



**SURFSIDE BEACH TOWN COUNCIL  
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES ♦ JULY 12, 2011 ♦ 6:30 P.M.  
TOWN COUNCIL CHAMBERS ♦ TOWN OF SURFSIDE BEACH**

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1. **CALL TO ORDER.** Mayor Deaton called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. Mayor Deaton, Mayor Pro Tempore Childs, and Councilmembers Blair, Dodge, Johnson, Samples, and Smith were in attendance; a quorum was present. Staff present: Administrator Duckett; Deputy Administrator Fellner; Building Director Donevant; Fire Chief Packard; Police Chief Frederick; Public Works Director Adair; Treasurer Hursey, and Recreation Supervisor Ellis. Others present: Town Attorney Moss and Town Clerk Herrmann.

2. **INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE.** Mr. Johnson gave the invocation. Mayor Deaton led the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. **AGENDA APPROVAL.** Ms. Dodge moved to approve the agenda as presented. Mr. Childs seconded. **All voted in favor. MOTION CARRIED.**

4. **MINUTES APPROVAL.** Mr. Samples moved to approve the minutes as presented of the regular meetings held June 14, 2011 and June 28, 2011, and the special meeting held June 22, 2011. Ms. Dodge seconded. **All voted in favor. MOTION CARRIED.**

5. **PUBLIC COMMENTS – AGENDA ITEMS.**

“My name is ~~John~~ *(scrivener's error)* Don Craig. I live at 1011 Cedar Drive North. I would like to address this council on the issue of a pending lawsuit concerning the pier restaurant. I feel like that we have, as a council, and as a town, a golden opportunity to help correct all the mistakes and bad decisions made concerning the pier restaurant. As the old saying goes, you can kill two birds with one stone. This council has within its power to honor the lease that was signed and two things happen immediately. The lawsuit is dropped, and we have a tenant in the restaurant to not only pay a lease, but to pay for the needed upgrades to this facility as has been discussed in the last few meetings. The best use of this building for financial gain and the goodwill for the town of Surfside is to lease and use this space as a restaurant. I think we may have forgotten what a money making operation this can be. Sitting empty this is costing the tax payers money every day and it's only going to cost us more as time goes on. I urge and plead with each and every member of this council to reconsider honoring this lease. Please put aside any personal agenda or feelings that you have and do what is best for the Town of Surfside Beach. Legal counsel that we paid for advised this council that we may be sued by not honoring this lease. The warning was ignored and now we are in even a bigger mess. We will lose this lawsuit, because as I understand it, we really don't have a leg to stand on, and as in most lawsuits, the only person that winners [sic] are the lawyers. Mr. Samples admitted at the last council meeting that a lot of mistakes had been made, and now we need to move on. I agree, but let's don't move on by wasting more tax payers money and burdening this council and this town with legal problems and restaurant business problems that we're not qualified to handle. This could and very possibly will cost the tax payers of this town hundreds of thousands of dollars. Please don't let this happen. Thank you.” Mr. Samples appreciated Mr. Craig's comments and said that no lease ever existed, so the premise upon which his comments were made was faulty.

“John Ard, Cypress Drive, Surfside. I understand what the gentleman was just talking about on the lease on the pier and everything and the law suit that's pending and everything. My understanding is that there never was a lease signed on it, unless there was a lease signed and we don't know about it, which could very easily happen with everything else that's been going on in this town, and the people that's been taking care of it. So if it has, we need to know now, not later on. There's been too many things that we've found out later on, too many things that y'all have helped try to shove under the rug, sweep aside, none of the citizens knew about it, and now, here it is, they come up here with this law suit. They don't have no [sic] foundations for a law suit for a lease was never signed. And secondly, when y'all hired this real estate guy, he was give [sic] \$7,000 up front. Something I've never heard tell of. A real estate agent don't [sic] get up front money, and I'd like to know how that took place and where that money went to. Whose pocket did it go in to? Every bit of that is costing the citizens of this town. So, what I say is, and this being a bunch of money being thrown [sic] around right now at a bunch of places by a bunch of people, some of that money could be used right here in Surfside, as well as other places. Why can't it be done? I mean, sure, some of you; you know we've got an election coming up. Some of you know you ain't gone [sic] be here, and the way I look at it, some of you just don't care no more at all. You haven't cared for four years; why start now? Thank you.”

“Glenn Curtis, 257 Palladium Drive. I just want to make sure I'm with the agenda and all, but as you walk down Surfside Drive where the new library is, where it's all taken up, their driveway coming out is so tilted, it's outrageous compared to the sidewalk. You've got a very bad tripping hazard there and I'd hate to see us get a law suit and wind up, you know, going down the drain of something that could be

70 fixed right away there. Their driveway is way off kilter by about eight, ten inches on one side, and then  
71 low on the other, and it's bad there. Thank you.”

72  
73 **6. COMMUNICATIONS.**

74  
75 a. Employee Appreciation

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77 i. Tanika Parson – 10 Years of Service, Police Department. Mayor Deaton thanked Ms. Parson  
78 for her ten years of service to the town and its citizens then presented her with a service plaque,  
79 anniversary pin, and award check. She received a standing ovation.

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81 ii. Chris King – 5 years of Service, Police Department. Mayor Deaton recalled when Corporal  
82 King was a young man and begged to be allowed to ride along with the officers. He presented him with a  
83 service plaque, anniversary pin, and award check. He received a standing ovation.

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85 b. Department Reports

86  
87 i. Building. Mr. Duckett presented the building report, a copy of which is on file in the clerk's  
88 office, and is made a part hereof by reference as if fully set forth herein. He said that 122 permits were  
89 issued in June; 139 inspections were performed; code enforcement included signs in rights-of-way,  
90 abandoned vehicles, signs and banners without permits. The Zoning Board of Appeals met in June to  
91 hear two requests: variance for wall signage, which was granted; quadruplex that lost legal non-  
92 conforming status, which the Board denied. The Planning Commission is in the final stages of completing  
93 the Land Development Regulations changes; copies will be forth coming for council's review and  
94 comments. The Planning Commission is also reviewing proposed changes to the wall sign section of the  
95 code to enable more effective business promotion. Director Donevant attended Special Inspector training  
96 in June, which helps maintain certification. Mr. Smith asked where the wall sign was located. Ms.  
97 Donevant said Family Dollar. Mr. Samples asked if council should expect to receive recommendations  
98 about the sign ordinance from the Planning Commission. Ms. Donevant said yes.

99  
100 ii. Police. Mr. Duckett presented the police report, a copy of which is on file in the clerk's office,  
101 and is made a part hereof by reference as if fully set forth herein. He noted that the recent Census  
102 indicates that the town trended towards a tourist center/service industry area versus a small bedroom  
103 community. Every single-family home occupied by three-to-five persons that converts to a rental home  
104 occupied 20-to-35 weeks a year by larger groups of transient visitors represents a higher demand for  
105 services. Lieutenant Keziah recertified as a Law Enforcement Driving Instructor by teaching at the SC  
106 Criminal Justice Academy in June. The town's newest sworn officer, Officer Byrd, completed his basic  
107 law enforcement training and is now completing field training and evaluation program wherein he works  
108 along with certified field training officers for eight weeks. Corporal King and Officer Amundsen completed  
109 a one-day Motorcycle Enforcement and Investigation class, and brought several important tips and  
110 resources to use during the next bike rally. A one-day supervisor training was held on June 28<sup>th</sup> that was  
111 attended by all police supervisors. Mr. Duckett attended the supervisor training briefly and thought it was  
112 well done. Mr. Samples said based on his living here for almost 20-years, in regard to the Census that  
113 most of the coast is under counted, and he would be very surprised if the count were accurate. He  
114 believed the demand for services during the off season reflected a stable permanent population. Tourism  
115 is critical to the town as a key industry, but the town's permanent residents and their guests pay the  
116 preponderance of the town employees' salaries, and that is who the town works for. He was very  
117 reluctant to think the town is becoming a tourist mecca. Mr. Duckett said that only a few arrests were  
118 made during the Independence Day celebration, despite the extremely large crowd. The bulk of the event  
119 traffic was evacuated in about 30-minutes. The US Marshal Service appointed Sergeant Bailey to its  
120 Operation Intercept Fugitive Task Force on May 25<sup>th</sup>. The Federal Commission provides Sergeant Bailey  
121 with jurisdictional ability to investigate, locate, and arrest wanted persons nationwide, although he will  
122 obviously be working primarily in Horry and Georgetown counties. He will assist Federal agents as  
123 needed; the primary benefit to Surfside Beach is that the agreement with the US Marshall Service allows  
124 the Marshall Service to adopt all of the town's outstanding local warrants.

125  
126 iii. Fire. Mr. Duckett presented the fire report, a copy of which is on file in the clerk's office, and  
127 is made a part hereof by reference as if fully set forth herein. He said there were 62 calls which included  
128 six fire; 48 rescue and emergency medical service, and three service related. Twelve inspections were  
129 completed; 15 are pending, and 25 pre-plans. There were five public education opportunities. The  
130 annual hose testing was completed.

131  
132 iv. Finance. Mr. Duckett presented the finance report, a copy of which is on file in the clerk's  
133 office, and is made a part hereof by reference as if fully set forth herein. He reported that real estate,  
134 personal property, and vehicle tax collections from Horry County for May were about \$29,600, which is  
135 about 10-percent higher than last year. Year-to-date collections are down about 2-percent from last year.  
136 The decrease was expected due to the rollback millage and assessment protests received during a  
137 reassessment year. Hospitality and local accommodations taxes collected in May were \$39,900 and

138 \$6,000, respectively. The current month total is slightly lower than last year, mainly due to the closing of  
139 an in-town hotel. Year-to-date total as adjusted for accruals is up 7-percent. The town earned a  
140 combined average of approximately .50-percent on its cash investments during May. The effective  
141 Federal Reserve rate is about .10-percent. Business licenses and permits fees year-to-date are up about  
142 \$4,000. During May, 66 new accounts were established. On April 6<sup>th</sup>, 2,916 business license renewal  
143 applications were mailed. As of July 11<sup>th</sup>, 2,787 applications were received, i.e. about 96-percent. Staff is  
144 making fifth and sixth attempts to contact unresponsive businesses, and he expects that citations will be  
145 issued beginning tomorrow. During May, the Sanitation Fund collected about \$109,000 compared to  
146 about \$112,000 during the same time last year. Year-to-date revenue is up about 1-percent from last  
147 year, totaling \$992,700. The Pier fund collected \$26,600 revenue from all sources compared to \$35,200  
148 in May 2010. Year-to-date Fiscal Year 2010-2011 revenue is \$264,600, which is about 7-percent less  
149 than last year's \$284,100. Staff is now preparing for the annual audit. Mr. Smith asked if he knew the  
150 General Fund balance for the fiscal year end. Mr. Duckett said the balance had not yet been adjusted.  
151 Mr. Samples asked if business license fees were increased, and commented that business license  
152 revenue exceeded last year. Mr. Duckett said fees were not raised, and revenue had increased about  
153 \$4,000. Mr. Samples said business license fees are based on projected revenue, and that indicated to  
154 him that revenue was up slightly.

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156 v. Recreation. Mr. Duckett presented the recreation report, a copy of which is on file in the  
157 clerk's office, and is made a part hereof by reference as if fully set forth herein. Mr. Duckett said the All  
158 Star tournament had begun. Teams are playing in various locales. Adult softball registration resulted in  
159 nine summer league teams; games will be played at Huckabee Complex, Monday through Friday on Field  
160 #1. T-Ball, Coach Pitch, and Machine Pitch season has ended. The Sunday Serenades are held every  
161 Sunday from 3:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. at the Passive Park. The ribbon cutting ceremony for the  
162 StreetScape Project was held June 11<sup>th</sup>; it was well attended. Partners In Prosperity plaques were given  
163 to business owners. The Independence Day celebration was held from 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. The crowd  
164 was estimated at about 50,000. Provision services (food, port-a-johns) and give-away items will need to  
165 be reevaluated before next year's event. There was an American Red Cross Blood Drive on July 6<sup>th</sup>.  
166 LifeLine Screening is scheduled for July 13<sup>th</sup>. Mr. Samples said during the past few months, movies at  
167 the park and at the beach were discussed. He believed staff would bring a recommendation, and asked if  
168 there was any progress. Mr. Duckett said based on the last presentation, his impression was that council  
169 did not seem interested. He believed staff needs more direction as to what council desires for the  
170 program. Mr. Samples said the former presentation was for movies to be shown on the beach. In the  
171 past movies were shown at Martin Park, which he believed were popular. He personally believed this  
172 council should pursue movies in the park, because it provides entertainment for resident and tourist  
173 families, if marketed properly. Mr. Duckett encouraged council and the public to contact Ms. Ellis with  
174 suggestions. Mayor Deaton suggested the topic could be placed on a future agenda. Mr. Samples  
175 directed the clerk to add this topic to the next agenda. Ms. Dodge said the Independence Day fireworks  
176 were beyond exceptional, and thanked staff. Mr. Johnson believed the movie presentation was for  
177 information only, with options council might consider. Mayor Deaton said that was correct; the topic will  
178 be on the next agenda. Ms. Blair reiterated comments made on both events and said that the ribbon  
179 cutting ceremony was very nicely planned, and the turn-out for the Independence Day celebration grows  
180 yearly. She encouraged council to address the display of exotic animals during public events. She was  
181 concerned about a gentleman with a huge snake wrapped around his shoulders that was offering to take  
182 photographs for a fee; which she believed violated the peddler ordinance. In spite of that, she believed  
183 the animal was a safety hazard in the crowded conditions. Mr. Duckett said the police have already  
184 contacted a number of unwanted peddlers, warning them and given directions to outside of the town  
185 limits; tickets were issued when they subsequently returned. Some tickets have been adjudicated.

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187 vi. Public Works. Mr. Duckett presented the public works report, a copy of which is on file in the  
188 clerk's office, and is made a part hereof by reference as if fully set forth herein. Since its inception on  
189 May 7<sup>th</sup>, the Beach Recycling Program has proven to be a huge success. More than 75-percent of the  
190 material collected is now being recycled. On June 3, 4, and 5, the town collected unwanted electronics at  
191 public works. Effective July 1<sup>st</sup>, these items are no longer collected curbside. A list of banned items is  
192 available on the town's website. Periodic drop-off events are being planned. Summer rollout service  
193 continues until September 11<sup>th</sup>. During May, about 431 tons of solid waste, 37.5 tons of mixed debris,  
194 141 tons yard debris, and 40.75 tons of recyclables were collected. Crews assisted with the Memorial  
195 Day service, the Kid's Fair on June 6<sup>th</sup>, and clean-up after the Independence Day celebration. Mr.  
196 Duckett said he was very impressed with the grounds crew that cleaned up after the July 4<sup>th</sup> event.  
197 Beach raking and grooming is being performed three times weekly. Beach trash and recycle cans are  
198 emptied three times weekly and on the weekends. Wash outlets are dug out as needed to insure proper  
199 water flow. Weekly mosquito spraying continues town-wide; the drought has reduced the mosquito  
200 population somewhat. Residents may still purchase dirt from public works. The athletic fields at  
201 Huckabee Complex and Martin Park continue to be groomed and maintained for sporting activities.  
202 Crews are completing repairs and maintenance on all town property, including mowing and weed-eating.  
203 Spraying town lakes has resumed, and debris is removed from lakes as time permits. Mechanics  
204 completed 93 repairs on town vehicles and equipment between May 19 and June 22. One large truck  
205 was sent to Charleston for computer replacement, but had to be returned for additional work. Meanwhile,

206 crews are using older model vehicles that are less efficient. Mr. Duckett said he had not had a single  
207 sanitation complaint during his 8-month tenure. Ms. Blair said the dry weather has affected numerous  
208 species of mosquitoes. There are species that lay eggs on the dry bank, and then hatch when water  
209 rises. When rain does arrive, there will be a huge hatch-off of mosquitoes. She encouraged staff and  
210 residents to be prepared and check for possible breeding spots. Ms. Dodge commended Mr. Adair  
211 saying that he responded quickly and effectively to two complaints about lakes. She believes the town  
212 has some of the best services of any town.  
213

214 c. Administrator's Report – Update on Current Events. Mr. Duckett said Choa and Associates  
215 met with staff. The pier was visually inspected and tests were performed to complete its initial report,  
216 which might be ready by the August 9<sup>th</sup> meeting. His understanding is that the report will be "quite  
217 comprehensive" when it is ready, and the town's engineer and Mr. Choa will be present at the meeting to  
218 make recommendations to council. Mr. Smith asked if any full-time positions were currently vacant. Mr.  
219 Duckett said no; a police officer is absent for extended medical leave, but the position is technically held  
220 even though the officer is not currently performing those duties.  
221

222 d. Town Attorney's Report on Recently Filed Lawsuit. Mr. Moss said he was hesitant to disclose  
223 too much, but commented generally regarding the pending lawsuit filed by Mr. Sifonios that to his  
224 knowledge, there was no lease with Mr. Sifonios by the town. There was a version of a lease signed by  
225 Mr. Sifonios, but it was a version that showed Ms. Fellner was the interim administrator. Mr. Duckett was  
226 the administrator at the time that council took action, so clearly the lease was older than the action that  
227 council took. It was not solicited by anybody from the town that he was aware of; it was signed and  
228 forwarded as if it were an action that Mr. Sifonios was supposed to take. Mr. Moss reiterated that unless  
229 there is a document that he has not seen, he not aware of any lease that was signed by the town. Mayor  
230 Deaton said that the suit was printed in the *Sun News* and is a matter of public record. He asked Mr.  
231 Moss to give a brief summary of the suit demands. Mr. Moss said the suit outlines four basic causes of  
232 action. It is filed as a non-jury case, which means that if the law suit takes a normal course throughout  
233 litigation and is heard by a judge to a final decision, it will take between 12- to 18-months to go to trial  
234 based on current events in the county court system. There are several motions and/or other events that  
235 might shorten that time frame. Mr. Sifonios styled the suit with himself, individually, as a plaintiff, and also  
236 purportedly as an agent for Mr. Rempher, and Mr. Sedlack. He found that curious, because he did not  
237 recall any negotiations ever occurred with either of those gentlemen, nor that either of them ever had any  
238 representation that Mr. Sifonios was acting on their behalf. The suit asks for a declaratory judgment  
239 seeking an Order of the Court for the valid lease agreement existing between the town and the plaintiff.  
240 Mayor Deaton asked for an explanation in layman's terms. Mr. Moss said basically, the suit states that  
241 council approved the lease with two contingencies. Mr. Sifonios believes he has satisfied those  
242 contingencies, and therefore, the town approved the lease. He alleges in the suit that when the  
243 contingencies were satisfied, there was a valid and binding lease agreement. Mr. Samples was very  
244 satisfied with the explanation Mr. Moss had given to this point. He asked if by continuing the discussion  
245 whether comments might inadvertently be made that would damage the town's defense. Mayor Deaton  
246 said the intent is to only hear a briefing on the law suit demands. Mr. Moss shared Mr. Samples' concern,  
247 and continued saying the second cause of action seeks a temporary and mandatory injunction, which  
248 basically means they have asked that both pending the trial and after the trial that the court force the town  
249 to accept that lease agreement. The third cause of action is for specific performance, which is similar;  
250 they are asking the court to require the town to honor a contract that they asserted that the town entered  
251 into. The last is a breach of contract cause of action. The plaintiff actually seeks damages for the loss of  
252 business revenue, which is a very speculative thing to assert. Generally the breach of contract cause of  
253 action is disposed of by the courts, because it is so speculative. Who is to say that if they opened, they  
254 would have made a profit? Mr. Moss said there have been no overtures or insinuations made to him that  
255 any settlement would even be considered. In response to one of the public comments made earlier at  
256 this meeting, if simply honoring the lease would resolve the law suit, he did not know if that would be  
257 wise, nor had anyone made the suggestion to him at all. He noted that mention was made that the press  
258 had published this suit and made comments about it. He believed that the press had taken great liberty  
259 with comments that he made to council in past meetings. He did recommend to council that it enter  
260 executive session twice in a meeting, simply because he had concerns about the way a motion was  
261 characterized, but in no way did he ever warn council that it shouldn't act in a manner it deemed  
262 appropriate. Council is charged with making business decisions; that is not the town attorney's role. Mr.  
263 Moss believed that there was unfair publicity in regards to this law suit and to comments he made to  
264 council. He said it is true that the town can be sued, but it is not "a very high hurdle" to get sued in  
265 today's society. Mr. Moss welcomed questions, but said he might not be able to respond. Mayor Deaton  
266 said the purpose was to hear a briefing on the law suit; council was not seeking remedies or legal advice  
267 during this meeting. Mr. Childs asked if the town's insurance would cover legal expenses. Mr. Moss said  
268 the suit was sent to the Municipal Association of South Carolina (MASC) when it was first received.  
269 MASC declared that the causes of action are not a covered risk under the policy. The insurance carrier  
270 declined coverage as it does not insure against breach of contract or injunctive relief actions, which he  
271 believed was proper. Mr. Samples asked if Mr. Moss had specific recommendations for council that  
272 should properly be discussed in executive session. Mr. Moss said he did and that would be appropriate  
273 when there is proper notice. Mr. Samples would like to hear recommendations on how to handle the

274 injunctive relief sought, and whether there is any action the town should initiate. Mayor Deaton said  
275 council would meet in executive session at a future meeting as a response must be given to the law suit.  
276 Mr. Moss said the acceptance of service for the suit was signed on July 7<sup>th</sup>; there is 30-days from July 7<sup>th</sup>  
277 to respond. Responsive pleadings should be filed by August 5<sup>th</sup>; but other motions might extend that  
278 time. Mr. Samples questioned whether the suit should be responded to quickly inasmuch as the town  
279 owns the pier there are other projects, including improvements, that need to be done, and wondered how  
280 those plans might be affected. Mayor Deaton said further comment or debate should be deferred.

281  
282 7. **BUSINESS.** There was no business to come before this meeting.

283  
284 8. **DISCUSSION.** There was no discussion to come before this meeting.

285  
286 9. **PUBLIC COMMENTS.**

287  
288 "Good evening, Councilmembers. My name is Carol Rosselli, and I am the owner of Palm Plaza  
289 located at 520 Highway 17. I'd like to comment regarding the ordinance for the signage. I was here in  
290 support of Family Dollar when they were applying for their variance. I am asking that they reconsider this  
291 ordinance that they've passed that has only 10-feet of square footage per signage and go back to the way  
292 it used to be. If you go by my building, you will see that the units are still vacant. For quite some time  
293 now, I have had a recent influx of people looking, and the fact is I've had two people tell me no thank you  
294 after coming to the town and doing their homework and finding out about signage. So, I am requesting  
295 that they reconsider this. If you go by and look at my building, you'll see that the renters that originally  
296 came on with us, how beautiful their channel lettering signs are and I do require my new tenants when it  
297 becomes affordable for them to have similar signs inside, and it fills the spot beautifully and to put 10-  
298 square feet which is like this big (motioned with arms) on that space that was built for a sign that was  
299 bigger, it just really looks bad." Mayor Deaton asked Ms. Rosselli to meet with the administrator and  
300 building department to discuss this further.

301  
302 "Harry Kohlman, 1610 South Ocean Boulevard. I'm amazed. About three or four months ago, I  
303 brought up about the movies; I would do the movies, and they came back, you can't do the movies  
304 because you need a license. Fine, okay. Staff gave a beautiful presentation and they were directed, they  
305 were directed to give a formal recommendation. I don't know if you guys read the minutes. I do. I don't  
306 know if staff reads the minutes. I don't know if staff takes notes. I don't know if the administrator takes  
307 notes. But, this is two meetings in a row that staff was directed to do something and they didn't do it. I  
308 was with the police department. I was a high ranking, upper level commanding officer. If someone didn't  
309 do something, they better have a good reason why they didn't do it. You all are in charge of these  
310 people, and you just (\*\*\*) two or three weeks ago. Who cares? It's over. I am, I am amazed. This is why  
311 things in this town don't get done. There's no accountability. You raise an issue, you guys raise issues,  
312 two or three weeks later, it's gone. Go on to something else. Wake up, people. I mean, it's not that  
313 important about movies. It's not that important about someone didn't check what's going on the pier, but  
314 you tell people to do something...the Mayor said it, Mr. Samples said it. You can read it in the minutes.  
315 The person was directed. The administrator was sitting there. I guess he doesn't take notes either.  
316 Thank you."

317  
318 10. **COUNCIL COMMENTS.**

319  
320 Ms. Blair thanked everyone for attending and reiterated that the recent Memorial Day event that  
321 included the golf cart parade and the StreetScape ribbon cutting celebrations were great. She thanked  
322 Ms. Fellner and Ms. Ellis for their work and partnering with the downtown businesses. She said Chief  
323 Packard and the Fire Department partners with Jason's House at the Surfside Methodist Church and  
324 thanked them for their efforts. She also volunteers at Jason's House and explained that this is a worthy  
325 charity and welcomed anyone to volunteer to welcome the families arriving for their vacations that make  
326 these children so happy.

327  
328 Mr. Johnson thanked everyone for attending and welcomed Ms. Herrmann as the town clerk.

329  
330 Ms. Dodge said during the last meeting she mentioned several things citizens could do  
331 individually and as groups to help the town. She encouraged citizens to participate, even if the town  
332 failed to recognize their efforts. She commended Beth and Harry Kohlman who personally planted  
333 flowers around some walk-over areas and entrance signs. She believes every citizen can work to  
334 beautify the town, whether at their personal homes or in public areas. Kathy Andreas picks litter up on  
335 the beach. Buzz Englehart picks litter up all over town as he walks. She believed the old signs should be  
336 replaced and asked if the South Carolina Department of Transportation would allow the signs to be  
337 placed in the center median, which would make them more visible. She said business owners could  
338 improve store fronts in various ways that would beautify their stores and the town. A contest might be  
339 organized to judge those improvements. She hoped these suggestions would give some ideas to keep  
340 the town fresh and more distinctive. Ms. Dodge suggested that the Beautification Committee and  
341 Recreation Committee be reinstated, as both committees were very effective. She believes citizen

342 involvement is imperative and makes a big difference. Ms. Dodge said fireworks being shot on the  
343 beach, except for July 4<sup>th</sup>, are illegal. However, fireworks are being shot and some of the debris is falling  
344 on roofs. She asked if the police department could be more vigilant and asked Chief Frederick to review  
345 this problem and offer possible solutions. She also said residents and tourists commonly speed on  
346 Hollywood Drive, Melody Lane, and other town streets, and welcomed suggestions to manage speeding.

347  
348 Mr. Smith also thanked the Fire Department for its participation in Jason's House, and dittoed Ms.  
349 Blair's comments, adding that he also volunteers in Jason's House. A child that he escorted really  
350 appreciated the Fire Department, as that was his main theme when they talked with him. Mr. Smith took  
351 issue that the Census was under counted. He personally worked the 2000 Census and also during 2010,  
352 until he decided to run for town council. Census workers make a diligent effort to count everybody. It is  
353 very difficult to count someone that doesn't respond, so after the third or fourth call, you have to assume  
354 that the person doesn't exist. He thinks that even though the count was lower, it is probably very  
355 accurate, as accurate as you can get.

356  
357 Mr. Samples said he and Mr. Smith would have to disagree about the Census. He still maintains  
358 that the coast is under counted. He thanked Chief Frederick for deploying decoy cars and making sure  
359 the radar signs are out. In his opinion, those practices are vital needs, because they are visible  
360 reminders of speed. He asked Ms. Dodge and Mr. Johnson if they could meet for a five-minute  
361 transportation committee meeting immediately following the council meeting. They both responded yes.

362  
363 Mr. Childs commended Mr. Adair for the decking on Dogwood; the addition of the roses and trees  
364 made it very attractive. He thanked Chief Frederick for the impressive beach patrol coverage; the officers  
365 seem to be everywhere. Mr. Adair and Ms. Ellis were thanked for the great job on the Independence Day  
366 firework presentation. He knew there was a lot of clean-up and coordinating to get that job done.

367  
368 Mayor Deaton thanked everyone for attending. He suggested that everyone take some time to  
369 look around the town. Surfside Beach is in great shape; it is a great town with great services.

370  
371 11. **ADJOURNMENT.** Mr. Smith moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:34 p.m. Mr. Childs  
372 seconded. **All voted in favor. MOTION CARRIED.**

373  
374 Respectfully submitted,

375  
376 \_\_\_\_\_  
377 Debra E. Herrmann, CMC, Town Clerk

378  
379 Approved: July 26, 2011

380  
381 \_\_\_\_\_  
382 K. Allen Deaton, Mayor

383  
384 \_\_\_\_\_  
385 Vicki W. Blair, Town Council

386 \_\_\_\_\_  
387 Robert F. Childs, III, Mayor Pro Tempore

388 \_\_\_\_\_  
389 Ann Dodge, Town Council

390 \_\_\_\_\_  
391 Mark Johnson, Town Council

392 \_\_\_\_\_  
393 Douglas F. Samples, Town Council

394 \_\_\_\_\_  
395 Roderick E. Smith, Town Council

396  
397 Clerk's Note: This document constitutes minutes of the meeting, which was audio taped. This meeting was transcribed by Town Clerk Herrmann. In accordance with FOIA, meeting notice and the agenda were distributed to local media and interested parties. A complete list is on file in the clerk's office. The agenda was posted on bulletin boards outside Council Chambers and in the Town Hall reception area. Meeting notice was also posted on the Town marquee. When (\*\*\*) is used a section of the transcription is inaudible.

**Approved 07/26/2011**