TOWN COUNCIL SPECIAL MEETING COUNCIL CHAMBERS TUESDAY, JUNE 4, 2013 • 6:30 P.M.

AGENDA

- 1. CALL TO ORDER Mayor Douglas F. Samples
- 2. PUBLIC COMMENTS AGENDA ITEMS
- 3. BUSINESS
 - A. Resolution #13-135 to Transfer Funds
 - B. Resolution #13-136 to Repeal Resolution #11-108 Defer Principal Repayment from Pier Enterprise Fund and To Direct Payments be made
 - C. Second Reading Ordinance #13-0747 FY2012-13 Mid-Year Budget Amendments
 - D. FY2013-2014 Municipal Budget
 - E. Encroachment Permit Stipulations & Fee Authorization, Administrator Fellner (May be deferred until after Executive Session.)

4. EXECUTIVE SESION

Pursuant to FOIA §30-4-70(a)(2) to discuss proposed contractual arrangements (Item 3.E.)

5. ADJOURNMENT

SURFSIDE BEACH TOWN COUNCIL SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES JUNE 4, 2013 • 6:30 P.M. TOWN COUNCIL CHAMBERS

1. CALL TO ORDER.

Mayor Samples called the special meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. Mayor Samples, Mayor Pro Tempore Mabry, and Councilmembers Dodge, Kohlmann, Johnson, Smith and Stevens were in attendance. A quorum was present. Others present: Administrator Fellner, Finance Director King, Fire Chief Cimini, Police Chief Keziah, Public Works Director Adair, Recreation Supervisor Ellis, and Town Clerk Herrmann.

2. PUBLIC COMMENTS - AGENDA ITEMS

"Tom Dodge, 1415 North Poplar Drive. Ah, about the budget, if, if I recall correctly, the last December when the audit was presented to us, the man giving the audit said the town was in good shape. One year later, the town is in bad shape. Ah, must be the mayor. I think as far as the budget goes, we should have a hiring freeze. I think there should be a 5-percent across the board cut from the 2012-2013 budget, and anybody that thinks about raising taxes should have their head examined. We need to stop spending. So, there's my two cents tonight. Thank you."

"Sandra Elliott, 5th Avenue North. Good evening everybody. I guess I need my head examined, because we're in a financial mess, and we're not gonna get out of it by nickeling and dimeing our budget. You look at it; take the \$30 away so they can buy a turkey. What's that, \$2,100? And, you keep picking and picking at the bones. We are in it together. If we go under, our bond rating goes down. Our home values go down and I don't want to lose value on my house, because of the financial mess that was created by a former employee. We now have a financial director who's trying to help us, and we don't want to listen. Thank you."

"Ron Ott, 7th Avenue North. Not use to seeing the parenthesis up there on the top. It's gonna be a million dollars in the hole. You know, most of the people, (**) I'm gonna say most of the people that vote in this are on locked in pensions. A lot of 'em. They're not gonna like it, you know, to have to take any other money out of their pocket that comes away from other things. We have the electric bills that's gonna go up higher; everything's going up higher. We don't need taxes going up higher, too. I don't, you know, I just seen [sic] on television we're gonna spend \$20,000 for some cameras. Do we really need 'em? When we're looking like this, maybe we should be astute here in this what [sic] we're spending our money on. Thank you."

"Good evening. My name is Ray Kawa. I live on 3rd Avenue North. I got two things I want to talk to you about. Ah, the first one, [Item 3] A, I'm not sure if it's in this transfer of funds, but I was recovering from surgery and I read in the paper where a town administrator had suggested taking the stormwater funds and transferring them to the, the general funds to help the town. That's all real fine and dandy, but I want to remind you that I live in an area that floods bad when it's high tide and it rains hard. We had an engineering study done, was it last year or the year before that? Last year, this council promised me that this would be delayed to this year and do the 16th Avenue, I guess, and 3rd Avenue. I didn't see this in the budget plan at all for this year, and now you're talking about taking that money, and ah, putting it in general funds. I have a real problem with that. My house right now is settling real bad, because the ground is too moist and it's cracking on the back side of my house. The insurance company won't fix that, because it's a town problem. It's a drainage problem, and I've asked you people before, and I really want you to consider hard before you transfer that money until you fix the problems in the town. I can't afford to keep watching my house, you know, wash away and crack up. Thank you."

Page 1 of 17

Mayor Samples told Mr. Kawa thank you and that he believed the plan would become clear as the meeting progresses. The money that was set aside was not being transferred.

Mr. Kawa: "Thank you."

59 60

Mayor Samples asked the administrator for clarification, if the capital projects money was still in the budget for stormwater work on 3rd Avenue and 16th.

61 62 63

Ms. Fellner said yes, sir.

64 65

66

67

68

Mayor Samples said first and foremost, what he wanted to say is he knew that everyone sitting on the dais and that staff had worked diligently, seriously, deliberately in prioritizing the spending in this town. It was mentioned that even electricity goes up. The town pays electric bills, also. So the reality is that costs that increase across the board also affect your town government. Anyway, having said that, if there are no other public comments, we will move forward.

69 70 71

3. BUSINESS.

72 73 74

A. Resolution #13-135 to Transfer Funds.

Ms. King presented the resolution explaining that it was prepared pursuant to Town Council's direction at previous meetings. Under the Town Code of Ordinances, hospitality funds are allowed to pay for beach accesses. The work being done on the pier, which will now allow access to the beach, qualifies as a hospitality expenditure; hospitality funds will pay for the work at the pier. The pier enterprise fund needs to pay general fund for the last two annual deferred loan payments. Sanitation has a rent increase for the building it rents from the town in the amount of \$45,375 more than was budgeted for the 2012-2013 fiscal year.

80

Mr. Smith asked if all the transfers were for the current fiscal year's budget. Ms. King said yes, they were.

85 86 87

88

89

90

91

92

Mayor Samples said this was discussed in great detail in the finance committee meeting. To refresh everybody's memory, the finance committee members are Councilman Stevens, Mayor Pro Tem Mabry, and him. He explained for those who may be recent residents of the town, when the town purchased the pier there was a loan made by the general fund to the pier enterprise fund. During the first couple of years the pier abided by the resolution, which would be discussed during the meeting. But there were hard times and the pier was not generating sufficient funds to pay its payments to the general fund. Now, it is in a position to do so with the legal transfer of hospitality monies to the pier enterprise funds, since the pier was the benefitting object.

98

99

100

Mr. Smith asked with the transfer from pier fund to general fund if that brought the loan up to where it should be in payments. Ms. King said that would just be for the two deferred years payments. Another payment is already in this year's budget. Mr. Smith said this was just the two deferred payments. Ms. King said correct. Mr. Smith asked if the payment due this year was made. Ms. King said not yet. Mr. Smith said it was still behind one payment. Ms. King said that payment should be made by the end of the month. Mr. Smith said end of the month, okay, and then we'll be current. Ms. King said that was the plan. Mr. Smith okay.

105

106

107

108

Mr. Stevens (**) the way I understood this, and when we talked about it at finance committee, was the hospitality and the pier are both tourist related. That is the reason we can transfer from hospitality to the pier. The pier owes the general funds two payments. So the pier, now that it has that money transferred, is paying to the general fund and then as Ms. King just stated, it will be paying another payment this month, right. Ms. King said correct. Mr. Stevens said so, these two payments that will pay the past payments and that the payments will be current as of the end of this month. Ms. King said correct. Mr. Stevens said okay.

Mr. Smith moved to adopt Resolution #13-135 to Transfer Funds. Ms. Mabry seconded. All voted in favor. **MOTION CARRIED.**

B. Resolution #13-136 to Repeal Resolution #11-108 Defer Principal Repayment from Pier Enterprise Fund and to Direct Payments be made.

Mayor Samples introduced the resolution explaining that it was to repeal Resolution Number 11-108 which was the resolution to allow deferral of the pier enterprise fund repayments to the general fund.

- Ms. King presented the resolution.
- Mr. Johnson moved to approve Resolution Number 13-136. Ms. Mabry seconded.
- Mr. Smith said page 68 is a payment summary; once the resolution is passed, he asked that the chart get updated showing interest and principal payments. Ms. King said certainly.

All voted in favor. MOTION CARRIED.

C. Second Reading Ordinance #13-0747 FY2012-2013 Mid-Year Budget Amendments.

Mayor Samples said some time ago Town Council adopted first reading of the mid-year budget amendments. It was presented tonight for further discussion.

Ms. King presented the ordinance saying that there have been multiple changes since first reading based on Town Council's direction at various meetings. There is no changed to general fund since first reading. She itemized the differences in the hospitality fund, accommodations fund, pier fund, and sanitation fund that were set out on "Proposed Budget Amendments," a copy of which is in file.

Mr. Smith said the pier fund as amended would be \$166,000, but a transfer was just made \$375,000 into the pier and then it would be transferred \$326,000 out of the pier. Ms. King said it was a loan, which is an expense; it is a pay down of a loan. Mr. Smith asked if it was because it was a loan. Ms. King said yes. Mr. Smith said okay, thank you. Ms. King said it affected cash, but it does not affect the fund revenue and expenses.

Ms. Dodge said asked if the \$780,000 payment had already been made to South Carolina Department of Transportation. Ms. King said yes. Ms. Dodge said that was too bad, because she was thinking that would really be good; thank you.

Mr. Smith asked if the \$18,875 cameras allocated under accommodations was a gift to the town. Ms. King said no and asked if Town Council wanted to hear explanations for all of accommodations. Mr. Smith said he only wanted an explanation on the cameras. Ms. King said an accommodations tax committee meeting is scheduled tomorrow for the committee to consider funding the cameras out of money just received from the state. Ms. Fellner explained that the donation offered was camera equipment that is not compatible with the system, because it has proprietary software designed to work with specific cameras, so the donation could not be worked out. Mr. Smith asked if the town's accommodations tax money would be used. Ms. Fellner said yes, because it was an allowed expenditure. The accommodations tax committee was prepared to fund the cameras at its last meeting, but there were no available funds. Since that meeting, a check was received. Mr. Smith asked if the check would cover the cost. Ms. Fellner said yes, sir. Mr. Smith said thank you.

Ms. King explained that the pier fund operates like a normal business. A loan is not an expense when principal payments are made; only interest payments are expenses. So the loan principal payments are not shown on the report.

165

170 171

172 173

186

180

191

202

196

208

209

210

211

212

217

218

219

Mr. Smith asked where that payment would be shown. Ms. King said only as a reduction of the loan balance and cash would be paid out. Mr. Smith asked which chart showed cash being paid out. Ms. King said the balance sheet; the sheet distributed is the income statement. Mr. Smith said okay.

Mayor Samples said to close the loop and the way the loan value is shown in the general fund is as an asset. Ms. King said yes and a reduction in fund balance, right. On the pier information, it only shows that the loan balance and the cash would go down. Mayor Samples said right.

Ms. King explained that is why there is an adjustment to depreciation, because an enterprise fund assets have to be depreciated over their useful life. When the asset value increases, the depreciation also has to increase. Any improvements made to the pier increases the asset value on the books, but that is only shown by the amount of depreciation, which is an expense.

Mr. Smith asked how many years the pier is depreciated; 20 years? Ms. King believed it was 30 vears.

Ms. King said the sanitation fund was added, because the rent rate was increased by \$45,375.

Mayor Samples said one shortcoming of the manner in which the presentation was made, in his opinion, was the increases were shown on the spending side, but similar information was not shown for the revenue side. He wanted to make everyone knew that the information was only expenses. There is no requirement under state law to show revenue. Ms. King said the statute only requires expenditures to be identified; not revenue receipts.

Mr. Smith asked the administrator if these were all the changes that were discussed previously. Ms. Fellner believed they were all included. Mr. Smith asked if the administrator anticipated any other changes. Ms. Fellner said no; she seriously hoped there would not be any additional changes. Mr. Smith said thank you. (Laughter.)

Mayor Samples said everyone was laughing, because staff has been burning the midnight oil.

Mr. Smith moved to approve second reading of Ordinance Number 13-0747 Fiscal Year 2012-13 Mid-Year Budget Amendments. Ms. Mabry seconded. All voted in favor. MOTION CARRIED.

D. FY2013-2014 Municipal Budget.

Mayor Samples said this is the budget that takes effect July 1st of this year, which was presented to the councilmembers in the packets, and asked for questions and comments. He asked the parliamentarian if it was appropriate to have a first reading at this meeting.

Mr. Smith said he did not think so. He believed the council should wait until next meeting.

Mayor Samples asked when the public hearing would be held. Ms. Fellner said at the second meeting in June. Mayor Samples asked if that was the 25th, and if there was any reason public comments could not be heard in advance. An unknown speaker said the hearing has to be 15 days after the first reading. Mayor Samples reiterated the statement. Ms. Herrmann said the advertisement has to be advertised 15 days prior to the public hearing. The first reading can be held at the June 11th meeting. The advertisement is going in the newspaper for the public hearing to be held at the June 25th meeting prior to second reading. Mayor Samples asked if there was any reason the advertisement could not go out now; numbers were presented. Ms. Herrmann said public comments could be heard at this meeting. but the hearing would still be required.

Mr. Smith agreed that the public announcement for the public hearing in the newspaper quickly. Ms. King said it would be published Friday.

Ms. Kohlmann believed the mayor was asking if council would agree or not agree tonight to allow people that are at the meeting to speak on different items that they had any concerns about. She had no problem at all with the public speaking tonight. She encouraged it.

Ms. Mabry asked if they could go ahead and put the ad in the newspaper without adopting first reading.

Mayor Samples said the budget could be advertised as it was developed. Ms. King said correct. Mayor Samples said making known the public hearing date and time, but he understood there is a 15 day requirement. Ms. King said right, the public hearing can be held 15 days after publication. It will be published Friday; two weeks would be the Friday before the June 25th meeting. The public hearing would be held before second reading. Mayor Samples said maybe next year public comments could be heard all along the way. The earlier comments were made, the better. Once it is time for second reading, it is difficult to get a council to seriously consider a lot of public comments, because it is late and they are under statutory requirement to adopt the budget. Maybe next year it can be scheduled a little differently, but he understood how things were now.

Mr. Smith asked Ms. Fellner if the budget as it was presented included the 5-percent reduction in gasoline. Ms. Fellner said it does not. Mr. Smith moved to direct the administrator to reduce the gasoline across the board by 5-percent. Mr. Stevens seconded. All voted in favor. **MOTION CARRIED.**

Mr. Smith asked if the budget included any millage allocated for stormwater. Ms. Fellner said no. Mr. Smith moved to include 1 mil allocated to stormwater in budget year 2013-2014. Mr. Stevens seconded. All voted in favor. **MOTION CARRIED.**

Mayor Samples asked if other councilmembers had comments, as he believed Mr. Smith had demonstrated the appropriate way to raise budgetary issues.

- Ms. Kohlmann asked if a date should be placed on the 1-percent [sic] stormwater.
- Mr. Smith said it was 1 mil.
- Ms. Kohlmann said she meant 1 mil; does it have date sensitive time, because it was being done.
- Mr. Smith said it was for next year's budget.
- Ms. Kohlmann asked if that was it; one year, and that was to insure that the council does not lose stormwater.
- Mr. Smith said the next council can decide when it goes into the budget process. For this budget 1 mil is dedicated to stormwater.
 - Ms. Kohlmann said okay...
 - Mr. Stevens asked if individual items could be addressed on the budget.
 - Mayor Samples said please; that was Councilman Smith had done.
- Mr. Stevens moved to amend the \$2,500 for the annual budget retreat in town to \$1,000. He believed if the budget retreat was held in town there is no reason or no way that \$2,500 would be spent.
 - Ms. Kohlmann asked for the page number.
 - Mr. Stevens said page 69.
 - Mr. Smith seconded the motion.

Mayor Samples, Mayor Pro Tempore Mabry, and Councilmembers Kohlmann and Stevens voted in favor. Councilmembers Dodge and Johnson voted against. **MOTION CARRIED.**

- Mr. Johnson asked for clarification, the budget as presented states "if in town," so he asked if the amount was just if the budget retreat was in town.
 - Mr. Smith said yes.
 - Mr. Johnson said if it is in town they would only budget \$1,000.
 - Mayor Samples recommended if it was in town that it could be reduced to about \$200.
- Mr. Johnson did not know what the proper procedure was, but he definitely agreed with that amount that Councilmember Stevens requested.

Mayor Samples said a motion could be offered by a member on the prevailing side.

Ms. Kohlmann moved to reconsider the vote. Mr. Stevens seconded. All voted in favor. **MOTION TO RECONSIDER CARRIED.**

Mr. Johnson moved to amend the annual budget retreat if in town from \$2,500 to \$500. Mr. Stevens seconded.

Ms. Kohlmann said she appreciated that this council collectively had decided to hold the budget retreat in town. She thought that was really important thing for the people of town, because when she was not on council, she drove to Pinopolis with Ms. Mabry to attend the budget retreat. It is a long drive, and she did not think it was fair to the citizens to take their budget retreat out of town. So this is another good showing for everybody.

Mayor Samples, Mayor Pro Tempore Mabry, and Councilmembers Johnson, Kohlmann, Smith, and Stevens voted in favor. Councilmember Dodge voted against, saying she thought it should be less. **MOTION CARRIED.**

- Mr. Stevens moved to...
- Mrs. Kohlmann asked Mayor Samples if members could refer to the page numbers when motions are offered.
- Mr. Stevens said page 70, and moved to amend the newsletter to be published every 4 months, which would be published three times a year. That would save \$900 on postage for the newsletter and also \$1,456 for postage [sic] for a total of about \$2,300. Ms. Dodge seconded. Councilmembers Dodge, Kohlmann, Smith and Stevens voted in favor. Mayor Samples, Mayor Pro Tempore Mabry and Councilmember Johnson voted against. **MOTION CARRIED.**
- Mr. Stevens referred to page 71 and said there are two items that he wanted to move on. One is *The Sun News* subscription, \$225. He moved to delete that, because *The Sun News* is on line and any person can go on line and read it at any time, so there is no use for the town to subscribe to *The Sun News*.
- Ms. Kohlmann thought the town had to subscribe and that could not be removed from the budget. Ms. Fellner said that was correct.
 - Mr. Stevens withdrew his motion.

- Mr. Stevens referred to page 71 and moved to reduce payment to the Myrtle Beach Regional Economic Development Board from \$2,120 to \$1,000. He said the Horry County Council just reduced its allocation to the board. He is the town representative to the board. There have only been a couple of meetings and the town basically gets nothing out of it. He thought Horry County Council felt the same way. Mr. Smith seconded.
- Ms. Kohlmann asked since Mr. Stevens attends those meetings, if he would he explain for the public and council what the \$1,000 represents.
- Mr. Stevens said it represents the town's membership on the Myrtle Beach Regional Economic Development Board, which basically works to bring new companies to the area. He moved to cut the amount, because Horry County Council recommended cutting it. He thought they cut its contribution amount either \$400 or \$500 hundred thousand.
- Mr. Johnson asked the town administrator for a comment on the motion. Ms. Fellner said Mr. Stevens was correct in that so far the town has not seen anything come out of its membership. She knows the town likes to engage in strategic alliances with its neighbors. There is nothing that says at a different time when the budget is flush and there are benefits coming from the board that they could change its allocation. She concurred with Councilmember Stevens.
- Ms. Mabry said she was not too sure she wanted to cut it completely, but she preferred to use that money for development of the town. The planning and zoning department has become very aggressive as far as getting businesses into town. She was not sure that she wanted to see funding stopped, but she certainly would like to see it diverted to the town's department where they can develop printed materials they need to promote economic development. Quite frankly, she thought staff was doing a job better than anyone else around. New businesses are brought in every month, and that comes from a lot of hard work from our own staff. So if there's money spent right now, she would rather see it being spent by the town's staff.
 - All voted in favor. MOTION CARRIED.
- Mr. Stevens referred to page 72 and said there is a listing for Coastal Alliance and for Marlowe and Company. Since last May, the town has spent well over \$13 \$14 thousand with Marlowe and Company, which is a lobbying company out of Washington, DC. He receives email messages from them, but he did not see where the town was getting any benefit. He knew that was part of the Coastal Alliance that is budgeted at \$12,000. Mr. Stevens moved to defer payment for one year. Ms. Dodge seconded.
 - Mr. Smith asked the administrator to comment.
- Ms. Fellner asked if Mr. Stevens was looking at the bottom of the page where it states \$12,000, which is for codification of town ordinances.
 - Mr. Stevens said Marlowe and Company was the very first line. (**)
- Ms. Fellner said the town pays \$374 a month that goes towards the contract that the Coastal Alliance has with Marlowe and Associates. But that is the only part of that amount that goes to them. The remainder is all for codification.
 - Mr. Stevens said that whatever part is sent to Marlowe he wanted to defer for one year.
 - Mayor Samples believed there was an existing agreement.
 - Mr. Stevens said it was \$4,488...
- Mayor Samples believed the number was right. Ms. Fellner said there is an existing agreement. Mayor Samples reiterated there is an existing agreement and the only reason that he happed to know

was that this was discussed extensively at the last Coastal Alliance meeting in January. The minutes from that meeting show all the towns in the county and their respective contribution amounts. At this point, he believed the agreement had to be honored until the end of the year.

- Mr. Stevens said he would like to revisit the agreement at that time.
- Ms. Kohlmann said she personally wanted more information before voting on the motion.
- Mr. Stevens asked if the administrator could be directed to give the entire council additional information on this.

Mayor Samples asked what Ms. Fellner would be doing tomorrow at eleven. Ms. Fellner said going to the Coastal Alliance meeting. She had plenty of information and would be happy to share it.

- Mr. Stevens withdrew his motion. Ms. Dodge withdrew the second.
- Mr. Stevens referred to page 73, and said there is an item chairs for council chambers to accommodate all guests. He looked in the audience and saw plenty of empty seats. He moved to delete the \$1,000 for new chairs. Mr. Smith seconded.
- Ms. Herrmann said the item was presented because she had at least three citizens tell her they did not attend meetings, because they cannot fit in the chairs in chambers.
- Mr. Stevens said there are 100 chairs now, and another 100 chairs would be purchased. He asked what was wrong with the existing chairs other than the few people that cannot fit in them.
 - Ms. Herrmann said that was the point, they are not accessible for some of the town's citizens.

Mayor Samples, and Councilmembers Dodge, Kohlmann, Smith and Stevens voted in favor. Mayor Pro Tem Mabry and Councilmember Johnson voted against. **MOTION CARRIED.**

- Mr. Stevens referred to page 73 and said it may have already been addressed, but video recording was shown at a price of \$14,500. If it was not already deleted he wanted to move to delete it.
 - Ms. Kohlmann said that had already been deleted.
- Ms. Fellner said Ms. Kohlmann was correct; it had been deleted, but a new detail sheet was not provided.
- Mr. Stevens referred to page 74, and moved to delete the Dell personal computers for the mayor and the reception use. He said 32 computers are available at the library and are easily accessible by anybody in town at no cost. You only need a library card to use them. He did not see any sense in buying a computer for the mayor, no disrespect to Mayor Samples.
- Ms. Kohlmann asked if the administrator could inform council of the costs, because there are several other items in the description. She asked if there was a computer provided for the mayor in the past.
- Ms. Fellner said when Mayor Deaton went into office the town bought a new laptop with a docking station and printer for him to use.
 - Mr. Stevens asked where that laptop is now.

Mayor Samples said sitting on the mayor's desk. Ms. Fellner said exactly. Mayor Samples said it is about the slowest piece of equipment he had ever seen. Ms. Fellner said it truly is. The RAM has been updated and there is not much else that can be done to improve its performance. Mayor Samples

said he brings his own tools in, including his computer. One of the reasons that he does that is because he is not going to sit for four minutes waiting for a webpage to open. He did not have a problem eliminating the purchase.

Mr. Stevens asked what the amount was for the two items. Ms. Fellner said she would send someone to her office to get the details, and asked if council would allow her to come back to this item once the information is available.

Mr. Stevens said okay.

Mayor Samples said it was possible that the next mayor, whoever he or she may be, will not be as technologically competent.

Ms. Mabry asked if it would be appropriate for her to make a statement.

Mayor Samples said no, it is unnecessary. For the amount of money, it is not worth stirring the pot. It's not a big deal. One of these days somebody will get a better computer than he could, instead of a hand-me-down. He said to be honest; the personal computer is probably what would be more appropriate in that office as opposed to a laptop now that he considered what the requirements were.

Ms. Kohlmann said in order to move it along, this isn't the end of it, allow the administrator to get the information and research it more. She can bring that information up at a future date, right. She asked if everybody agreed to move it along.

Mayor Samples asked if she wanted to hold that point.

Ms. Kohlmann said Mr. Stevens did make a motion, and she would just like to move the meeting along. (**)

Mayor Samples said to move along while Ms. Fellner got the information.

Mr. Stevens had questions and maybe somebody could address them. He thought the administrator might be able to answer them. For example on page 75 the finance department has an HTC long distance allocation. When he averaged the monthly cost it was \$141.67. Page 80 under the police department, long distance HTC secure access lines, which may cost a little bit more, he saw a cost of \$541.67 a month. The fire department has HTC and long distance is \$333.33 a month. Court has HTC at a cost of \$108.33 a month. He was seeing a big variance in HTC phone services in different places. It basically baffled him how one place could cost \$100 and another place cost \$500. The two highest places, he believed, were the fire department and the police department. He did not understand that and asked for an explanation. Ms. Fellner said the police department is much bigger; it is the biggest department and that is why. Mr. Stevens asked how many lines the police department had. Ms. Fellner said the cost was not just for phones.

Mr. Smith asked whether the town received a lump sum bill and then the amounts were allocated to the departments or were individual bills received. Ms. Fellner said for long distance everything was broken out. The cost also includes Internet. In finance there are three personal computers. The police department has four times that number. She said she would not pick apart that particular line item; those are related both to Internet usage, which tie in with the personal computers, and also to telephones. There are a lot more users in the police department. When the new firehouse was built, there were a lot of phones added. The old firehouse had three extensions upstairs and one in the bay. Now, she believed there were ten, and there are two bay phones, and a phone for the elevator, which is required, and two dedicated lines were required. She believed there were very good reasons for the differences by department in those lines and she reiterated that was one item which she would not be comfortable with picking apart.

540

541

533

552

553

Ms. Kohlmann said with the police department she believed the chief would agree that there are all kinds of other systems running on that. Chief Keziah said 9-1-1 lines (**). Ms. Kohlmann said the police department is hooked up with a lot of places that they have to have. Maybe the fire department needs that many also. But she was just wondering, where she worked in New York they did not all have long distance capability. There were dedicated phones for long distance. Usually it was in the supervisor's office and if a staff member needed to make a long distance call, it had to be logged in and it had to be for a reason. So you couldn't call Aunt Bessie in Mexico for three hours. She just wanted to know whether the town had a system in place, and if not, perhaps that should be considered. Ms. Fellner said that control is already in place. Each employee has a code, and the calls are reviewed periodically. at least three or four times a year. She calls it "the big 5," the calls that appear to be anomalies are reviewed; sometimes she even calls a number to see who answers. There has been discipline and even a termination as a result of reviewing phone records. Ms. Kohlmann believed that was worth looking at instead of taking away phones. She thought that said a lot when we have to watch; that is part of management's job to think outside the box and maybe the town needs to be a little bit different on selfinspection and instead of leaving it up to Ms. Fellner to do. Maybe department directors could do selfinspections every month, so that abuse could be identified right away, which could save the town a lot of money. Where she worked before when they even made a phone call to let family members they had to stay at work they had to write a check at the end of the month to pay for the call. Mr. Adair understood what Ms. Kohlmann was saying and agreed with her as he had also worked New York. He was familiar with the repayment process. He said the big difference he found in town is that a lot of the phone calls he and his staff made were out of state phone numbers, because there are so many people that own houses in town that do not have a local area code. Probably the majority of phone calls he makes are to town residents or owners that do not have local numbers.

- Mr. Stevens liked Ms. Kohlmann's comments saying they are the stewards of the taxpayers' dollars and they needed to make sure that each department was spending the taxpayers' dollars wisely. That was why he brought that up.
- Ms. Fellner said she received the information on the personal computers for the mayor and reception area. The personal computer for the mayor's office is a business grade desk top computer. which would include configuration, is \$1,200. It generally takes three hours to reconfigure the computer. The reception computer was also \$1,200, and would require extra configuration time to lock it down so the users could only use it for town business. There are two hard drives budgeted at \$500 each.
- Mr. Stevens asked how much the reception personal computer cost. Ms. Fellner said \$1,200. Mr. Stevens said so it was \$1,200 and \$1,200, okay.
 - Mr. Smith said that was what they were concerned about; just those two numbers.
- Mr. Stevens asked if the hard drive was for the computer, as well. Ms. Fellner said she always tried to budget within the department a couple of hard drives, because one or two is always lost during the year; also the \$35 switches, because they occasionally has to be replaced. Mr. Stevens said that was a \$2,900 amount. Ms. Fellner said no, \$2,400 for the computers. The hard drives were not for the two computers. There were replacements for hard drives that went bad during the year instead of buying new computers. Mr. Stevens said alright.
- Ms. Kohlmann asked if a computer had ever been in the reception area for public use. Ms. Fellner said yes. Ms. Kohlmann said okay.
- Mr. Stevens moved to delete the Dell personal computers for a total of \$2,400. Mr. Smith seconded. Mayor Samples, and Councilmembers Dodge, Johnson, Smith and Stevens voted in favor. Mayor Pro Tem Mabry and Councilmember Kohlmann voted against. MOTION CARRIED.
- Mr. Smith asked Ms. Fellner to explain the Projected Fund Balances after Changes chart that was distributed. Ms. Fellner explained that the chart showed fund balances after changes were made; a copy is on file. (**)

Mayor Samples reiterated that the green column is the current fiscal year, which ends June 30, 2013. The blue column is the projection based on the proposed budget. Ms. Fellner said that was correct; that is what is depicted by the chart and includes all the changes directed by Town Council to date. She pointed out that the sanitation and pier funds look very large at times, but those balances include assets. For the current year and next year, the sanitation fund has assets equaling \$508,211 leaving unrestricted funds at \$649,504. The pier fund has land assets estimated at \$1.508 million and structure asset estimated at \$1,406 million for this year. General fund payments from the pier fund for the for the current fiscal year ending June 30, 2013 in the amount of \$815,000, which nets cash of (\$45,000). Next year, the fiscal year ending June 30, 2014, the pier fund the assets values remain the same, but the general fund payment would be \$652,000, which results in projected cash of (\$34,000).

Mr. Stevens asked if Ms. Fellner was saying there would be a general fund payment to the pier fund of \$652,000. He asked what those payments encompassed. Ms. Fellner said that was how much would be owed. Mr. Stevens said it would owe \$652,000, and asked how much the payment amount was, Ms. Fellner said \$163,000. (**) Mr. Stevens asked per year. Mayor Samples said per year.

Mayor Samples said the certified public accountants audited the town. The first five funds include the general fund, capital projects, hospitality, accommodations tax, and local accommodations tax, which are categorized as governmental funds that fall under particular accounting practices and procedures. The other two funds, the sanitation and pier, are designed to operate as free standing, self-supporting businesses. The reason the assets are so high is sanitation, obviously, has very expensive equipment. Its trucks cost \$250 thousand each. There are statutory controls that must be followed in those first five funds. He believed that Town Council took a great step tonight, saying in fact, they had been border line perhaps in recent years in certain practices, and he thought steps had been taken to clean house for the future and set it up in order to achieve council's goals. It was important that Town Council had a clear understanding the town's actual financial status, and now it does.

Mr. Smith asked Ms. Fellner if the general fund balance for fiscal year 2013-2014 was shown before all the transfers were made would that have been less than this year's total. Ms. Fellner said yes. Mr. Smith said then they had actually made some positive moves tonight and increased the general fund balance for next year by the moves that were made. Ms. Fellner said that was correct. Mr. Smith said okay and thank you.

Mayor Samples said thank you for clarifying that.

Mr. Smith moved to suspend rules to allow the public to make comments. Mr. Stevens seconded. All voted in favor. **MOTION CARRIED.**

Mayor Samples asked Town Council if speakers could limit their comments to three minutes. Several Councilmembers voiced agreement.

"Once again, I'm Ray Kawa on 3rd Avenue North. I got a question for Mr. Smith there; that one millage that you proposed for the stormwater. What exactly does that mean?"

Mr. Smith said that means the town will set aside a small amount of money for next year for stormwater, but there is money in next year's budget...(**Several speaking at once.)

Mayor Samples said (**) 500 to 600 thousand right now available.

Mr. Smith said there's 400 and something thousand dollars already allocated in next year's budget to do 3rd Avenue North and 16th Avenue North, and he had gone over the plan with Mr. Adair and it includes Mr. Kawa's street. So, Mr. Kawa didn't have to worry.

608

Mr. Kawa: "Well, I've been fighting that thing since; I guess your husband was on Town Council. (Laughter.) And, I, I, just want you to know I appreciate that, and ah, one thing for clarification for myself. can you tell me what these cameras on the beach are gonna be for?"

Mayor Samples said he believed Ms. Fellner would explain.

612 613 614

Mr. Kawa: "Thank you."

615 616

Ms. Fellner asked if she should explain now.

617 618

Mayor Samples said in 25 words or less.

619 620 621

Ms. Fellner said they are cameras to go on the beach accesses. They're a law enforcement tool. and she had a lot of details that she would be glad to share, and she asked the police chief to come tonight to answer questions.

622 623 624

Mayor Samples asked Chief Keziah to explain and if the press had called him this morning.

629

630

631

632

633

634

635

636

637

638

639

640

641

642

643

644

645

646

647

648

649

650

651

652

653

654

655

656

657

658

659

660

661

Chief Keziah said all of them did. If there were no specific questions to start with, he offered to give a brief overview and then answer questions. (**Tape ended.) He said it would be a public/private partnership to start with. The town as a government agency would install five cameras to partner with the company that will provide the service. The company will provide all of the NVR (network video recorder) equipment, which includes the storage and the recording devices and all the relay points for the town. The town would purchase the cameras and be responsible for monitoring them. The original plan is to place cameras in the business district on Surfside Drive, one in the pier lot, one mounted on the pier, and at beach accesses at 4th Avenue South and 3rd Avenue North. This is the initial cost to set up. Once the equipment is in place, additional cameras can be easily added by just purchasing the camera. If there comes a point in time when there isn't enough storage space for all the cameras, then the company will provide a bigger NVR to the town that provides more storage space. He met today with Horry County leaders, public safety director Whitten, and with the camera company. The County is also dedicated to this program. Conway Police is dedicated to it for their river front and downtown districts. He felt that if all goes well, that the town would be the first to implement the program. The other agencies that implement the cameras can tie into the town's system. The town would only be responsible for its own cameras, which feed to the NVR that will be located in the town's dispatch center. The dispatcher will monitor the cameras. It will be a PTZ camera, which is pan, tilt, zoom. The cameras have the ability to zoom in on a tag number or an individual if there is a call of suspicious person. It's a really good tool for the department and provides video records from which still shots can be made. The company will offset its expenses in setting up the town by selling cameras to private businesses. The private business will have the opportunity to allow the police department access to their camera, but are not required to do so. He was not saying that the town would monitor privately owned cameras, but the department could have access to the data, if something happened and the owner gave permission. He found out at the meeting today that there is a lot of growth with this program, for instance license plate readers can be added to the cameras to check every tag that comes in and out, if there is a problem and you're looking for a specific vehicle. That's a different expense on down the road, but that's just what the potential is. Horry County representatives have said that they are definitely committed to this program; its high priority areas are boat landings, beach accesses, and one-way in and one-way out residential neighborhoods. Mr. Whitten said today that he is pushing forward with it because when Horry County partners it will also bring in the City of Conway, which is interested in videoing its river front and downtown areas. Once the town gets the relay point, which will be on the water tower, the data will come from the cameras to the relay point and then be transmitted to the police department. That is the same process for the private partnerships. That's how they make their money that allows them to give the town the free equipment and all the relay points. There's no reoccurring cost other than one dedicated internet line that can't have anything else on it but that feed. The long term goal for this is if Horry County and Conway partner with this, Horry County would form what they call a power center. It would have somebody monitoring all of their cameras 24 hours a day. For no fee, they would also monitor the town's cameras 24 hours a day in return for the use of the equipment that we were given for free, so that's a benefit to the town. He gave an example of

someone stealing a golf cart in town; the golf cart was videotaped going down Surfside Drive through the business district, and then past the cameras at the entrance into the Deerfield residential area. That would be a pretty good indication of where to search for the stolen golf cart. The cameras give the department another investigative tool. The county also has offered for the town to use their fiber optic cable to transmit data to the viewing center in Conway if it implements the program and if the town decided, it could do so; but, it is not required. The town has an option to keep its camera functions completely separate. Basically, the purchase will give the department five cameras that can be monitored in real time from the dispatch center.

Mr. Smith asked what the name of the company is that is providing this. Chief Keziah said the company is called Wildfire. Wildfire just partnered with Kingston Plantation, which is 165 acres. Mr. Smith asked if the cameras were wireless. Chief Keziah said yes, they are pan-tilt-zoom, and operate in low light, but they are not infrared. Mr. Smith asked if they used batteries. Chief Keziah said they would be hooked up to electricity, and have an initial one-year warranty. After the warranty, a service plan could be considered or depending on the number of repairs, the town could simply just replace and repair parts, because of the lower cost. During the meeting today, he asked how the cameras would hold up in the beach environment. The answer was that the cameras would have a one-year warranty. They are so inexpensive they may only last two years, and replacing parts would be much less expensive than the service contract for a year.

Ms. Kohlmann said she believed everybody knew that she thought videotaping was great. Everybody just has to be aware that big brother is watching everywhere. She said they are highly successful as crime fighting tools and she believed with the department's ability to see things live it is a huge safety benefit for responding police officers. She knew people said they do not want big brother watching, but the cameras solve crimes. Chief Keziah said that Kingston Plantation had the same problem with their governing board about the privacy issues. They contracted with a law firm that did a lot of research and vetted this process before the cameras are set permanently, the town could work with the installers to insure there are no privacy issues. Basically, anything that you can see with your eyes out there is public and that is what the cameras would be doing. If you cannot see through the blinds on a window, then the camera would not see through. Ms. Kohlmann said if people do not want to behave properly in public, then that is their problem. But, she said as far as the weather, her personal cameras do not wear out and capture people and assist the police department all the time. It's a wonderful, wonderful thing. Chief Keziah said these cameras are the highest quality available for the amount of money and are low-light, high resolution digital real-time cameras.

Mr. Stevens asked what the cost for a business to join the police department's network. Chief Keziah said after they contract with the provider, there is no charge to them from the department to be able to store their data on the town's equipment that is provided free of charge by the company. Their storage on the department equipment it gives the department the opportunity to review the business's tape if something happens. Mr. Stevens posed a hypothetical situation: he lives on the corner of Hollywood and 5th Avenue, someone comes by and steals his golf cart; he rides by Conway National Bank, and Conway National Bank is in the loop, then that would allow that bank camera to film that person, and if that person goes across the street and passes by Dagwood's Deli and it has a camera, he would be filmed again. And if there is a camera at Deerfield, he would be filmed again and there would be a good idea where he was going. Chief Keziah did not think that would be hypothetical; it could likely happen and would be pretty much fact. Mr. Stevens said in essence this is basically for public safety, and it benefits every citizen in town.

Mr. Kawa asked a question from the floor (**).

Chief Keziah said that question came up and he would have to get Mr. Adair to assist in removing them.

Ms. Mabry asked if signage would be posted to advise the public that there are video cameras. Chief Keziah said there are no statutory requirements for notice. If council wanted signage, it could be posted.

Mr. Stevens personally did not think any criminal needed a sign telling him he was being filmed.

Mr. Smith said since this is in this year's budget and as soon as the accommodations tax committee agreed to it, how long would it take for the cameras to be installed. Chief Keziah said it would have to be let for bids, so at least 30 days.

Mayor Samples said the county is being pitched. Chief Keziah said yes, and his understanding was that the county was ready to move forward. Mayor Samples asked if the county was considering using an alternative source. Chief Keziah said no, but the county will also have to let bids. He did not anticipate another company meeting the package for the price offered by Wildfire, but statutorily the bids must be let. Mayor Samples said okay. Chief Keziah said once the bids were in, it would have a turnaround time within 30 days.

Mr. Smith said within 60 days or so. Chief Keziah said that was correct.

"Good evening. Ralph Magliette, 104 Harbor Lights. Ah, I have a real quick question as far the budget goes and it's on page 51, and since I'm new in town, and I'm new to the beach town, if someone could explain it to me, it says there's an item in here reserve for beach renourishment, and ah, I see that there was no funding in 2011-2012, but there is funding for 2013-2014, and the reason I bring up this question is because, ah, I walk the beach every day. I see there's some spot erosion on the south side of the beach. I know the department of public works is doing some work trying to, ah, increase and stabilize the sand dunes in that area, and so my question is, ah, is that money kept in a fund, because I know every ten years you have to replenish the, the sand. I know it was done in 2008, and 2009. So when it's reserved money, are you supposed to put like 10-percent away every year into a fund? I just want to understand the process. And my second question to John is if you see the pocket erosion, is there anything that one can do to like patch it, or is just that sand ebbs and flows and you just let it do what it wants, and then after then 10-year period comes back, then you just do the renourishment on the entire beach. Those are my questions. Thank you."

Mr. Adair said the answer is yes to both questions. The town does perform small scale restoration work. Recently there was a washout between 13th and 16th South, which created a little bit of a ledge. Staff has been working to build that back up, and digging out areas where house walk paths were buried. On a larger scale, he met with the US Army Corp of Engineers and Horry County Engineering on May 1st to do an annual inspection of the beach. The town's beach is part of the area that runs from just at the Georgetown County line up to Myrtle Beach State Park campground. The beach was found to be in very good condition, but the estimate is beach renourishment every 10 years with sand out of the ocean, which is basically funded 65-percent federal funds and 35-percent local funds, local meaning all entities in Horry County.

(**Several speaking at once)

Mayor Samples said historically the town regularly set aside funds for renourishment. The last time that renourishment occurred, there was a windfall that came forward and it did not require that the town contribute as much as it had in the past. So at the time, the past administrations stopped setting money aside, which is why there are zeros in the columns. He asked if money was budgeted this year.

Mr. Magliette: "I saw it in 2013-2014, there was money, but there wasn't in previous, and I was just curious."

Mayor Samples said 45 this year and 45 additional.

Mr. Magliette: "Yes, and the total would be, I think, if I'm reading this right, would be \$118,000."

Mayor Samples said that was good, because we need to build up cash, because we don't control the process, obviously. When the Corp comes forward and they're going to be contracting it out, everybody is notified to participate, and it will cost whatever the town's portion of the bid is.

Mr. Magliette: "So the answer is then that this money is reserved and it'll; each calendar year more money will go into it reserved for that purpose whenever the decision is made to renourish it."

Mayor Samples said correct, with the exception, and the detailed records would have to be reviewed; the last time when the windfall was received, it only cost the town \$220,000. The previous time renourishment was done, he believed the town paid close to \$750,000, because it is very expensive. There are not that many contractors that do that type work; the equipment is very expensive.

Mr. Magliette: "Thank you very much."

Ms. Kohlmann asked for her own clarification, once the money was put into the beach renourishment account, say two years from now when there is a new council seated, whether they can transfer the beach renourishment money into something else; could it or not.

Mayor Samples was sure they could. Several other members said they could.

Ms. Kohlmann said that was very bad. Remember that everybody in two years.

Ms. Mabry said this was done by resolution, but of course, you know, Town Council can always repeal a resolution. That is just a fact, and she hoped it never was repealed. The funds were included in the budget and the reason the amount was a little off was because Ms. King received a check for \$28,000 that was supposed to be placed in beach renourishment, which pumped up the amount over the \$90,000 that it would have been next year. That explains why it is \$118,000.

Ms. Kohlmann said she worries about the "beachy stuff."

Ms. Mabry said she did, too.

Ms. Kohlmann said we need to remember where we live.

(**Comments from unknown speaker on the floor)

Mayor Samples responded that it was all budget. Council suspended the rules and council is still hearing public comments and questions.

"Ms. Magliette, 104 Harbor Lights Drive. Somebody asked me when I was 27 where I want to live and I said a beach town, never thinking it would happen. I just want to remind you all that there's not too many beach towns around, and this town is taking really good care of its beach, its natural asset, and also taking really good care of its people making sure we're safe, and I just want to thank you and tell you that every month I live here it just gets better and better, and I don't know of any other place that I can say that about, folks. Thank you, and God bless."

"Ron Ott, 7th Avenue North. I want to thank the staff for shuffling all the money around and making it look half decent, cause we did have some big numbers up there with two commas in the negative, and it's pretty hard. That's why, I guess, we're looking at phone bills, you know, and coats, and shoes, and we don't want to send the staff and the administrator down to the library to work next year. We want to keep 'em and the mayor down there, keep everybody in house, and ah, as for the, ah, the ah, cameras, that's the law enforcement of the 21st Century. If we didn't have those in Boston, they'd still be making bombs up there, and I always think about that young lady that got taken out of Myrtle Beach. We're not worried about golf carts getting stolen, that's what I worry about, so that we should have these cameras and not, note say hey, here's the camera, but they should be all over, because they're there for major crime. We wanna stop that major crime. People get taken, people get hurt, and that's what those

cameras are for. You can look back and you can find 'em. Those two boys would be still up there making bombs for the next run, and I want to thank staff for everything they've done, and you guys, too. Shuffling the bucks; it ain't easy. Thank you."

"Tom Dodge, North Poplar Drive. Ah, we're talking about costs here, but rumor has it around town that there may be a tax increase, and I'm asking if that is going to happen on this budget."

- Mr. Smith responded emphatically, "No."
- Mr. Dodge: "Thank you."
- Mr. Stevens said no from him, also.

Mr. Dodge: "Because in my world, when the five mil stormwater tax expires at the end of June and we do not put that five mils back into stormwater, and we put that five mils in the general fund, in my world that is a five mil tax increase. I know that you have checked with your lawyer, and they said that I am wrong, but there's 60 pages of lawyers in the Myrtle Beach phone book, and I'll bet I could find lawyers that say I'm right. So, in my world we're already being hit with a five mil tax increase, which I don't mind, but I think it should continue to go to stormwater, because we're at the bottom of the hill, and all that water comes to us, and we have to pay to take care of it, and if we're not gonna budget but 1 mil, I don't think that's enough. We already got one tax increase when the garbage rates went up in February. That was a tax increase by another name, and I'm very glad to hear that we are not having a second five mil tax increase. Thank you."

"Martha Bullard, 112-A North Myrtle Drive, and I just want to say that I, I want to thank the council for giving us permission again to do the sunburn trailer, you know, down at the beach at the pier. The last time I was here, and we do have so many comments, wonderful comments about our community that I have had some questions lately. People have wondered; you built that really nice ramp around there, but they can't, they still can't their wheel chairs through that sand, and I understand we're going to pave that. Is that going to be paved any time soon, do you think?"

Mr. Adair explained that a temporary wooden walkway will be completed by the end of the day on Thursday from the asphalt surface across the sand to the bottom of the new ramp, and paving will be done next fall when the summer season is over.

Ms. Bullard: "Good, that's good. I'm thankful for that. Thank you."

Mayor Samples said he did not believe anyone was more disappointed that the entire project was not completed than the councilmembers.

Mr. Smith moved to reconvene regular session. Mr. Stevens seconded. All voted in favor. **MOTION CARRIED.**

E. Encroachment Permit Stipulations & Fee Authorization, Administrator Fellner (May be deferred until after Executive Session.)

Mayor Samples said Town Council needed to discuss this item during executive session.

4. EXECUTIVE SESSION.

Pursuant to FOIA §30-4-70(a)(2) to discuss proposed contractual arrangements (Item 3.E.)

Mr. Smith moved to enter executive session at 8:19 p.m. Ms. Dodge seconded. All voted in favor. MOTION CARRIED.

Mr. Smith moved to reconvene regular session at 9:00 p.m. Ms. Dodge seconded. All voted in favor. MOTION CARRIED.

888 889

Mayor Samples said that no action was taken during executive session.

890 891 892

Mr. Smith moved to direct the town administrator to proceed with the encroachment permit and present it to Town Council at the next meeting. Mr. Stevens seconded. All voted in favor. MOTION CARRIED.

893 894 895

896

897

898 899

900 901 902

903 904

905 906 907

908 909 910

911 912 913

914 915

916

917 918

919

920

5. ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Smith moved to adjourn the meeting at 9:00 p.m. Ms. Dodge seconded. All voted in favor. MOTION CARRIED.

Prepared and submitted by

Debra E. Herrmann, CMC, Town Clerk

Approved: July 9, 2013

Douglas P. Samples, Mayor

Mark L Johnson, Town & ouncil

Roderick E. Smith, Town Council

may be made with the town clerk.

Ann Dodge, Town Council

Range W. Stevens

Elizabeth A. Tøwn Council

Clerk's Note: This document constitutes minutes of the meeting, which was audio taped. In accordance with FOIA, meeting notice and the agenda were distributed to local media and interested parties. 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. Public Comments are as close to verbatim as possible. Appointments to hear the audio tapes

Town-Council