



**SURFSIDE BEACH TOWN COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
REGULAR MEETING *MONDAY, JUNE 11, 2018 ♦ 6:30 P.M.
TOWN COUNCIL CHAMBERS**

**Special meeting day due to South Carolina Primary Elections*

Town Council Meeting – 6:30 p.m.

1. CALL TO ORDER. Mayor Childs called the regular meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. Mayor Childs, Mayor Pro Tempore Pellegrino, and Councilmembers Dietrich, Ott, and Stevens were in attendance. Councilmembers Johnson and Scoles were absent. A quorum was present. Others present: Interim Administrator Duckett; Town Clerk Herrmann; Finance Director King; Planning, Building & Zoning Director Morris, and Police Chief Hofmann.

2. INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE. A. Invocation: Fire Chaplain Carmen Carella gave the invocation. **B. Pledge of Allegiance:** Mayor Childs led the Pledge.

3. AGENDA APPROVAL. Mr. Stevens moved to adopt the agenda as presented. Mr. Ott second. All voted in favor. **MOTION CARRIED.**

4. MINUTES APPROVAL. A. Budget Workshop May 17, 2018, and B. Regular Meeting May 22, 2018. Mr. Stevens moved to adopt the May 17, 2018 budget workshop minutes and the May 22, 2018 regular meeting minutes as presented. Mr. Dietrich second. All voted in favor. **MOTION CARRIED**

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

Ms. Sandra Elliott, 5th Avenue North: What I wanted to speak on was the historical society. I'd like to say that I support the project, but we must remember for all of us that we remember our past, live in the present, anticipate our future. When the lot is purchased and made into a park, I'd like to suggest that we name it 'Reflections.' Now, I've been doing a little research, and I looked up the ethics commission written laws and it says that elected officials, public employees, or public members cannot solicit for funds. Ethics defines public members as an appointed individual on it, on a board with or without being paid compensation. So I have three questions for you guys. Our ordinance on solicitation of funds, has it been approved by the state ethics commission? If not, are we superseding state laws? The chair is a realtor. She says so in her write up. Is any commission being paid to her? And the settlement charges are not included. What about a title search and a policy? And three, are you willing to help them with some funding? Thank you.

6. COMMUNICATIONS.

A. Historical Society. Ms. Joyce Suliman, Chairman. Ms. Suliman presented the decision paper, a copy of which is on file. Mayor Childs asked councilmembers to hold questions and comments until this item came up for discussion during business. Ms. Suliman apologized to Town Council for the society's failure to comply with the code and said everyone now understands the correct process. In response to public comments, Ms. Suliman confirmed that she is a licensed real estate broker, but no sales commission would be paid to anyone, if the option to purchase is exercised. The fact that this area was recognized as a plantation graveyard by the state, disclosure of such will be required to all purchasers of lots on Blocks 21 and 22, because that might affect the value.

B. Administrator's Report. Interim Administrator Duckett presented two concurrence requests: First, Horry County has awarded the town \$450,000 from residual RIDE III funding and I'm asking for concurrence to use that money to pave town roads. **Council CONCURRED;** second, I'm asking council to concur to a request from WORRELL 1000, through Chuck Barger, its research and development director, to allow catamarans on the beach in front of the Holiday Inn Oceanfront one night, May 12th, 2019. This stop will finish one leg of a multi-day race from Fort Lauderdale Beach, Florida to Virginia Beach, Virginia. There will be between 75 and 100 participants staying at the Holiday Inn Oceanfront that night. **Council CONCURRED.** Mr. Duckett explained that FY2018-2019 is under business for second reading; there haven't been any questions or comments. He recommends

57 that second reading be adopted. The General Obligation Bond is recommended by the bond attorney and financial
58 advisor; he recommended adoption as presented. The budget amendments for FY2017-2018 includes items that have
59 already been approved by Town Council, and this ordinance simply approves the expenditures and confirms the
60 actions.

61
62 **7. BUSINESS.**

63
64 **A. Reading Ordinance #18-0870 Nuisances, Interim Administrator Duckett.** Mr. Dietrich moved to
65 adopt second reading of Ordinance #18-0870 as presented. Mr. Stevens second. The decision paper and ordinance
66 copies are on file. All voted in favor. **MOTION CARRIED.**

67
68 **B. Second Reading Ordinance #18-0871 FY2018-2019 Municipal Budget, Director King.** Mr. Ott
69 moved to adopt second reading of Ordinance #18-0871 as presented. Mr. Dietrich second. The decision paper and
70 ordinance copies are on file. All voted in favor. **MOTION CARRIED.**

71
72 **C. First Reading Ordinance #18-0872 Issue GO Bond for Pier Reconstruction, Director King.** Mr.
73 Duckett presented the decision paper and ordinance, copies of which are on file. The town received notification
74 today that FEMA (Federal Emergency Management Agency) has approved \$700,000 from which the town can draw
75 for pier related expenditures. Staff did not expect that, so the town won't need money right away. Once the
76 ordinance is adopted at second reading, there is a waiting period of up to 60 days while things are processed. Then,
77 we will have up to five years to draw various amounts of money as needs arise, which is repayable annually. He
78 reminded council that the town's only debt is for three payments on the fire truck. He urged council to pass first
79 reading of this ordinance. Mr. Ott said it was like a line of credit. Mr. Duckett said yes, it serves the same purpose.
80 Mr. Pellegrino thanked Mr. Duckett and Ms. King for working with the bond agents on this ordinance. I think it's
81 really well-written. The \$4 million is a high number; hopefully, we won't come anywhere near that number. The
82 bond shall be payable as to principal on the basis of a 360 day period, so basically we're paying it back every 360
83 days. As you borrow, you're paying back, which is good. That will force us to repay quickly, so we can minimize
84 the overall debt load. We're in good fiscal shape right now so we can make those payments. Mr. Stevens moved to
85 adopt first reading of Ordinance #18-0872. Mr. Dietrich second. All voted in favor. **MOTION CARRIED.**

86
87 **D. First Reading Ordinance #18-0873 Amend FY2017-2018 Municipal Budget, Director King.** Mr.
88 Stevens moved to adopt first reading of Ordinance #18-0873 as presented. Mr. Ott second. Ms. King presented the
89 decision paper and ordinance, copies of which are on file. She explained that the town doesn't have a means of
90 funding stormwater projects, so we usually use hospitality funds. We still don't have the final bill for the Myrtle
91 Swash Culvert Bridge, so the estimates are a little bit higher to cover anticipated cost. The payment to Collins
92 Engineers is shown in case an invoice is received prior to June 30; approving this will keep us from having a
93 violation of the ordinance. All voted in favor. **MOTION CARRIED.**

94
95 **E. Historical Society Requests (Presentation during Communications.)** Mayor Childs moved to
96 approve a fund raising project by the Surfside Beach Historical Society for the purpose of possibly purchasing the
97 property known as 423 Hollywood Drive South, and comply with all town codes. Mr. Steven second. Mr. Ott asked
98 if an attorney had reviewed this. Mayor Childs said not that he was aware. Mr. Ott asked whether that would be
99 advisable. Mayor Childs said the precedent was already set, because he personally on two occasions in the past
100 solicited funds for the town and council approved that. The town will not be involved in this effort; it is the
101 historical society's project. Money received will be documented and the town will be the bank, so to speak. I have
102 no issue with that. Mr. Ott said I understand that part, and ask what happens if enough money is not raised to buy the
103 lot; are the taxpayers obligated to buy it? Mayor Childs said no. If insufficient money is raised to purchase the
104 property, as I understand it, the money will go into the maintenance of the other property and will be earmarked for
105 the historical society. This is strictly the historical society's fund raiser. The members will comply with all town
106 codes; follow all the rules and regulations that the town has already adopted. Mr. Pellegrino said I checked on this
107 because I was confused. This time the presentation does follow our town ordinance. There were some pending
108 questions from the previous activity, and I don't know if they were addressed. A receipt book was outstanding for
109 some proceeds already donated, and a [bank] account was created. We don't know if that was closed. I assume the
110 town would have to have a separate account to hold this money. During the presentation, Ms. Suliman did explain
111 that moneys would be reserved for historical society use, if they don't have enough donations to buy the property.
112 I'm fine with the whole process as long as they follow the ordinance. Ms. Suliman said she and Ms. King have

113 already discussed the account, and it would be closed. The receipt book was promised to be returned to the town.
114 Everything has been accounted for and turned in. Ms. King acknowledged agreement from the audience. Mayor
115 Childs said the receipt book will be brought up again should it not be returned. All voted in favor. **MOTION**
116 **CARRIED.**

117
118 **8. Town Council Discussion.** Any matters of concern or information to be discussed by Town Council.
119

120 Mr. Ott said I'd like to inform the public that when we first awarded the contract for the Myrtle Swash
121 Bridge, I asked that the contractor not come back and ask for more money. That's pretty hard to do, and as you saw
122 in Mrs. King's presentation, there is \$55,000 transfer to capital projects for that. Well, most of that was the lowest
123 bid was \$33 or \$34 thousand over the amount of money we budgeted for the project. We had to get somebody to do
124 the work that needed to be done. So, we had to raise that, and that was part of the money that Ms. King had to move.
125 That left \$20,000 additional, but that wasn't exactly caused by the contractor. There was a cracked asbestos 4 inch
126 water pipe. They had to install two valves with 100 feet between each valve, so they could shut it off. That was
127 around \$7,000. There was a need to install a concrete pylon, because there was a massive tree stump removed,
128 which cost a little over \$1,000. Some additional things to improve the town were also done, like extending the
129 asphalt to the edge of the bridge to eliminate the dirt sides where grass won't grow. A stainless steel rail was put on
130 the east side of the bridge to protect pedestrians. A concrete pad was placed there that won't crack like asphalt. I'm
131 the one that said don't give them any more money, but it was necessary. But, I think it's better that we have
132 explanations for the increased cost. It was beneficial for the beautification and improvement of this town. We have a
133 stronger, better bridge. Mayor Childs: Yes, it did turn out very nice. Mr. Ott: Go see it if you haven't. I'd like to do
134 the other ones next.
135

136 **9. Public Comments – General Comments.** (5-minutes per speaker.) There were no public comments.
137

138 **10. Town Council Comments.**
139

140 Mr. Pellegrino: This is a record here. I don't want to talk long and keep it longer. Thank you very much for
141 coming. Thank you for involvement, and thank you for the passion for our town. There's a lot of people involved in
142 a lot of different areas, and that's what brings up ideas to improve our town and helps us move forward with. So,
143 thank you and have a great night.
144

145 Mr. Stevens: Thank y'all all for coming out. I was glad to see everybody sitting out in the audience, and
146 come to our meeting. Let's make Surfside the best place in the world. Y'all have a good week. Thank you a lot.
147

148 Mr. Dietrich: Hello, everyone. Thanks for coming out. I don't know what to say. I'm looking at my watch
149 going 'seriously!' This is good stuff, though. Thank you so much. I appreciate your comments. I thank the historical
150 society for clearing things up for us. A little tumultuous meeting a couple of weeks ago. But I'm glad we're where
151 we're at. God bless you all. Have a safe trip home. Thanks for coming out.
152

153 Mr. Ott: I want to thank everybody for their comments tonight. It was very good (*laughter*), and I'd like to
154 thank Councilwoman Scoles who mailed some information about executive sessions. It was a very boring read, but
155 it was very precise, and I learned a lot from it. I'd to put it on record that I thank Ms. Scoles. We'll see you in two
156 weeks.
157

158 Mayor Childs: I want to thank council for studying their package. This wasn't done that fast; we have a
159 packet of information that we read to get all the details, along with staff's and the administrator's recommendations.
160 I appreciate that council reviewed the packet. We've gone through and accomplish what we want to do in a short
161 time with no argument. Can you believe that? Thank everybody for coming.
162

163 **11. ADJOURNMENT.** Mr. Stevens moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:00 p.m. Mr. Dietrich second. All
164 voted in favor. **MOTION CARRIED.**
165
166

Town Council Regular Meeting
June 11, 2018

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

Prepared and submitted by:

Debra E. Herrmann, CMC, Town Clerk

Approved: June 25, 2018

Surfside Beach Town Council

VOTE:	Yes	No
	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Robert F. Childs, III, Mayor

David L. Pellegrino, Mayor Pro Tempore

Bruce H. Dietrich, Town Council

Absent
Mark L. Johnson, Town Council

Ron Ott, Town Council

Absent
Debbie Scoles, Town Council

Randle M. Stevens, Town Council

Clerk's Note: This document constitutes minutes of the meeting that was digitally recorded, and not intended to be a complete transcript. Appointments to hear recordings may be made with the town clerk; a free copy of the audio will be given to you provided you bring a new, unopened flash drive. In accordance with FOIA §30-4-80(A) and (E), meeting notice and the agenda were distributed to local media and interested parties via the town's email subscription list. The agenda was posted on the entry door at Town Council Chambers. Meeting notice was also posted on the town website at www.surfsidebeach.org and the marquee.