved in pushing for that
126 change. It was needed and he guessed it should have been done a long time ago. Mr. Ott asked if the
127 pest training included anything for mosquitoes, especially with the Zika virus threat. Mr. Adair said staff
128 sprays by truck twice a week for mosquitoes from May until November. The spray covers the roads,
129 rights-of-way, and ditch lines. The spray will not permeate back yards. Horry County sprays by airplane,
130 but the town does not have any coverage by the county. His best advice to residents is to eliminate all
131 standing water that serves as a breeding place for mosquitoes. Federal law limits the amount of product
132 that can be used during the year; doubling the amount for instance, does not double potency. The pest
133 training was part of his continuing education to keep the town's pest controller license for aquatic
134 spraying and public health spraying. Mr. Ott said thank you very much; you're doing a great job.

135
136 Mr. Stevens thanked Mayor Childs, Horry County Councilmember District 5 Representative Tyler
137 Servant and the Solid Waste Authority Board for their help implementing the new schedule. Obviously,
138 the program is working well. This was a positive step for the town of Surfside. We're not having the
139 complaints of trash on the beach, so, I want to give credit where credit is due.

140
141 Mayor Childs said changing the sanitation schedule went exceptionally smooth; he had not heard
142 one complaint about it. Thank you so much for doing that. Mr. Adair said his crews really did all the
143 work. He did the planning, ordering and setting the time tables, but his crew walked the streets, put
144 stickers on cans, and talked to the public. There was a town-wide mailing in the beginning of April
145 explaining the new schedule that had a map on the back side to make it as user friendly as possible.
146 Mayor Childs said it really worked.

147
148 **C. Administrator's Report.** Ms. Fellner presented the updated written report, a copy of which
149 is attached hereto. A clear title search was received on the property at the pier. An ordinance will be
150 presented for Council consideration at the next meeting. The Coastal Carolina Association of Realtors®
151 will host a Candidate Forum on Sunday, August 7th, from 3:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. in Council Chambers for
152 the candidates for the August 9th Special Election. Attendees will be able to meet the candidates and
153 hear their respective position on town business. Questions from the public must be submitted in advance
154 to Government Affairs Director Nate Johnson, 843.839.8084 or nate@ccarsc.org.

155
156 Mr. Ott said he witnessed one raccoon at 8th South and Poplar Drive. Of course, he is not a
157 veterinarian, but he knew the animal that was in bright sunlight running around in circles was sick. He
158 was whacking his paw on the asphalt, and Mr. Ott thought it might have rabies. Ms. Fellner said the
159 symptoms can be very similar; the only way to know is to test the animal. Mr. Ott said the police got

160 there very quickly. Ms. Fellner said the animal was taken directly to the veterinarian, who determined
161 that it was distemper.
162

163 Mr. Stevens asked if there was a timeline for the attorney's review of the sign ordinances. Ms.
164 Fellner said the attorney was reviewing the temporary signs codes. Ms. Morris said the attorney was
165 contacted again today; he is going to send his recommendations based on *Reed v. Town of Gilbert* that
166 will be shared with Town Council, the business committee and staff. Mr. Stevens asked if there are any
167 possible, potential or outstanding lawsuits to be addressed. Ms. Fellner said none she was aware of.
168

169 **7. BUSINESS**

170
171 **A. ~~Motion to Table~~ Motion to Defer Action* on Ordinance #16-0829 re South Poplar**
172 **Drive, Councilmember Courtney. *Amended in #3 above.**

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174 Mr. Courtney moved to defer any action on first reading of Ordinance #16-0829 to accept South
175 Poplar Drive from the South Carolina Highway Department. Mr. Stevens second.
176

177 Mr. Courtney said the administrator reported after the meeting that DOT (the Department of
178 Transportation) would install stop signs. Before the town takes on the burden and liability for South
179 Poplar Drive, I believe we should allow time for DOT to act.
180

181 Mayor Childs said if the DOT does not keep its word, although we feel certain they will, we can
182 bring this back for second reading. We will try the state first. There is a lot of liability and maintenance
183 to a one-mile road. It won't affect any of us here now, but the next council or one after will eventually
184 have to fund maintenance on the road. We're hoping that the state will come through to satisfy Mr.
185 Courtney's neighbors.
186

187 Mr. Stevens said while the administrator is contacting DOT, he would like to make sure she also
188 asks for the section of road between 4th Avenue North and 10th Avenue North to put stop signs at 6th
189 Avenue and 8th Avenue. That is a .7 mile stretch of road that is more than three dragstrips. Stop signs
190 run about \$80 to \$100, according to what Mr. Adair told him recently. I hope DOT will work with us on
191 that, and that they will put safety before politics.
192

193 All voted in favor. **MOTION CARRIED.**

194
195 **B. First Reading Ordinance #16-0831 to amend Chapter 2, Article III, Boards,**
196 **Commissions and Committees to add §2-63. Councilmember Spouses Prohibited from**
197 **Serving, Administrator Fellner.**

198
199 Ms. Fellner presented the decision paper and ordinance, copies of which are on file. Mr. Stevens
200 moved to adopt first reading of Ordinance #16-0829 as presented. Mr. Ott second.
201

202 Mr. Courtney said that Mr. Kohlmann brought to his attention that Town Council just appointed
203 Ms. Johnson to the planning commission. Before she was appointed, I asked the administrator if this was
204 legal. She replied that it was legal. Neither the state, nor the county prohibit spouses of councilmembers
205 from serving on committees. It concerns me, because we have trouble filling spots on committees. My
206 wife is on the Election Commission and the Keep Surfside Beach Beautiful Committee. To be quite
207 honest with you, I don't see the point why she should have to resign from the beautification committee,
208 because they're going around picking weeds down by the pier. It's not an easy task and they don't get
209 too many volunteers, is the point I'm trying to make.
210

211 Mr. Johnson asked if the proposed ordinance included all committees. Ms. Fellner said yes, that
212 was what staff was instructed to present. Mr. Johnson agreed with Mr. Courtney and said it is not like

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213 there is an overwhelming group of residents who want to serve on various committees. I'm torn; I feel
214 like I'm in a bad situation, but when my wife and I go home, we do not talk town business at all. After
215 thinking about it, I do have some concerns about passing an ordinance, if for no other reason than it's
216 not against the law and we do have a problem filling some seats, especially state mandated committee
217 seats. Ms. Fellner said we do. I don't have a dog in this fight [sic.] (*Laughter.*)
218

219 Mr. Ott agreed with the comments and said I really don't think that we need to amend this and
220 tell the people they can't have their spouses serve. The people who are on the boards, commissions and
221 committees all have public meetings, and most of the things they do have to come before Town Council
222 and be dealt with in public. I've seen spouses do very good jobs. I wouldn't want to take these people
223 off the committees. I just don't see that you would have any "monkey business." The board of zoning
224 appeals is the only board that makes a final decision. Thank you.
225

226 Mayor Childs said this has been talked about for a number of years. There was a time when
227 there was an unwritten rule that councilmembers' spouses dropped off committees or boards. My wife
228 was on the board of zoning appeals. When I was elected, she resigned. Somehow that tradition was
229 lost. Whatever council wishes to do.
230

231 Mr. Stevens said it sounded like some councilmembers and some citizens expressed that spouses
232 be allowed to serve on the *ad hoc* committees. Spouses serving on committees that bring laws to Town
233 Council could create conflicts.
234

235 Mr. Pellegrino said he had served on council for two years. During that time there has not been
236 a single incident where a spouse on a committee created a conflict. He has seen, however, many
237 dedicated people who take their responsibility seriously and do a good job. We have a small population.
238 If we take people who work for the good of the town out of the system, then we may not get anyone
239 else or get some who are not as serious about serving. We certainly need to think about that. I haven't
240 see anything concrete that a problem exist.
241

242 Mayor Childs said councilmembers could think about this and maybe just include boards. If that
243 is the will of council, then please get with Ms. Herrmann to offer amendments for second reading.
244

245 Mr. Ott reiterated that in his opinion, the board of zoning appeals is the only board that needs to
246 have spouses prohibited, because it is the only board for which Town Council cannot override its decision.
247 Appeals to the board of zoning appeals go to civil court.
248

249 Mr. Pellegrino said he agreed 100-percent with Mr. Ott. Other than the board of zoning appeals,
250 all other committees send recommendations to Town Council for a final vote. He did not see that big of
251 an issue.
252

253 Mayor Childs and Mr. Stevens voted in favor. Mayor Pro Tempore Ott and Councilmembers
254 Courtney, Johnson, and Pellegrino voted against. **MOTION FAILED.**
255

256 **C. Resolution #16-169 to support Construction of Interstate Highway 73 (I-73),**
257 **Administrator Fellner.**
258

259 Ms. Herrmann read the resolution, a copy of which is on file.
260

261 Mr. Stevens moved to adopt Resolution #16-169 as presented. Mr. Ott second. All voted in
262 favor. **MOTION CARRIED.**
263

264 Mayor Childs noted for the record that Town Councilmembers also executed a letter addressed to
265 the US Army Corps of Engineers regarding the town's support for I-73, a copy of which is on file.

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D. Parking Committee Recommendations, Councilmember Courtney, Liaison.

Mr. Courtney moved to defer this item until further information can be obtained from the parking committee. Mr. Ott second. All voted in favor. **MOTION CARRIED.**

E. Beach Renourishment Funding, Administrator Fellner.

Ms. Fellner presented the decision paper, a copy of which is on file. The state will not pay its portion of the beach renourishment match upfront. Therefore, to move the project forward, she requested permission to prepay the state's portion, which will be reimbursed. She expects the state to reimburse the town in the fall, but before the first of the year. Town Council authorized an expenditure of \$1.140 million, because engineering at a cost of \$60,000 was done in FY2015-2016. Authorization was needed from Town Council to expend an additional \$204,000 for the beach renourishment project. A budget amendment ordinance will be offered for this expenditure near the end of the fiscal year along with any other budget amendments. Municipal accounting requires that additional expenditures be adopted by ordinance..

Mr. Ott moved to authorize the additional expenditure of \$204,000 for beach renourishment. Mr. Johnson second.

Mr. Stevens said the town would be reimbursed \$672,000 by the state and asked if there was a time frame. Ms. Fellner said the earliest would be October, but reimbursement would be in the same fiscal year.

Mr. Ott said I am still a little confused about why we have to put out all that money, when we know we're going to get it all back. He asked if this was like the new math. Ms. Fellner explained this was like a matching grant. The town is required to pay upfront, and then the state will reimburse its portion.

Mr. Johnson asked what this means to the town budget-wise now, and when the reimbursement is received. Ms. Fellner said there would be a cash flow issue, but we anticipated that until taxes come in. If the state reimburses the town in October, it will be good. I've asked the directors, and they have been wonderful about not spending anything that we did not absolutely need. As soon as the state reimburses the town, we should be good. Hopefully, that will be before taxes start coming in. I think we are going to be okay. We are not buying a lot of capital items or other high-dollar items.

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

8. TOWN COUNCIL DISCUSSION

A. Proposed Amendment to §14-14(4), et seq. in the Flood Damage Prevention Ordinance, Director Morris.

Ms. Morris presented the discussion paper, a copy of which is on file. After a brief discussion, Town Council **CONCURRED to hold a workshop on this item.** Mayor Childs asked Ms. Herrmann to schedule a workshop.

B. Any matters of concern or information to be discussed.

Mr. Stevens said at the recent Municipal Association of South Carolina (MASC) meeting, he attended several classes on the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA). He asked the officials whether the CRS committee was supposed to have an agenda and hold public meetings. According to those officials,

319 the CRS committee has to publish an agenda and minutes, because the members were approved by
320 Town Council. According to MASC and the FOIA that committee and all committees, whether it is the
321 Historical Society or any others, have to have some type of agenda and minutes. Executive sessions
322 were also discussed. In the case *Donahue vs. the City of North Augusta*, the court ruled that the town
323 has to state what type contract is being negotiated. He suggested that staff get with MASC to update on
324 these items so the town will be in compliance.
325

326 Mr. Ott said MASC is a guidance group. It is not law maker. MASC guides you to where there is
327 a law, and they tell you what would be better. Is that correct? Mayor Childs said he believed Mr. Ott
328 was correct. Mr. Ott said we cannot say because MASC says that it becomes the law of a governing
329 body.
330

331 Mr. Stevens said to clarify, MASC pays attorneys to review the laws to make recommendations to
332 towns. These were some items MASC officials believed were important, especially for committees that do
333 not have agendas and minutes so the public will know exactly what is going on.
334

335 Mr. Ott believed that all boards, commissions, and committees should not be able to meet
336 without an agenda. Any type of advisory group should not have to take minutes, but they should have
337 an agenda before they are allowed to meet. I agree with you on that. But, then again, MASC is a
338 guidance group.
339

340 Mr. Courtney said he would not ask the beautification committee to provide an agenda.
341 *(Laughter.)* Mayor Childs said, "Point well taken."
342

343 Mr. Ott said funds were spent in January to pave the south frontage road. He asked if those
344 funds had been reimbursed. Ms. Fellner said yes; \$160,000 was reimbursed by the state. Mr. Ott asked
345 why there are no budget amendments when funds are added to the budget. Ms. Fellner said monies are
346 added into the budget when they are received, but the Government Accounting Standards Board (GASB)
347 does not require amendments for revenue; only for expenditures. There is no choice. Mr. Ott said we
348 can sneak it in, but we can't take it out! *(Laughter.)*
349

350 **9. PUBLIC COMMENTS – General Comments.** (5-minutes per speaker)
351

352 Ms. Janine Gorline, 16th Avenue South. There are several issues that I and my neighbors have. I
353 had two medical emergencies on the beach in the last two weeks. I want to thank Captain Carter and
354 Fireman Miller, as well as Police Officer Jim who helped us with my brother-in-law last week. But it did
355 bring to light a continuing issue that we have with no lifeguard at 16th Avenue South. I've lived here
356 seven years and I can't tell you how many times it's been brought up. There is a lifeguard on 10th, on
357 13th, and the next lifeguard is at Conch Café. When I yelled for somebody to activate the EMS system, it
358 faster for somebody to run down the beach and find Officer Jim in his little cart than it was to find a
359 lifeguard on the beach. The lifeguards are hidden; their orange umbrellas blend in with all the other
360 umbrellas. You can't find them, if you want to. This has been brought up before about the long span
361 between 13th Avenue South and Melody Lane where there is no lifeguard. This emergency just brought
362 to light why a lifeguard is needed on the south end. If this company won't provide a lifeguard there, or
363 doesn't feel there is a need for it, then he needs to be there when somebody is running down the beach
364 trying to find help. If this company isn't willing to add a lifeguard or doesn't think there is a need, then
365 maybe we need to look into other companies that will and that will address the problems that we are
366 bringing to you for the safety of everybody on the beach. In May, I emailed Chief Keziah, because we
367 were so happy on 16th that there were police everywhere. Every time you went out to walk the dog, the
368 police were there. It was great. Through no fault of theirs, like flipping a switch, the tourists come, they
369 are busy and now we're back to the same old thing on 16th. My flags were all stolen that I had out for 4th
370 of July. My neighbor's chain across his driveway was broken; cars were keyed, stupid stuff. Petty stuff,
371 but still annoying. They can't be everywhere. My flags and my neighbor's chain are nothing compared to

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372 the stuff they have to deal with. But, what we're trying to propose to the council is that since we have a-
373 tax money to pay for an officer to patrol during the day to patrol the rental area, why can't we have a-tax
374 money to pay for a patrolman at night when all of this stuff is going on? This is when they're going
375 under houses. This is when people are riding golf carts doing all of this stupid stuff that if you had
376 somebody patrolling, you would be able to see and to stop. We have a huge golf cart problem at night.
377 I can't tell you how many times you hear the screeching, because of these people that are riding at night.
378 It's a law, but of course, the police can't be everywhere to enforce it and they are everywhere. Get
379 somebody that can come and patrol the area and they at least cut into it or make people aware of it or
380 do something to help the area with the crime that we have here year after year after year during this
381 season. I would like to say as one of the ones that was here during the entire rat problem, I am pleased
382 to tell you that we do not have any more rats. The garbage situation has been wonderful. The garbage
383 is not overflowing. It looks so much better when people come in on Saturdays that the garbage isn't
384 overflowing. We are all thrilled that there was a solution to the problem. Thank you.
385

386 Ms. Betty Lowery, 4th Avenue North. During the council comments during the last regular
387 meeting, there were a couple of things brought up and several expounded upon. I think one of them
388 needs to be grossly corrected. One of the speakers said that \$4,000 was spent on food for the employee
389 appreciation banquet, and went on to state other figures. I was overwhelmed by the sheer volume, so I
390 asked. I called town hall. I asked who was in charge of that, and I wanted to know about the figures. I
391 was flabbergasted. None of it was true. \$4,000 was budgeted; \$4,000 was not spent. \$4,000 was not
392 spent on food. They actually spent \$3,200, so about a fourth of it stayed in the budget. Invited were all
393 the full time employees, and all the part time employees in all the departments; the volunteer fire
394 department, the police department, and those who were on council at the time were there. It was stated
395 that the person or the town should've investigated other suppliers for the food, and named this one at
396 this price, this one at this price and this one at another price. Piggly Wiggly was one of the ones
397 mentioned. Well, surprise, surprise. Piggly Wiggly was the one that was used. It wasn't just food that
398 that money was spent on. They fed 75 to 78 people. Turkey, ham, mashed potatoes, dressing, gravy,
399 corn, green beans, sweet potatoes, slaw, dessert and beverages. But, they also provide, I think those of
400 you who are on council who were actually there, found candy, little bags of Hershey Kisses in
401 appreciation. Anybody who's had a backyard cookout realizes that food is just part of it. You have paper
402 plates; you have the table cloths; you have the silverware. You have all these other expenses incurred,
403 and on top of that nothing was mentioned about the 50 \$25 gift cards that were given out at random.
404 Now, these were just drawing type things. Everybody didn't get one. But that was also given out. That
405 was also part of the \$3,200 spent. I found all this out simply by calling and asking. So, none of it was a
406 secret. There was no Freedom of Information Act here when I asked the person who was responsible for
407 setting up the luncheon. No one asked, but yet, all these calls were made to different places to find out
408 if they could provide food for less money. So, why wasn't a call made to the person who was
409 responsible? It's just like with the raccoon. When somebody told me there were rabid raccoons, I went
410 to the person who was supposed to be in charge and got the information I needed. What would've been
411 so hard about going to the person who was in charge of the committee? As you look behind me, you see
412 a lot of empty seats. That night, the room was practically full. All those people left here with the idea
413 that the town was simply throwing money away, because \$4,000 was spent on food. They're not here
414 tonight, so that can't be corrected. Anybody who heard it on the recording; that still hasn't been
415 corrected. And even if you go to each one of those people and say this isn't true, this is what actually
416 was, what they're going to remember is that the town is throwing money away. That just perpetuates
417 the myth of spending habits that are bad. I think it's wrong. I think it maligns the people who set it up.
418 Now, if you really want to save money, you can go to Hardee's. They have a brown bag. You can get a
419 hot dog, hamburger, French fries and apple pie and a drink. You can shake their hands as they pick up
420 their paychecks and send them out the door. Now, you might be able to save money that way. But, that
421 doesn't show the employees that you appreciate them. When things like this come up at the end of
422 council meeting, it can't be challenged. It can't be discussed. No questions can be asked. It's not a
423 debate. *(Time ended.)* But, that was just wrong. It shouldn't have happened. I know my time's up, but
424 I don't know whether the person didn't know, or just jumped to conclusion, or didn't care.

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Mayor Childs thanked Ms. Lowery for clarifying that.

Mr. Tom Dodge, 15th Avenue North. I just want to say that we have a great fire department and a great police department, and it's because of people like Captain Williams and Officer Decker. I've gotten to know her over the last couple of months, and she's pleasant; she's professional, and she's prettier than Chief Keziah. *(Laughter.)* They were both very good hires by the town. At the last meeting, I spoke about illegal signs by two people running for council and mosquito spraying. Nothing's changed, folks. The illegal signs by candidate Mabry and candidate Samples are still there. Friendship should have nothing to do with enforcing our ordinances. So, we ought to enforce our ordinances. If somebody cuts a 4-inch branch on a tree, they go to jail. It's the tree in my yard. I bought the place. I should be able to do with that tree whatever I want to. But, anyhow, get the signs out of the right-of-way because we have an ordinance about that and we should enforce it. Thank you.

Mr. Harry Kohlmann, South Ocean Boulevard. Thank you for the resolution on I-73. Hopefully, all of you signed it. I got a letter in the mail. All you had to do was sign the letter to get this thing going. I think it's vital for this area. I hope everybody in the whole community did it. I also want to talk about the 17 Business corridor. What they're doing here. I'm not saying I'm for it or against it, but I just want to make sure that everyone knows that if you're going from a side street like 6th Avenue South, and you want to go across, and head south on 17 you're gonna have to go north first and make a U-turn and come back. There's no cross traffic on any intersection unless it has a light. So, I don't know if everyone understands this, because it could be very confusing for some people. Hopefully, you're getting the word out to people what's gonna happen. It's gonna make it safer, but it's gonna confuse people because they're used to doing a certain thing. So, you can't cross over from east to west or west to east. If you're on the east side of 17 and you want to go south, you'll have to go north first and make a U-turn. If you're on the west side and you want to go north, you'll have to do the same thing. You'll have to make a right turn; go to the next intersection, and make a U-turn. It's going to be a totally different animal. It's good, because it's going to deal with the frontage road; fix that nonsense there. It's going to give people a lot less opportunity to make turns, which is crazy. Everyone is making turns everywhere. But, it is gonna be a big, big difference. Thank you.

10. TOWN COUNCIL COMMENTS

Mr. Johnson: Thank you, Mr. Mayor. I'll keep it brief. I wrote lots of notes down. I won't bore you with them. As far as I-73 goes, I just would like to let you know that back in June of 1994 Town Council signed a resolution supporting I-73. So, we're just trying to keep up the pressure and do whatever we can. *(Laughter.)* Hopefully, soon, we'll see something done. Thank you. God bless you. See you next time.

Mr. Pellegrino: Thank you very much for coming tonight. Just wanted to make one comment on South Poplar Drive. We deferred that vote, obviously, because we do have a stop sign coming. Hopefully, sooner not later; in the next couple of weeks. That's a win-win. I want to thank our staff for going to bat once again with the state, and making that happen without us having to take over the road. If we can get the stop sign and not have to take the liability of the road that is the best case situation. Looks like we did that. We just need to make sure they follow through and that gets done in a very short time. That's all I have. Thank you very much for coming. Have a great week.

Mr. Courtney: I want to thank you all for coming. I'm very concerned about the beach and about access in case of emergency; having an emergency access is something we need to work on this fall for next year. We've had a few incidents where we needed to get vehicles down to the beach and this could be a problem. We need to look into this for the future; tents that are blocking on the south of end of town leave very little beach to traverse between 13th South towards Melody Lane. I take your

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477 commentary seriously, and your safety comes first before anything. That's most important thing to me.
478 Thank you very much.

479

480 Mr. Ott: I want to thank everybody for their comments. Comments are needed. We need to
481 hear your ideas; your thoughts. They're very important to us. You have different ideas. If there are
482 changes, we need to do these things. I would also like council to bring back #16-0830 for the specific
483 reason that we just stated, and just bring it back for the board of zoning appeals. The board of zoning
484 appeals has extraordinary power. Their decision is final, as I said before and they do not come back
485 here. If there was influence, I'm not saying there is influence today or anything in the future, but that's
486 where it can be done in that board. They do have a power that no other commission or committee has.
487 Their decision is not overturned by the Town Council. The next step is the appeals court, and we don't
488 want to have to go to court to change something. Thank everybody for coming out and listening to us.
489 Thank you.

490

491 Mr. Stevens: Thank you, Mr. Mayor. The first thing I want to say is that this is one time I've
492 been to a meeting where we were actually able to see real live heroes. We had some great people that
493 saved lives and believe me, if you ever have a loved one that may be about to drown or whatever,
494 there's nothing like having those people. They won't think of themselves as heroes, but they are. They
495 are heroes to the nth degree. Secondly, obviously, what myself, Tyler Servant, Mayor Childs and the
496 Solid Waste Authority did last February to March 15th, we did it in 30 days. We solved the trash issue in
497 this town for summertime. I want to thank everybody who did that. Obviously, it's working, because
498 we're not hearing stories about rats on the beach; trash on the beach, and all that. We did the right
499 thing and we did it in 30 days. Remember that. Third thing, a lady brought up \$4,000 spent. Yes, I did
500 go to the Piggly Wiggly where we get the food and the total for turkey, ham, fried chicken and all the
501 trimmings and everything was \$896. I want to remind everybody in this town that every one of our
502 employees gets a \$30 gift certificate for a turkey or whatever it is around Christmas [sic.] I didn't know
503 we gave away 50 \$25 gift certificates. But still that's only \$2,140, and a little bag of candy. We spent
504 \$4,000...I still don't understand why we put all that money, \$4,000, in the budget when we spend a
505 whole lot less. You could spend a whole lot less; we could budget a whole lot less and do the same
506 thing. That was my point. Why are we budgeting so much money for something that doesn't cost that
507 much money? Last, but not least, is the Governor signed into law S-11, which was the Freedom of
508 Information Act. Now, it says, and this is from the Municipal Association and they're quoting from the
509 law, all public bodies, which include municipal councils, public utility boards, municipal planning
510 commissions, board of zoning appeals, architectural review boards, and all other boards, commissions or
511 committees appointed by council are subject to public meeting and generally as required by Section 30-4-
512 80 of the South Carolina Code of Laws, as amended, Freedom of Information Act. I ran on transparency
513 and accountability. Maybe the committees like beautification don't need some kind of fancy meeting or
514 their own agenda and anything, because they're just planting stuff and everything. But, when you pass a
515 law that affects citizens and cost them \$15,000 to build their house up three feet, I think when you're
516 passing a law, you should have an agenda. You should have minutes so the citizens can know what's
517 going on. Because nobody can tell you the first thing about the CRS committee unless they went to a
518 meeting. So, I stand on my ground. If people don't like it, that's where I stand. But, anyway, thank y'all
519 for coming out, and I'm glad that everybody is out there speaking. I'm glad you're getting up there
520 talking. Freedom of Speech is a great thing, and I'm glad you're exercising your freedom and your right
521 to address us and whether I agree with you or don't agree with you, I want you to get up there and
522 speak your mind. Have a good evening. Have a good week. May God bless you.

523

524 Mayor Childs: I just have one quick thing to say, because it's getting late. I understand this last
525 year the Governor signed legislation that would allow the municipalities to allow golf carts on the road at
526 nighttime. I hope this council never adopts that. We have enough trouble with the young kids, and I
527 can see after about seven or eight or nine o'clock and after all the kids are off the beach and there's not
528 really enough for them to do, so we'll get mom's golf cart and ride around. I got a call this week from an
529 individual hoping that we would adopt something like that, and I hope we never do that. That's a

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530 disaster waiting to happen. So, I hope if that comes up, I hope it doesn't come up, but if it does, I hope
531 everybody that's against that will certainly speak out, because that is a very dangerous situation. Thank
532 you.

533
534 **11. ADJOURNMENT.**

535 Mr. Johnson moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:26 p.m. Mr. Courtney second. All voted
536 in favor. **MOTION CARRIED.**

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538 Prepared and submitted by,

539 _____
540 Debra E. Herrmann, CMC, Town Clerk

541
542 Approved: August 8, 2016

543 _____
544 Robert F. Childs, III, Mayor

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546 _____
547 Ron Ott, Mayor Pro Tempore

548 _____
549 Timothy T. Courtney, Town Council

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552 Mark L. Johnson, Town Council

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554 David L. Pellegrino, Town Council

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557 Randle M. Stevens, Town Council

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559 Vacant Seat

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