



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

**1. CALL TO ORDER.**

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

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

A. Invocation: Mayor Pro Tempore Pellegrino gave the invocation. Reverend David Pohto was unable to attend, because of an emergency in his church family.

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

**3. AGENDA APPROVAL**

Mr. Childs moved to adopt the agenda as presented. Mr. Stevens second. Mr. Johnson asked that the public could be informed about the agenda amendment. Mayor Samples explained that Town Council agreed to defer any committee appointments until after the members-elect were seated. All voted in favor. **MOTION CARRIED.**

**4. MINUTES APPROVAL**

**Regular Meeting April 12, 2016.** Mr. Childs moved to adopt the April 12, 2016 regular meeting minutes as presented. Mr. Stevens second. All voted in favor. **MOTION CARRIED**

**5. PUBLIC COMMENTS – Agenda Items Only.** (3-minutes per speaker). There were no comments on agenda items.

**6. COMMUNICATIONS**

**A. Proclamation #16-105, Myositis Awareness - May 2016.** Ms. Herrmann read the proclamation declaring May 2016 Myositis Awareness Month, a copy of which is on file.

**B. Department Reports.**

**i. Events and Recreation.** Supervisor Ellis presented the departmental report, a copy of which is attached and made a part hereof by reference. Ms. Ellis said volunteers were needed to assist with the Memorial Weekend Golf Cart Parade. The parade will begin around 12 noon on Sunday at the Holiday Inn at 16<sup>th</sup> Avenue North, travel along Ocean Boulevard and end at Melody Lane. She expects the parade to last about an hour.

Mayor Samples asked anyone interested in volunteering to contact Ms. Ellis.

**ii. Finance.** Director King presented the departmental report, a copy of which is attached and made a part hereof by reference.

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57 Mayor Samples asked if the Lanier management fee included its budgeted expenses. Ms. King  
58 said yes, it was everything. Lanier gave staff its budget which was blended into the town's budget. Mayor  
59 Samples asked if the management fee was 6-percent. Ms. King said right, but all the other items were  
60 included. Mayor Samples said there was a combination of items. Ms. King said yes. Mayor Samples  
61 asked if the net \$133-thousand included the pier parking lot. Ms. King said \$133-thousand was the total:  
62 \$60-thousand for the pier, and \$72-thousand for general fund. [Note: amounts were rounded during  
63 discussion; see page 7 of the finance report.]  
64

65 **iii. Fire.** Chief Otte presented the departmental report, a copy of which is attached and made a  
66 part hereof by reference.  
67

68 Mr. Childs said very few of the violations identified during inspections were repaired. Chief Otte  
69 explained that many of these inspections were on-going and would have additional inspections. He was  
70 unsure why the zeroes were used, but would clarify that. Any issues were follow-up to ensure they were  
71 corrected.  
72

73 **iv. Planning, Building and Zoning.** Director Morris presented the departmental report, a  
74 copy of which is attached and made a part hereof by reference.  
75

76 Mr. Stevens asked when the next CRS meeting would be held. Ms. Morris said it would be the end  
77 of May, but the date has not been set.  
78

79 Mr. Childs said the pictures were getting bigger and better. Ms. Morris said the other smaller  
80 pictures were difficult to see.  
81

82 **v. Police.** Chief Keziah presented the departmental report, a copy of which is attached and made  
83 a part hereof by reference.  
84

85 Mayor Samples said the police and fire departments were the backbone that keeps the town safe.  
86 He knew that both departments had everyone's appreciation.  
87

88 **vi. Public Works.** Director Adair presented the departmental report, a copy of which is attached  
89 and made a part hereof by reference.  
90

91 Mr. Stevens asked what was done with signs removed from the right-of-way. Mr. Adair said  
92 generally the code enforcement officer handles signs in the rights-of-way. When his staff pulled a sign  
93 from the right-of-way in the past, the sign was placed by the dumpster at town hall and the company  
94 called to come pick it up.  
95

96 Mr. Johnson said signs did not fall under Mr. Adair's purview; it was a matter for planning,  
97 building and zoning. Mr. Adair said in the past his department handled some signs in the rights-of-way,  
98 but now the code enforcement officer handles them.  
99

100 Mayor Samples asked what the largest free-standing sign size would be. Mr. Adair did not know  
101 as that would be in the sign ordinance, which was not his area.  
102

103 **C. Administrator's Report.** Ms. Fellner reported:  
104

105 Offshore Reef. The deployment of the offshore reef was once again postponed due to  
106 unfavorable weather conditions. They are reassessing conditions this coming Monday and will make  
107 a decision at that point. I will keep council and the public apprised of when they plan to redeploy.  
108

109 Beach Renourishment. Also beach renourishment funds were cut in half in the state budget  
110 from \$40-million to \$20-million. I am happy to report that, in spite of this, the county is  
111 anticipating that we will still have access to the \$4.25-million of state funding required for Reach 3.  
112 Reach 3 includes all the beachfront from Myrtle Beach State Park to Garden City in Georgetown. In  
113 addition, I have asked the county when the timetable will be established determining when the

114 contractor will be active in our area and for an explanation of how that will be determined. They are  
115 awaiting a construction schedule from the Army Corps of Engineers and will let us know as soon as  
116 one is received.

117  
118 Pier Expansion. Finally, OCRM (South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental  
119 Services – Department of Ocean and Coastal Resource Management) has indicated to our engineers  
120 that the pier expansion calculations appear to be correct and they are now moving forward with the  
121 formal amendment review process.

122  
123 Consensus Items. There were no consensus items.

124  
125 Responses to questions from the public at the last meeting.

126  
127 *Comment:* Two residents felt the campaign mailings should be investigated.

128 *Response:* I have an outstanding FOIA on early campaign literature and that is still  
129 pending. The United States Postal Service did acknowledge via letter that to be the status.  
130 Regarding the recent yellow flyer, I officially turned it over to the police for investigation. After a  
131 consultation with a US Postal Service representative, the flyer was determined to be untraceable.  
132 With the use of a Forever stamp, there is no barcode or indicia that can be traced. The barcode that  
133 is on the bottom of the front and back of the flyer is the same, and it only routes the flyer to the  
134 proper delivery post by the zip code. The Chief is disposing of this case as inactive, but will re-open  
135 it to an active investigation if any further credible evidence or information is brought forward.

136  
137 There were no other statements or questions that required answers or follow-up.

138  
139 Mr. Pellegrino asked if Ms. Fellner was trying to find out whether beach renourishment would  
140 begin at State Park or the Georgetown county line. Ms. Fellner said that was correct. Work is supposed to  
141 commence sometime around early November. The process will be long enough that sand will be pumped  
142 during the season. Obviously, the town would prefer having sand pumped during the off season. Mr.  
143 Gosnell from Horry County told her today that the county would ask for a new schedule, which was why  
144 the initial payment of \$52-thousand was sent. Mr. Pellegrino asked if there were any negative effects for  
145 Reach 3 from the state funding cut. Ms. Fellner said not at this time. The Reach 3 gets the first  
146 renourishment. This could affect the renourishment of other Reaches. We have no way of knowing. She  
147 was happy to hear that “the likelihood is that it will not affect Reach 3.”

148  
149 Mayor Samples explained that Reach 1 and Reach 2 were Myrtle Beach and North Myrtle Beach,  
150 who were not funded.

151  
152 Mayor Samples said in regard to the campaign mailings, the question could probably be answered  
153 very simply by the State Ethics Commission. Things have changed. In the “old days,” over the last ten to  
154 15 years, groups who put out mailings had to register if they spent over \$600 as a lobbyist. I’m curious,  
155 and as a private citizen, I plan on finding out whether or not that law is still on the books within South  
156 Carolina. People should follow the rules.

157  
158 **7. BUSINESS**

159  
160 **A. Second Reading of Ordinance #16-0823 to accept 3<sup>rd</sup> Avenue South from SCDOT**  
161 **(South Carolina Department of Transportation), Administrator Fellner.**

162  
163 Ms. Fellner presented the decision paper and ordinance, copies of which are on file. The  
164 ordinance is to formally add the portion of 3<sup>rd</sup> Avenue South from Highway 17 Business to Poplar Drive  
165 into the town’s road system. This area of 3<sup>rd</sup> Avenue South is prime to become an extension of the central  
166 business district on Surfside Drive.

167  
168 Mr. Childs moved to adopt Ordinance #16-0823 to accept 3<sup>rd</sup> Avenue South from SCDOT as  
169 presented. Mr. Stevens second.

170

171 Mr. Childs said as far as he knew, funding was still in appropriations at the state level to improve  
172 the road. The road had be transferred to the town before funding could be requested. No negative  
173 comments have been heard about funding, and it seems to be on track. Hopefully, funding will come  
174 through soon.

175  
176 All voted in favor. **MOTION CARRIED.**

177  
178 **B. Second Reading of Ordinance #16-0824 to amend FY2015-2016 Municipal**  
179 **Budget, Director King.**

180  
181 Ms. King presented the decision paper and ordinance, copies of which are on file. The resolution  
182 from the accommodations tax committee recommending the transfer of the 2014-2105 year end fund  
183 balance of \$91,397 to capital projects for beach renourishment is attached to these minutes.

184  
185 Ms. Mabry moved to adopt second reading of Ordinance #16-0824 to amend the FY2015-2016  
186 Municipal Budget. Mr. Stevens second. All voted in favor. **MOTION CARRIED.**

187  
188 Mayor Samples commented that in the old days, budget amendments were made at the end of the  
189 fiscal year. Ms. King said that was correct.

190  
191 **C. Resolution #16-167 to adopt General & Special Municipal Elections Runoff**  
192 **Results, Administrator Fellner.**

193  
194 Ms. Herrmann read the resolution, a clocked-in copy of which is filed with these minutes.

195  
196 Mr. Johnson moved to adopt Resolution 16-167. Mr. Stevens second. All voted in favor.  
197 **MOTION CARRIED.**

198  
199 Mayor Samples thanked all candidates that participated, whether successful or not, for offering  
200 their time and service to the Town of Surfside Beach. Without willing neighbors to step up and do the  
201 work, our little community would probably be a lot different.

202  
203 **D. Resolution #16-168 to establish "Tasty Tuesday," Administrator Fellner.**

204  
205 Ms. Herrmann read the resolution, a copy of which is on file.

206  
207 Mr. Childs moved to adopt Resolution #16-168. Ms. Mabry second.

208  
209 Mr. Johnson said several councilmembers attended a class at the Municipal Association  
210 concerning food trucks and other matters. He supported the resolution, but was concerned that a town  
211 ordinance might prohibit food trucks; whether vendors were properly licensed in town, and whether  
212 vendors complied with DHEC (South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Services)  
213 regulations. Ms. Fellner said food truck vendors were required to have a home base, which complies with  
214 the county. As of four weeks ago, there are only two food trucks registered in the county. There is a town  
215 ordinance that prohibits this, which is why this is being done by resolution. Basically, this is a trial to  
216 determine whether it would benefit the town. This was a wonderful idea that was presented by Ms. Mabry  
217 at the events workshop. Mr. Johnson wanted to have everything in place before it was implemented to  
218 protect the town. Ms. Fellner said this was presented because it is for a specific event, specific days, and  
219 at a specific location with a limited number of trucks. Town Council may also discontinue the food truck  
220 vendors at any time, if it decides there is no benefit to the town. The vendors will be DHEC compliant and  
221 if at some point Town Council and the public decides this is beneficial for the town, an ordinance  
222 amendment could be presented for consideration. This will not have a huge influx of food truck vendors;  
223 it is limited to three trucks.

224  
225 Mayor Samples said the beauty of food trucks is that they are mobile. He asked if the vendors  
226 would be solicited publicly. Ms. Ellis said one vendor already contacted the town. The vendors will have  
227 to purchase a town business license.

228 Ms. Fellner said this was a relatively new industry for this area. Mr. Johnson agreed.  
229  
230

231 All voted in favor. **MOTION CARRIED.**  
232

233 **E. Committee Appointments – Deferred until Council-elect is seated.**  
234

235 **8. TOWN COUNCIL DISCUSSION** – Any matters of concern or information to be discussed.  
236

237 Mr. Stevens reminded everyone that the Meet N' Greet breakfast would be tomorrow morning at  
238 The Golden Egg Restaurant beginning at 7:30 a.m. The next breakfast is May 4<sup>th</sup>. Everyone was  
239 welcomed to join him and others to discuss town business and meet your neighbors.  
240

241 **9. PUBLIC COMMENTS – General Comments.** (5-minutes per speaker)  
242

243 Mr. Ron Gaskins, 13<sup>th</sup> Avenue North: I have this rather strange (\*\*), but I call it the why ask why  
244 questions, some of which should never be asked. But, the issue and the one I want to ask tonight  
245 definitely needs to be asked. I missed the last Town Council meeting. Did not get an opportunity to hear  
246 the recording and read in Mr. O'Dare's article, which is a very good article, if you haven't read it, you  
247 should take time do it and take it to heart, because it says a lot about how we are making us, or have the  
248 perception its giving Surfside Beach [sic.] But, in this case, I know I look like I had an expression of this  
249 dumb farm animal on my face when I read that a councilmember and an ex-officio member of a  
250 committee and a town administrator would not disclose the name of an attorney who's supposedly  
251 working with that committee. How many times do you recall hearing or reading the word transparency in  
252 the last General Election and runoff? If you just read the mailers, you probably saw it a whole lot of times.  
253 I think these committees are, they were created by the council. They are supposed to stay within the  
254 guidelines and parameters and I consider that one of those things to be completely transparent to the  
255 council in, in the minutes and any other way. Each of the committees has an ex-officio member, which I  
256 consider to be a person who provides guidance to the committee and at the same time helps them and  
257 keeps council informed about what's going on. In this case where there was not transparency, they were  
258 not disclosed, I think it is a, it is definitely not doing what the position is created to do. I don't know the  
259 extenuating circumstances. But, I do know that I ask the question again, what about the ethical issues?  
260 Who's paying this? Is it pro bono, and other such things? If someone is paying for it, who is it? And then  
261 the liability question. Do we want to ask that? I don't know. And the town already has an attorney. If the  
262 council has not been informed about who this person is, by now, and the residents, I am requesting that  
263 by the next meeting that that be known, and the issue becomes it's Freedom of Information. We can go  
264 get it. People just need to have the guts to stand up and say what they need to say. I would take it so far  
265 as saying I think the cause of this type of thing and people becoming so ingrained with committees that  
266 after every General Election there should be a rotation of ex-officio officers on committees. One other  
267 thing, you mentioned, Mr. Mayor, about the mailings, and I mentioned the Tom O'Dare article. There's a  
268 saying that's attributed to a number of people, and said in a lot of different ways. But basically, anonymity  
269 is the ultimate form of cowardice. If you are not willing to put your name on something you send out, you  
270 should keep it in your back pocket. Thank you. *(Applause.)*  
271

272 Ms. Mary Jo Doggett, North Dogwood Drive: I want to start with the good, and then I'm gonna go  
273 to the bad. The good is I'd like to compliment the city on the beach accesses that they have done. I think  
274 they are beautiful and were well done. I think the plantings are excellent. The way you've treated your  
275 parking lots and even around the building here. I think it's beautiful. I'd also like to comment something  
276 good. My husband and I are both graduates of the Citizens Police Academy that you have here in  
277 Surfside. I would recommend every citizen to sign up for that. I learned a lot about our police. We have a  
278 wonderful force of policemen and I hope that we can maintain and keep the ones we have. I probably  
279 don't think their salaries are what they should be for what they do. I don't know what the city can do  
280 about that or what the citizens can do about that. But, if there's some way we can help them out I would  
281 be happy to do that. Now, the bad. I am; I wasn't at the last council meeting, so I also didn't get to hear  
282 about the mailers. If you are a candidate running in this city, if you ring my doorbell and tell me all the  
283 positive things you did, you are welcome in my home. But if you are one of these people, including the  
284 citizens here or anyone in this room, if you are going to continue to mail me approximately ten flyers and



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285 talk about other people and the bad things about them and not have the guts to sign your name, take me  
286 off of your mailing list. I also feel like the administrator was saying and the gentleman before me,  
287 something needs to be done about this. Somehow or other we need to find out who these people are that  
288 are writing things; calling people monkeys, and writing bad things about people that was resolved a long  
289 time ago and has nothing to do with the candidate now. I'm sorry you don't have enough nerve to sign it,  
290 so just do me a favor, and I hope the council can do something about it, because I think it's ridiculous. I  
291 think it's shameful for our city and I just don't think it's fair to the other people that are running for office.  
292 I'm just sorry. I'm not proud of us in that way, but I'm proud of us in all the other ways. Thank you.  
293 *(Applause.)*  
294

295 Ms. Wanda Spannuth, Harbor Lights Drive: I just want to follow up very briefly about the  
296 proclamation for making May Myositis Awareness Month. There are five different kinds of myositis. All  
297 of them include muscle weakness, pain, and dysphasia. Some of the difference are polymyositis affects  
298 adults 20 and over. Inclusion body myositis affects usually over the age of 50 and there is no treatment  
299 available for that. Dermatomyositis includes all of the above and also a very painful skin rash and  
300 calcification under the skin. Juvenile dermatomyositis is the same thing. It just occurs in people under  
301 the age of 18. The one that is most rare is orbital myositis. Extremely rare, double vision and a lot of pain.  
302 The reason I know this is because I would bet before this evening no one in this room ever heard of  
303 myositis. My daughter was diagnosed with polymyositis in May of 2012 after she had a muscle biopsy.  
304 That's the most definitive diagnosis. She calls it the invisible disease. If you would happen to see my  
305 daughter, you would have no idea that she has this disease. The treatment is as bad as the disease. There  
306 are tremendous side effects. She's on heavy doses of steroids; methotrexate. She just had a port put in for  
307 her treatments once a month. Prior to that she was getting an IV five days a month. As the proclamation  
308 says, it's very rare. Causes are unknown. There is no cure, but there may be remission in some cases. So I  
309 want to thank Micki Fellner for bringing this to the council's attention, and I want to thank the council  
310 and the mayor for agreeing to sign this. I also heard Mr. Adair; blue lights, blue is the color for myositis,  
311 so if it's possible to keep the blue lights up through May that would be great. Thank you. [Note: There  
312 were no objections to keeping blue lights up through May.] *(Applause.)*  
313

314 Ms. Vicki Blair, North Poplar Drive: I wanted to thank all of you who took part in this election  
315 process, both staff, election committee, candidates, and those of you who came out to vote and to those of  
316 you who did support me throughout this election and worked for me. I appreciate it more than you know.  
317 But I'm really here for a little more of a selfish reason. A mailer was received by many of you just days  
318 prior to the Tuesday runoff. This anonymous mailer was ugly and negative and filled with false  
319 accusations. Things that both embarrassed and hurt me. The hurt I can deal with. But there is no elected  
320 office or council seat anywhere that is worth the reputation I've worked to establish in Surfside Beach.  
321 Here are the infamous checks (*holding up papers*). No cash as this mailer indicates. There was never any  
322 cash. They were never signed or transmuted into personal assets by either deposit or cash. I was elected  
323 to serve you on May 8<sup>th</sup>, 2008 and the checks were handed to me in a sealed envelope on May 28, 2009  
324 [sic] at a public event at the Myrtle Beach Convention Center by Mr. Branham. I did not need the checks  
325 or want the checks, and at the time actually did stick them in my back pocket until my husband and I  
326 returned home. When I looked at them and saw what it was, I put them in a seal, back in the sealed  
327 envelope and put them in the side pocket of my candidate's notebook. One of the few true statements in  
328 this mailer is that I actually did forget about them, until asked by Mr. Tom O'Dare from *The Myrtle Beach*  
329 *Herald* about them prior to a council meeting at which time I explained exactly what I have just told you.  
330 A complaint was nevertheless filed with the Ethics Commission and I was found to be in violation on two  
331 counts for not depositing the checks to a campaign bank account and for failing to itemize the  
332 contributions on the disclosure report, and rightfully so. When errors are made, either intentionally or  
333 not, we expect the Ethics Commission to respond in kind. It was without a terrible mistake on my part.  
334 One that I readily owned up to and worked to rectify. I thought that because my campaign was over, the  
335 election complete, and I was never going to use the checks, they did not have to be reported. I was guided  
336 by the Ethics Commission on what to do and I followed those instructions to the letter. I returned the  
337 checks to Mr. Branham accompanied by a note explaining why. I sent copies of this communication to the  
338 Ethics Commission and the matter was deemed adjudicated. There was no hearing and I never had to go  
339 to Columbia to appear before the commission. The final letter was a Consent Order which is and I quote:  
340 *An agreement or settlement to resolve a dispute between two parties without admission of guilt or*  
341 *liability.* This Consent Order was actually sent to me by the general counsel at the time, Cathy

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342 Hazelwood, for me to approve how it was written. The Consent Order, in part, reads as follows: *State*  
343 *Ethics Commission hereby finds the respondent, Vicki W. Blair, in violation, albeit inadvertently,* and I  
344 quote, *that means accidental or unintentional, of these two sections* as I just previously told you. It also  
345 reads *for Vicki W. Blair to pay an administrative fee of \$100*, which was remitted to the Ethics  
346 Commission on March the 1<sup>st</sup>. While I thought this was old news, I wasn't really surprised that someone  
347 took the time to bring it up again. What's hard to swallow is that someone hates me so much that they  
348 would want to pay this much money to disseminate accusations and innuendoes that are all lies. I have  
349 never taken a bribe, and I am not a corrupt politician. I have never intentionally done anything to hurt  
350 any of our residents or to bring embarrassment to this town. I have lived, worked, and volunteered here  
351 for 31 years. I have endured my share of criticism and disapproval, but to have someone hate me this  
352 much is almost more than I can bear. For those who obviously get their pleasure from the pain of others,  
353 you must be having a grand old time and I know that many of us think we know who are involved in these  
354 things. Some of them are actually sitting in this room with us right now. But, I'm asking you to please  
355 stop this ugliness. There should be no mystery about the source of political communications and no one  
356 should deemed [sic] to be a on a crusade for accountability. If he or she won't put their name or their  
357 surrogate's name on a mailer, perhaps these nameless, faceless critics who pen these diatribes think that  
358 dragging Surfside Beach's political discourse into the gutter is positive change. But, I just don't think that  
359 our residents agree. If someone wants to discredit or criticize, have the courage and the courtesy to say  
360 who you are. Put your name on it. Don't hide behind some organization that can't be tracked. These  
361 spurious tactics unfairly represent our candidates, while giving them little to no opportunity to respond or  
362 face their attackers. If you believe it, if your facts are true and correct, you put pen to paper, you write it  
363 and you sign it. So, I beg you, the residents of Surfside, please don't let these unprincipled, immoral  
364 agitators define our town, and I challenge you as the elected leaders of this town to please find a way to  
365 stop these negative, anonymous mailers, and find a way to make these cowards who spew this garbage  
366 and then go hide behind the cans be forced to reveal themselves. (*Standing Ovation.*)  
367

368 Ms. Blair continued: Mr. Mayor, if you would, I actually have the verbiage from the January 21<sup>st</sup>,  
369 2016 Campaign Practices from the Ethics Commission regarding those committees that are supposed to  
370 file a statement of organization. They are, it is \$500. It is still in the law. I have already looked into it  
371 and am told that because someone filed a lawsuit under the Freedom to Speak, you know, Freedom of  
372 Speech Act, and lost, they are choosing now not to address, even though, and I questioned them. As you  
373 can tell, I don't mince words.  
374

375 Mayor Samples said in his opinion the Supreme Court Citizens United has turned this country  
376 into what, what could we buy? Ms. Blair: Yes, they did.  
377

378 Betty Lowery, 4<sup>th</sup> Avenue North: Please excuse my appearance. I've been playing with my  
379 grandchildren. First of all, I have compliments for John Adair and public works. Getting my car washed  
380 two weeks ago talking with a young couple who lived on the river, the flooding came up. The fact that I  
381 was in Surfside came up. They said Surfside really takes care of their stormwater system. They do a great  
382 job, and had no names, no nothing, it's just Surfside's reputation. Also, this morning, somebody wants to  
383 know where you got that sod, because it is just beautiful. They said they'd never seen anything like it. It's  
384 just so green and so perfect. So, you guys are doing a great job little by little and people notice. I want to  
385 thank those of you who are on council, ran successfully, unsuccessfully. Thank you so much for  
386 everything that you did for Surfside. You have made us proud. You really have. You've done a great job.  
387 You should be very proud of yourself. For those who ran in the audience who may not have won, Surfside  
388 is amazing. We have a wealth. A treasure chest of experience and people who want to work for the town,  
389 and I think that's amazing. Also, I thought it was very interesting that Myrtle Beach is just getting around  
390 to addressing their parking issues in their residential areas. So, maybe one of you will get a call and [be  
391 asked] how did you in Surfside handle that? The other is to follow the lead of some of the others. As a  
392 middle school teacher, we were always on guard about bullying. You're always seeing things on TV about  
393 on-line bullying. We saw things in this election that if you had children you would have been horrified if  
394 your children did that. If I were to face my neighbor and go "nanny, nanny, boo, boo" that would qualify  
395 me for a mental evaluation, and to have an adult in this community do that outside of town hall in front of  
396 witnesses, that's scary, because they're still out wandering around. I'm sorry. That's just the way it is.  
397 This literature, it says so much more about the person who published it than any of the candidates.  
398 Somebody who'd go to that length, to that length to get rid of someone, they're sick, and that's a lot of

399 money. I couldn't help but wonder when they came time after time after time, where's that money coming  
400 from? I don't know that many people who have that kind of money. What difference does it make to  
401 wherever it's coming from? What's the point? To the individuals involved, and those who just know,  
402 when you know somebody's doing something wrong, when you see somebody bullying another person,  
403 and you don't make any effort at all to stop it, you have given them tacit approval of what they're doing,  
404 and you become just as guilty as the bully. If that were your child and someone were to treat your child in  
405 that manner, it would make you so angry. But, there're people in this room who did it; other people who  
406 know who did it. I mean really know who did it, and you didn't say a word. You didn't do a thing. That  
407 makes you responsible, too, and it's embarrassing for this town. It's embarrassing for me to say I'm from  
408 Surfside. Oh, oh, tell me about so and so, and all I can do is say ignore it and vote what you believe. It's  
409 shameful. Somebody should be embarrassed. A whole bunch of somebodies should be embarrassed.  
410 *(Applause.)*

411  
412 **10. TOWN COUNCIL COMMENTS**  
413

414 Mr. Johnson: Wow! All these comments are hard to follow up with, and I agree with so many  
415 things that were said this evening. Yet, just let me say if I knew anyone that put these mailers out, I would  
416 go to the proper authorities. It may not do any good, but at least I would have tried. It's a disgrace. It's a  
417 total disgrace. It obviously looks bad on Surfside Beach, but there are people that are hell-bent on giving  
418 our town a bad look and a bad reputation. That's evident right there. Thank you all for coming out. God  
419 bless you. Next meeting is gonna be a, we're gonna have some different faces up here. Pray for us. We're  
420 gonna need a lot of prayer. I know that we are all gonna have; we will work together for the good of  
421 Surfside Beach and the good of the residents. Thank you. Have a great evening.  
422

423 Mr. Childs: I'm not much on speeches, as you well know. But, I want to take this opportunity to  
424 thank you with your 14 years of service to the town as council and mayor. What a job you've done, and I  
425 just want to tell you, you and I have, I've known you now for, I think about 12 years, and we've never had a  
426 cross word. We've disagreed on some legislation, but after it was over, it was over, and I appreciate your  
427 courtesy to me. I will never forget it. There's one other person that I would like to thank. It's Ms. Mabry.  
428 I'm gonna miss her. She's been great to work with. I'm sure she's gonna stay involved. I wish her well in  
429 whatever she does. Thank you, and I wish you well, also, Mr. Mayor. Mayor Samples: Thank you.  
430

431 Mr. Stevens: I don't think I can say too much more that hasn't already been said. I thank  
432 everybody for coming out. If anybody wants to come to the Meet N' Greet tomorrow, it's gonna start at  
433 seven o'clock [sic]. Glad to have anybody that wants to bend my ear on anything. I want to thank Ms.  
434 Mabry and Mayor Samples for all they've done for this town. They've done a heck of a lot. I appreciate  
435 everything they've done. Y'all have a good night and have a good week.  
436

437 Ms. Mabry: I want to thank everyone for coming out. I always do, because I always mean it. It's  
438 nice to see your faces. It's nice to get neighbors together, and if this is how we do it that's a wonderful  
439 thing. Thank you so much for your support over the last four years. I have enjoyed being on council more  
440 than can ever know. So, thank you so much for your support, and I know the men up here are gonna do  
441 amazingly well. I'm not worried about our town at all. Thank you.  
442

443 Mayor Samples: We have one more meeting.  
444

445 Ms. Mabry: *(Laughter)* Well, I'm not gonna say anything then.  
446

447 Mr. Pellegrino: It's disheartening to hear everyone's comments on the letters. I know it upset  
448 everyone in town. I remember running two years ago when we had four or five real negative letters and I  
449 said man, this can't get any worse than this. But, it did this time, and it was one after another, and they  
450 were quite evil. I mean vindictive. That's something; we got some information I never knew before.  
451 Mayor Samples mentioned the lobbyist accreditation and somehow it gets overlooked because of different  
452 issue, but that's our responsibility to write to our House Representatives and to the State and see why  
453 we're not enforcing that, because, boy, that would solve it if they had to get a lobbyist accreditation to take  
454 to the post office. Well, guess what? We'd know who was doing it. Then we'll see how much guts they  
455 have. But, anyways, we can only hope that that gets better in the next election. As far as the next meeting,



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April 26, 2016

456 unfortunately, I won't be able to attend the next meeting, which I'm upset about, because we have all the  
457 new members coming on. It's kind of one of those things where all the stars align. My wife and I are  
458 having our 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary, and we actually got someone to, my manager's covering work, and my  
459 teenagers and my 4-year old actually have someone who will take them for a whole week. Even the dog  
460 has someone watching him! (*Laughter and applause.*) So, we're going on a cruise to the Caribbean.  
461 Anyways, unfortunately, I won't [be here.] I want to welcome and congratulate Mr. Ott and Mr. Courtney.  
462 I think they'll be a great addition to our team up here. I also congratulate Mr. Stevens, Mr. Johnson, and  
463 Mayor Childs coming on here, and obviously I've already been working with them, so I know what to  
464 expect with them. I'd also like to thank Ms. Mabry and Mayor Samples. A lot of the big votes we've had I  
465 voted opposite sides of them many, many a time, but it's important to understand this isn't, it's not a full  
466 time job for me, but it's still very involved. Most of the times when we hear from you guys, it's a, there's a  
467 problem. Like, you know, it's very rare that I get an email or someone comes up to me, you know, oh, hey,  
468 great day out. Great day out. It's usually a problem. Something happens. You know, someone is upset  
469 about something. So we have to deal with that. They've done it for many years, and I thank them for their  
470 service and wish you guys well for whatever you decide to do with your time. Thanks for coming.  
471

472 Mayor Samples: Last week we had two days of budget workshops. There were a number of  
473 members of the public who attended. The council-elect attended. I do think some of the comments after  
474 the workshops were along the lines well you need to publicize what we're doing in town. Well, the fact of  
475 the matter is we have done a lot. We are doing a lot. With the new council coming in, I'm sure it will be a  
476 continuation of the Family Beach ideals that attracted us all to live here. Let's be honest, there ain't no  
477 place like Surfside Beach from here to Charleston. It's just not there. It's a great place to live. It's a great  
478 community. It's made up of wonderful people. Neighbors who will help one another.  
479

480 **11. ADJOURNMENT.**

481  
482 Mr. Childs moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:59 p.m. Ms. Mabry second. All voted in  
483 favor. **MOTION CARRIED.**  
484

485 Prepared and submitted by,

486  
487  
488 \_\_\_\_\_  
489 Debra E. Herrmann, CMC, Town Clerk

489 Approved: May 10, 2016

490  
491 \_\_\_\_\_  
492 Douglas F. Samples, Mayor  
493

494 \_\_\_\_\_  
495 David L. Pellegrino, Mayor Pro Tempore  
496

494 \_\_\_\_\_  
495 Robert F. Childs, Town Council  
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497 \_\_\_\_\_  
498 Mark L. Johnson, Town Council  
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497 \_\_\_\_\_  
498 Mary Beth Mabry, Town Council  
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500 \_\_\_\_\_  
501 Randle M. Stevens, Town Council  
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500 \_\_\_\_\_  
501 Vacant Seat  
502

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