



**SURFSIDE BEACH TOWN COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES  
EXECUTIVE SESSION JUNE 13, 2016 ♦ 6:00 P.M.  
REGULAR MEETING JUNE 13, 2016 ♦ 6:30 P.M.  
TOWN COUNCIL CHAMBERS**

**Executive Session – 6:00 p.m.**

Mayor Childs called Town Council to order at 6:00 p.m. on Tuesday, June 13, 2016 for the purpose of entering executive session pursuant to FOIA §30-4-70(a)(1) to discuss the appointment of a person or persons to a public body and FOIA §30-4-70(a)(2) to discuss proposed contractual arrangements regarding the proposed sale or purchase of property. Mayor Childs, Mayor Pro Tempore Ott, and Councilmembers Courtney, Johnson, Pellegrino, and Stevens were in attendance. One seat is vacant. A quorum was present. Mr. Johnson moved to enter executive session at 6:00 p.m. for the purposes as stated by Mayor Childs. Mr. Ott second. All voted in favor. **MOTION CARRIED.** Mr. Johnson moved to reconvene regular session at 6:12 p.m. Mr. Ott second. All voted in favor. **MOTION CARRIED.** Mayor Childs said that no action was taken during executive session. Any motions or directives to the town administrator will be presented during the business portion of the meeting.

**Town Council Meeting – 6:30 p.m.**

**1. CALL TO ORDER.** Mayor Childs called the regular meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. Mayor Childs, Mayor Pro Tempore Ott, and Councilmembers Courtney, Johnson, Pellegrino, and Stevens were in attendance. One seat is vacant. A quorum was present. Others present: Administrator Fellner, and Town Clerk Herrmann.

Mayor Childs said for the record, "The meeting is being held on Monday pursuant to Town Code Section 2-36(d) that requires council meetings be held on Monday when there are election days. Tomorrow is the South Carolina Primary Elections, be sure you go vote!"

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

A. Invocation: Pastor Brent Thompson from LC3 Community Church gave the invocation.

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

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

**4. MINUTES APPROVAL. Executive Session and Regular Meeting May 24, 2016.** Mr. Ott moved to adopt the May 24, 2016 executive session and 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**

Mayor Childs said that the administrator's report was in the package, and asked if there were any questions. Ms. Fellner had two updates:

Coffee with a Cop. The times have changed to 5:00 a.m. to 9:30 a.m. on June 21<sup>st</sup> at Benjamin's Bagels, 810 3<sup>rd</sup> Avenue South. K-9s Biko and Viking will be there.

54  
55 Surfs Up Art Show. The art show will be on Sunday, June 26<sup>th</sup>, from 1:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. at  
56 the Dick M. Johnson Civic Center. It is free to the public. The event will feature music and over 40  
57 works of art.  
58

59 Mr. Ott asked if compliments for staff could be read in public. Ms. Fellner said she would very  
60 much like to do that.  
61

62 Memorial Day Weekend. Many compliments were received from the public regarding the  
63 Memorial Day Weekend regarding safety and the temporary road signage. She took this opportunity to  
64 commend Chief Keziah, Chief Otte, and Director Adair for the many positive contributions their individual  
65 departments made during the spring bike events. She also thanked Events Supervisor Ellis as she  
66 handled so many meal logistics that she could not name them all. Ms. Ellis did a wonderful job.  
67

68 SCDOT Public Meeting. Thursday, June 16, 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. at Seaside Elementary School  
69 to present the South Carolina Highway Department's (SCDOT) proposed US 17 Business Access  
70 Management Plan. The plan involves median closures, frontage road closures, one full signal, and two  
71 possible half signals. She encouraged everyone to attend the meeting. It was important, because SCDOT  
72 was looking for public comments.  
73

74 Mr. Stevens asked what a half signal was and where the signals would be located. Ms. Fellner  
75 said a half signal was one that only stopped traffic on one-half of the road, like the signal on Highway 17  
76 Bypass at Coastal Grand Mall. She knew where the signals were proposed, but SCDOT was seeking  
77 public comments before a final decision was made. Mr. Stevens said the report stated that the library  
78 would be closed June 30 through July 4 to replace the air conditioning system. Ms. Fellner said that was  
79 correct; the library staff promised to put a sign on a window or door. She would check on that.  
80

## 81 **7. BUSINESS**

82

83 **A. Second Reading Ordinance #16-0825 to adopt FY2016-2017 Municipal Budget,**  
84 **Administrator Fellner.** Mr. Ott moved to defer second reading of Ordinance #16-0825 until one more  
85 workshop is held to discuss some items. Mr. Stevens second. All voted in favor. **MOTION CARRIED.**  
86

87 Mayor Childs announced that a special meeting to discuss the proposed FY2016-2017 Budget was  
88 called for Friday, June 17<sup>th</sup> at 9:30 a.m. in Council Chambers. The public was invited to attend.  
89

90 **A.i. First Reading Ordinance #16-0828 to adopt State Building Codes, Administrator**  
91 **Fellner.** Ms. Fellner presented the decision paper and ordinance, copies of which are on file.  
92

93 Mr. Johnson moved to adopt first reading of Ordinance #16-0828. Mr. Stevens second. All voted  
94 in favor. **MOTION CARRIED.**  
95

96 **B. Letter to Deny Seismic Testing Permits in the Southeastern Region, Administrator**  
97 **Fellner.** Ms. Fellner presented the decision paper and letter to Town Council, copies of which are on file.  
98

99 Mr. Stevens moved to send the letter to President Obama. Mr. Johnson second. All voted in  
100 favor. **MOTION CARRIED.**  
101

## 102 **C. Town Council Appointments, Councilmember Stevens.**

103

104 Mr. Stevens said there were vacancies on council and *ad hoc* committees. The newly elected  
105 members were eager to be involved. Mr. Stevens moved to appoint Mr. Ott to the finance committee;

106 Mr. Ott and Mr. Courtney to the infrastructure committee; Mr. Courtney to the organizational committee,  
107 and Mr. Courtney as council liaison to the parking committee. Mr. Ott second.  
108

109 Mr. Ott moved to amend to add that Mr. Stevens would be appointed as the historical society  
110 council liaison. Mr. Courtney second. All voted in favor. **MOTION TO AMEND CARRIED.**  
111

112 All voted in favor of the motion as amended. **MOTION CARRIED AS AMENDED.**  
113

114 **D. Committee Appointments & Motions or Directions to Town Administrator–**  
115 **(Executive Session held at 6:00 p.m. to discuss appointments and a contractual matter**  
116 **regarding the sale or purchase of real property.) i. Board of Zoning Appeals (2 Vacancies)**  
117 **Volunteers: Mr. Larry McKeen and Mr. Steve Shore; ii. Construction Board of Appeals (1**  
118 **Vacancy) Volunteer: Mr. Daniel Oslin.**  
119

120 Mr. Johnson moved to appoint Mr. McKeen and to the board of zoning appeals. Mr. Courtney  
121 second. All voted in favor. **MOTION CARRIED.**  
122

123 Mr. Johnson moved to appoint Mr. Oslin to the construction board of appeals. Mr. Ott second.  
124 All voted in favor. **MOTION CARRIED.**  
125

126 **8. TOWN COUNCIL DISCUSSION** – Any matters of concern or information to be discussed.  
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128 **A. South Poplar Drive, Councilmember Courtney.**  
129

130 Mr. Courtney said the speeding issues on Poplar Drive have been discussed for about two years  
131 now; many residents have complained. It's a safety issue. [Driving along] Poplar Drive South is very  
132 dangerous, and unfortunately, there will be more serious injuries and possible deaths, if no action is  
133 taken. There have been many overturned vehicles and accidents with serious injuries on South Poplar  
134 Drive between 13<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup> Avenues South. A vehicle was broadsided on 14<sup>th</sup> Avenue South and Poplar  
135 that caused serious injuries. Many local residents walk on 15<sup>th</sup> Avenue South and when cars come  
136 around the corner, they have to jump out of the way to cross the street. Children meet the school bus at  
137 the intersections, and seniors use the east side as a sidewalk to cross over Poplar to go to Jerri Bob's.  
138 There are no crosswalks or 4-way stop signs. A police vehicle was totaled because of a wreck at 16<sup>th</sup>  
139 Avenue South and Poplar.  
140

141 Mayor Childs said that Mr. Courtney and he met with Director Adair, who did not seem to have  
142 any problem with this. Public works currently maintains both sides of the road; it was recently paved,  
143 and there didn't seem to be any problem whatsoever with the town adopting South Poplar Drive.  
144

145 Mr. Ott said a study was done that looked for data through mean average. When you look for  
146 data in mean average without giving the raw data along with it, it's almost useless. We need to see an  
147 export chart along with the raw data so we could see exactly what speeds were actually done. When you  
148 look at the average speed you can see 29 miles per hour, but was the high speed 80 miles per hour or  
149 was there somebody on a golf cart going 5 miles per hour? We have no idea. Ms. Fellner said that  
150 information was available in the police chief's report, which was quite a big report. Perhaps the solution  
151 is to bring that back. Mr. Ott said that would help me. I would like to see the highs and the lows, and  
152 how many were way over. Ms. Fellner said she would send the whole report. Mr. Ott said thank you.  
153

154 Mr. Stevens said it hasn't been that long ago that they had an accident in that area that was  
155 reported in the newspaper. It was horrendous; car flipped over and everything. Obviously, there are  
156 some cars that fly down that road. I saw a car around 9<sup>th</sup> Avenue flying. It looked like it was shot out of  
157 a cannon. There are some people that really fly down that road. I like this, and think we should bring  
158 this back to council sometime in the future.

Town Council Regular Meeting  
June 13, 2016

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Mr. Courtney said the town did a survey back around August 18, 2014 and September 3, 2014, and concluded that a 4-way stop should be installed at that location. A request was made to the South Carolina Department of Transportation (DOT). At that time, DOT denied the request. A survey was done on 15<sup>th</sup> Avenue only and denied it. Another survey was requested, and DOT came back to do another survey in November 2014. The report stated there that we had a speeding problem. It further stated that stop signs should not be used as speed control, which we were told in the last council meeting. DOT also stated the town should remove unauthorized signs on 4-way on all Poplar Drive, Pine Drive, and 3<sup>rd</sup> Avenue North in its letter. DOT further stated based on the length of the road there is an acceptable amount of accidents that should be allowed by State standards. I kid you not. I believe that safety first and the number should be zero accidents in Surfside Beach. This is a serious problem that has been going on for a couple of years. Again, it's a safety issue. It's not a speed issue. But, it's a long stretch of road. There are people making a left off US Highway 17 at 10<sup>th</sup> Avenue North, and then making a right on Poplar Drive South flying down to Melody to make a left to enter Oceanside Village. If you ask anyone in the community that has children who go to school, they will tell you that Oceanside Village residents use that as a main road to access the side gate on Melody Lane. It's become a safety issue more than a speed issue. We can go back and forth with surveys, but there's been three surveys done with three boxes. The datum showed there is excessive speed at those locations. But again, it's a safety issue.

Mr. Johnson said based on my experience, we are not as a municipality allowed to place stop signs on State roads. Is that correct? Mayor Childs said that was the way he understood it. Mr. Johnson said if we want to control the speed, we will have to take the street under our wing. My question is, how much of Poplar Drive do we want to take? Do we want to take it from Melody to 14<sup>th</sup>, Melody to 10<sup>th</sup>, Melody to Surfside Drive, or Melody to 16<sup>th</sup> North? That is something that we need to consider.

Mr. Courtney was concerned about GSATS's new project on US Highway 17 that includes a turning light on 10<sup>th</sup> Avenue South, which makes sense to me, because it's very dangerous for tourists and locals who want to cross the highway to Wild Water and Wheels. I won't take my golf cart to Wild Water and Wheels, it's such a bad intersection. With that being said, adding a stop light at 10<sup>th</sup> Avenue South with a left turn signal, we will have more traffic coming down Poplar Drive creating more of a safety issue.

Mr. Johnson said correct, and I'm not trying to be argumentative. I'm just wondering if we need to consider taking the entire road instead of just one portion. That may actually give us leverage with DOT on the north end. I would just like for council to consider this. Mr. Courtney agreed with Mr. Johnson.

Mr. Ott said if we're not allowed to put stop signs on State roads, what is that one doing down here across from the police station? Ms. Fellner said when you see a stop sign on a State road, we have asked permission to post it. Mr. Ott asked without adopting the road itself? Ms. Fellner said yes. If the request falls within the scope of what DOT considers a good reason, DOT will allow placement of a stop sign. Mr. Ott said thank you, and he would like to do the same thing for this other street. If it can be done by the police station, it can be done on Poplar.

Mr. Pellegrino said to Mr. Ott that staff already requested permission from DOT. DOT replied no.

Mr. Courtney said I think the main reason DOT won't comply with our request is simply that they don't want the road. DOT wants the town to take the road, and that's basically what it comes down to. DOT's letter with an acceptable number of accidents was unacceptable to him. I don't think it's right that anybody's life should be in danger. There needs to be a safe way for people to cross a street.

211 Mayor Childs said he thought everyone had seen how dangerous the frontage roads are. He  
212 tried to get DOT to put stop signs in place of the yield signs about five years ago. DOT's answer was  
213 what you need is more police presence. I still have the letter. DOT refused, and if there was ever a road  
214 that needs stop signs, it's the frontage roads. DOT is tough to deal with. We've had some bad accidents  
215 down here by the police department.

216  
217 Mr. Stevens wanted to remind everybody that is Pine Street [sic.] There are also 4-way stops on  
218 2<sup>nd</sup> Avenue on Poplar.

219  
220 Mayor Childs said this matter will come back before council.

221  
222 **B. Any matters of concern or information to be discussed by Town Council.** There was  
223 no other discussion.

224  
225 **9. PUBLIC COMMENTS – General Comments.** (5-minutes per speaker)

226  
227 Ms. Cheryl Moore Adamson, Conway: I am pastor of Palmetto Missionary Baptist Church, and  
228 also executive director of Palmetto Works Community Development Corporation, which is the missions  
229 and outreach arm of our church. I would like to introduce you to Palmetto Works. Our motto is Palmetto  
230 Works where everybody works. Our underlying philosophy is that everyone has their age and  
231 developmental level work to do. The work of childhood is learning and playing; adolescence is maturing  
232 and career exploration; adulthood is family building, community building, jobs, career, and business  
233 building, and the work of the church is to be the presence of Christ in the world and to help everyone  
234 else do their age and developmentally appropriate work. With those concepts in mind, we developed a  
235 program to fit each age group. Children's ages 5 to 12 there is the Palmetto Kids Music and Arts  
236 Academy; adolescents ages 13 to 18 is Work it Out Leadership Academy, and the adults' program is  
237 CHOPS, Culinary and Hospitality Operatives Prepared to Serve, which is a re-entry program for veterans  
238 and those entering society from prison and encompasses training from other professional organizations  
239 and higher education, with a goal of having successful independent citizens that do not rely on the  
240 government. We are asking the Town of Surfside Beach to join Palmetto Works in its efforts to build and  
241 sustain Palmetto Works Community Development Corporation. We are seeking a strategic partnership  
242 with the town and other governmental agencies as we could greatly benefit from your expertise and  
243 guidance. We are seeking finance support for the students of CHOPS. The cost per student with tuition  
244 and equipment is \$1,100. We also seek funding for two staff persons, a program director and a case  
245 manager. I am so happy that you've taken this time to listen to me, and I will be happy to meet with  
246 any of you or your staff. We really are hoping to carry this throughout Horry and Georgetown Counties  
247 for our returning citizens. Thank you.

248  
249 Mr. Bert Krassin, 13<sup>th</sup> Avenue South. I want to talk about the traffic on South Poplar between  
250 10<sup>th</sup> Avenue and Melody Lane. It's a speedway. Since I've owned [property] down here since '97, there  
251 have been innumerable accidents on the corner of 15<sup>th</sup> and Poplar; some serious ones, including a flipped  
252 car. When you drive down North Poplar between Surfside Drive and 5<sup>th</sup> Avenue North, there are three 4-  
253 way stops. I think there should be at least one of them over there on 15<sup>th</sup> and South Poplar, because it's  
254 nothing more than a speedway once you turn on 10<sup>th</sup> Avenue going towards Melody Lane. That's about  
255 it. Thank you for your time.

256  
257 Ms. Nicole Burt, 14<sup>th</sup> Avenue South. Again, speaking about the safety issue on South Poplar. It  
258 is a problem and I think if we could take that road back from the State that probably would be the  
259 answer, because then you could do what you need to do to make it safe. About four years ago, someone  
260 actually took the whole wall down in Ocean Pines. I don't know, [Mr. Courtney], if you remember that,  
261 but had someone been in that parking lot, somebody would've got hurt pretty bad. The whole wall came  
262 down, fence and all. It is an issue. I agree with Mr. Courtney that probably the town should look at  
263 taking it back from the State. Thank you.



Town Council Regular Meeting  
June 13, 2016

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Ms. Patricia Magliette, Harbor Lights Drive. Okay, so the State says that we're not allowed to put 4-way stop signs on a street that they have, but, I'm finding that's not quite fair because we pay taxes to the State, and we let them put their road through our town, and they're gonna tell us we can't do something that is in the interest of everybody's best safety, not just the little kids, but the older people and the drivers. We have a town that's called the Family Beach town and the idea that the State can tell us we can't use stop signs or whatever else we need to do is just plain wrong. If we've gotta ask four, five, six, seven times and fight them on this, I mean forever, if you have a relative or even yourself who's in a bad accident, what have you gotta do? Sue the State? I mean go on TV and point fingers at the State, Like I say, we're paying taxes to Horry County and to the State of South Carolina and if they're not willing to do right by us, then maybe we need to cause a ruckus. That's all I'm saying, because our State needs to be good to us as we are giving them our money every year. Thank you.

Mr. Stan Wrobel, 3<sup>rd</sup> Avenue South. At the May 24<sup>th</sup> meeting council made a motion to authorize the sale of property. The property location wasn't disclosed. In the interest of transparency, just curious as to where the property is located. Thank you.

Mr. Tom Dodge, North Poplar Drive. I ride the golf cart almost every day down South Poplar Drive and totally agree with Mr. Courtney. This is a dangerous roadway and it's also now being used as a shortcut off of 17 to go into Oceanside Village. They do drive fast down that road, and that's my take on that. Tomorrow evening the South Carolina Department of Transportation is gonna have a meeting at Seaside School to discuss Highway 17. I attend almost all these council meetings and do not recall having Highway 17 on the agenda so that the people of this town know what's happening. I thought this would've been discussed tonight, since their meeting is tomorrow night, but alas, that was not the case. Surely, you people, town officials, know something about this meeting that you could tell us about. What are you trying to hide? Is the town going to be billed for work to be done that we don't know about? How will this meeting affect the citizens of Surfside Beach? I feel that you people really should answer these questions tonight during council comments.

Mr. Harry Kohlmann, South Ocean Boulevard. First, I'd like to thank the organizers of the golf cart parade on Memorial Day. It was a great, great turnout. Much more than was expected, and it was a really, really nice thing to see. Some on the last council didn't want to see it happen, but you guys did it and it really, really turned out nice. I'd also like to talk about I heard a rumor that the movies in the park they're no longer. Trying to find out why. I thought it was a good thing. I have two renters, two people who rented so far this year. They've been down and they were looking forward to the movies in the park. Now, if the reason is because someone said there wasn't anybody from out of town coming to it, how do you know that? Did you take everyone's license? Do you know exactly where they came from? Or was it some grandmother who lives in the area and brought her grandchildren who are from out of the area to enjoy those movies. Could they have been attended a little bit more? Yes. But, the advertising could've been a little bit better, I think. We have other events in here that we use accommodations taxes. For instance, the Guy Daniels Surf off. They give out \$6,000 to \$6,500 scholarships. We give 'em \$6,000 to \$6,500, and they charge everybody who attends that. They have vendors. They have raffles. How can you have an event sponsored by the town, helped by the town, and most of the people are from within the area? I thought accommodations taxes had to be used for tourists. I don't get it. I can see in the beginning the town helping them out. But, if they're charging all these kids to join, and they have sponsors, and they have vendors, why don't we just give \$6,000 or \$6,500 worth of scholarships straight from the town? I don't understand that. I mean it's a good event. But, I don't understand why we're funding it. Also, I'd like to know who bought, well, I know who bought it, and I know where it is, but why? Why can someone buy some town property, a right-of-way, maybe I want to buy my right-of-way? I maintain it. I keep it clean. I cut the grass. Are we selling rights-of-way now? I don't know if all these deals were done before. I assuming they were before this new council came. I don't want to see anymore kid's things taken out. I heard the kid's fair is gone. When I came here, there was football. No more football. We have baseball that really isn't run by the

Town Council Regular Meeting  
June 13, 2016

317 town anymore. You wanted to get rid of the skate park. We're getting rid of the movies in the park.  
318 Getting rid of the kid's fair. What's going on, folks? We're gonna pump, I hear we're gonna pump  
319 \$7,500 worth of vitamins into some trees in a lot we bought for \$300,000. These trees have been  
320 around for hundreds of years. We're gonna pump vitamins into them? We spent \$15,000 last year on  
321 plants that died on Ocean Boulevard. But, we can't fund things for kids. I came here because this is a  
322 family beach. Not because it's a retirement village. We need to keep things up for the kids. Thank you.  
323

324 Diana Taylor, 7<sup>th</sup> Avenue North. Good evening, Council. I am very disturbed that the children's  
325 fair was cancelled, the movies were cancelled, in lieu of what, in replacement [sic.] It is disturbing. I  
326 keep my younger grandchildren during the summer. I do believe the date could be changed to possibly  
327 right after school's out. It's a little cooler then. But, yeah, you need to reconsider what we're buying and  
328 what we're cancelling. Thank you.  
329

330 Ms. Wanda Spannuth, Harbor Lights Drive. Good evening Mr. Mayor, Councilmembers, and town  
331 residents. I recently saw a question on Surfsidians Facebook page about access to the beach that would  
332 be more senior friendly. So, I looked up the report that the senior citizens committee provided back in  
333 2014, and there's no mention of ramps. So, I think that must be an oversight, because I know there is a  
334 ramp on 3<sup>rd</sup> North. However, the ramp stops maybe that far (*using hands to show measurement*) from  
335 the sand and there are steps that go down to that. My question is if you could consider extending that  
336 ramp the whole way to the sand and then a boardwalk over the dunes. It would make it easier for  
337 seniors who are mobile to walk, and seniors who are wheelchair bound to get to the beach. Thank you.  
338

339 Ms. Mary Maruca, 7<sup>th</sup> Avenue South. Hi, I actually came for the movies in the park. I was  
340 extremely disappointed to hear that we weren't going to be doing them. I live across from the park. If  
341 I'm there on a Thursday night, every time there was a movie, did I go to the movie, the whole movie?  
342 No, but I did certainly walk through. It had pretty good turnouts. You know, sometimes better than  
343 others. That goes by what was playing. But it was a great thing for our vacationers, for our kids, and for  
344 families to do together. So, I would hope that you reconsider that and see if you can put it back on at  
345 some point. Also, as rentals at Old Colony, we used to put them out and people were really interested in  
346 them. As you heard Mr. Kohlmann say, we had rentals that have been coming in and saying you're not  
347 having movies in the park? So, just please reconsider that. The other thing, I did not come here for this,  
348 didn't know it was even gonna be talked about, is South Poplar. I travel South Poplar all the time when  
349 I'm heading south onto 17, because I pull out, I come out on 10<sup>th</sup> Avenue and I don't want to get killed  
350 crossing over heading south onto 17. So, I take Poplar and I take the light at Melody Lane so that I can  
351 cross over safely. But, four years ago, my story is as just a little resident here in town going up to  
352 Anderson Lock to have some keys made, up on 6<sup>th</sup> Avenue South, keep in mind I live on 7<sup>th</sup> Avenue  
353 South, and I'm coming from there crossing over Poplar and my car was totaled. Neither one of us were  
354 hurt. But as far as people going very fast on Poplar, absolutely. Did I see her coming? I was crossing  
355 across Poplar, I did not. Was I to blame? Yes, because I'm the one who's crossing. But, you know, I  
356 don't think they're going 30. I think they're going 35. They're going 40. I know you're talking about an  
357 area further down, but that whole area from 10<sup>th</sup> to Melody. If we have to ask the State ten times to do  
358 it, what does it hurt? How much does it cost? How much time does it take? It's well worth it. One of us  
359 could've gotten killed. Thank you.  
360

361 Mr. Shelby Smith, Cedar Drive North. Good evening, Mr. Mayor, Council. I put my comments in  
362 writing here, since this is a request to the town. I'm here at tonight's Town Council meeting to ask you  
363 to save our South Strand Senior Center on 10<sup>th</sup> Avenue North. Past year their accessibility and parking  
364 has been a nightmare. The lot next door is being sold with no trespassing posting. The Senior Center  
365 can't use it. Since 2006, I have been the senior center's volunteer dirt scratcher gardener and have seen  
366 this wonderful facility and staff helping our senior citizens. The people, facilities, activities are truly  
367 magnificent, and it has been my privilege to help them. Six weeks ago we asked the Surfside Beach  
368 United Methodist Church to grant permission to widen the senior center driveway ten feet into their next  
369 door parsonage easement. They reviewed it, assessed it, and declined that approach. So, with this

370 vacant lot next door, there's only one side with a driveway into that facility. Today I arranged a meeting  
371 with the vacant lot owners, Ron and Melissa Pierce, Ray Fontaine, executive director Horry County  
372 Council on aging, and myself. We discussed the situation and a few different possible alternatives. We  
373 would like to present two solutions for the Town of Surfside Beach. The first approach is to co-lease the  
374 vacant lot at \$200 monthly from Surfside Beach to be combined with \$300 monthly from Horry County  
375 Council on Aging. Total monthly lease to the Pierces would be \$500 with a 30-day lease termination if  
376 and when the property should sell. The second approach and by far the best approach is Horry County  
377 owns the senior citizens building. Surfside Beach owns the lot property. It's a property 50 feet x 120  
378 feet, 6,000 square feet. Surfside Beach now receives \$1 per month to lease it to Horry County Council on  
379 Aging. The best proposal and the best permanent solution, we would ask the Town of Surfside Beach to  
380 grant the property that they own to deed that property over to Horry County stipulating the building on  
381 the lot must remain the South Strand Senior Center. Horry County could then give it to the Horry County  
382 Council on Aging, who could then purchase the vacant lot from the Pierce's somewhere in the vicinity of  
383 \$50,000 to \$59,000. This solution would have no impact on the Surfside Beach budget, since it owns the  
384 building property lot. Mayor Childs and Town Councilmembers, this is a very important request that can  
385 save the South Strand Senior Center for Surfside Beach and surrounding south strand neighborhoods.  
386 What a great resource for our town and our aging seniors. I know former councilman and senior center  
387 volunteer Ralph Magliette is nodding his approval. This request is respectfully submitted. Thank you and  
388 God bless you. Shelby Smith. *(Note: Mr. Smith distributed copies of his letter.)*  
389

390 Ms. Holly Watson, North Oak Drive. Good evening. I want to talk a little bit about taking over a  
391 State road. Now, I'm not sure people realize when you take a State road over that you are then  
392 responsible for all the maintenance on that road. Pretty soon, we're gonna get to the point where we  
393 don't have any State roads in our town, and therefore, we're gonna give up all of our funds that we get  
394 from the penny sales tax, and all that in the road fund money. So, I have all the faith in the world in this  
395 group of people that we elected to go before the DOT and tell them that we don't really want to be  
396 strong-armed or threatened, but we want them to put up a stop sign. It's simple. Let's get a letter  
397 writing campaign. Letters to the editor. Do whatever we've gotta do. All we want is a stop sign. It's  
398 not that much to ask, and let's all show up tomorrow at the meeting they're gonna have on the frontage  
399 road and just ask the DOT. We need a stop sign. It's a safety issue. We can't afford to take over any  
400 more DOT roads. You know, we just got a million dollars we've gotta do for beach renourishment. So,  
401 they're people just like us. Anything is possible. You guys can do it. At least attempt it. You know, just  
402 be persistent, and we'll get what we want. We just need to approach it, and get all of you behind it, and  
403 you've got the town folk behind you. So, let's just get it done. Thank you.  
404

405 Mr. Al Lauer, Harbor Lights Drive. Good evening. I was just thinking about movies in the park.  
406 If people aren't coming, maybe you need to find a different place for it. You have the equipment. You  
407 have the screen. You have the projectors. Maybe it's time to have movies at the beach. When I go  
408 down to the beach in the evening, I always see hundreds and hundreds of people walking along the  
409 beach. I think probably it would be a good idea to set up movies down there to bring the people to the  
410 movies, but you'll also bring the people into the town where they can buy ice cream, hamburgers, and  
411 have a good time. It's just something to consider. Thanks.  
412

#### 413 **10. TOWN COUNCIL COMMENTS**

414  
415 Mr. Johnson: Thank you, Mr. Mayor. As far as the South Carolina DOT situation goes, this  
416 council is not trying to hide anything. If we were trying to hide anything, we would tell you to go  
417 tomorrow to Seaside Elementary when the meeting is Thursday from five to seven. Okay, just put that  
418 on your calendar. As far as the ramps go, I think the beach renourishment will take care of a lot of that,  
419 because there is so much erosion with the ramps and the steps, and so on and so forth. But, other than  
420 that, you know, I just would like to thank you guys for coming out, expressing your opinion, and I agree,  
421 we do have a problem with Poplar Drive from the south to the north, and we need to take a look at it and  
422 see what our options are. I would like for the town administrator to come back with some information



Town Council Regular Meeting  
June 13, 2016

423 and see what we can do, although DOT is very difficult to work with. I mean very, very difficult to work  
424 with. Unless you deal with them, you really don't know. But, we'll keep on doing what we can. Thank  
425 you for coming out, and God bless you. See you next time.

426  
427 Mr. Pellegrino: Thank you everyone for coming tonight. Thank you for the public comments.  
428 We got quite a few, but all of [the comments] are value added. There's a lot of comments on the movies  
429 and there's some good suggestions like change of venue and different things, so that can certainly be  
430 looked at again for next year. The decision was made to cancel the movies for this year. The kids fair  
431 was not cancelled. It was moved ahead a few months and was combined with the Easter Egg Hunt, so it  
432 was already held for this year. It was moved because it was rained out the last three years. That didn't  
433 work out very well, because about half of it was rained out this year. We'll certainly keep moving  
434 forward on South Poplar Drive to try to get stop signs, because that's the easy solution obviously. There  
435 were a lot of comments about spending; good spending, bad spending, and different points were brought  
436 up recently and that's why we're having a budget workshop on Friday. Hopefully we can work through  
437 some of those details and making sure we're spending money from the right places for the best value for  
438 our community. Other than that, have a great night. Thank you very much for coming.

439  
440 Mr. Courtney: Yes, thank you for coming. I'd like to add that I think we need to get a little bit  
441 more direction with the events, because I know there were a couple of problems with that. As far as I  
442 see the kid's fair was in July. July 11<sup>th</sup> was scheduled for the kids fair, but we'll have to get directions  
443 from Ms. Ellis on what happened with that and if we can restore the movies at dark. I believe we had  
444 also taken out the kid's fair that was also moved. I'm not quite sure it was moved. I guess we'll have to  
445 bring that back up at the next meeting. We'll try to get these events back. I realize how important they  
446 are. I have children myself, and they do go watch this stuff, and got a little disappointed as well. We'll  
447 do the best we can. As far as Poplar Drive, we've been dealing with the State. The State is very hard to  
448 deal with, and that's all there is to it. We can keep on trying. It's been a couple of years, and we're  
449 making very little progress with it. So, we'll see what happens when the next meeting comes forward.  
450 We'll take it from there. Thank you so much. God bless you.

451  
452 Mr. Ott: Thank you, Mr. Mayor. Thursday night the Department of Transportation will be at  
453 Seaside Elementary, if anybody wants to say anything to them, and Ms. Fellner, our town administrator,  
454 did had that information in her report. It was in there for tonight. I guess you can't skip it. You'll have  
455 to [read] it [yourself], because it's all in there. She had the complete wording for it. Everything was in  
456 her report. As for the kid's fair, movies in the park, we're gonna look and see what we can do with that.  
457 That's why we deferred the budget [reading] to see what happens. The kids fair being in July, maybe we  
458 should move it as a celebration for the kids to the first week after their school year. It would be good for  
459 them. Little smile on their faces. I hope I don't say the wrong thing here, but there's no land sale. As  
460 far as I know we're not gonna do it. I would like to ask our administrator to bring back the senior center  
461 for discussion at our next meeting in Town Council Discussion. We can dig into that and have a little  
462 more information on that, and maybe we'll be able to talk to the Department of Transportation at the  
463 meeting Thursday night between five and seven. They'll be there in person. Thank you for coming out.

464  
465 Mr. Stevens: Thank you, Mr. Mayor. Wow, 13 people got up and spoke. Baker's dozen. One  
466 was from out of town, and 12 citizens. That's really good. I like that kind of input from the citizens. I  
467 want to emphasize that we are having a budget meeting. It will be at 9:30 Friday morning right here in  
468 Town Council Chambers. So, if there's any budget concerns that you need to speak about, please come  
469 by. Make yourself available. You can talk about any part of the budget. If you need to look at the  
470 budget, come by my house. I'll be glad to show you my budget book, and anything you want to talk on  
471 it. It's also on the website, I believe. Don't forget on Thursday from five to seven, Seaside Elementary  
472 that involves from Melody Lane all the way down to Route 544. So, anybody wants to know about what  
473 they're doing, go to Seaside Elementary, five to seven. As far as South Poplar, if I'm not mistaken,  
474 there's a stop sign on 13<sup>th</sup> Avenue North near the Presbyterian Church [sic.] There's a 4-way stop at 2<sup>nd</sup>  
475 Avenue North, and at Pine Street. We did have a real bad wreck on Poplar about a year or so ago. I

Town Council Regular Meeting  
June 13, 2016

476 remember a car was flipped over and it was really busted up. So, we definitely need to do something  
477 there. Definitely, you need to look at the south strand center, and I think we can, as a council, can do  
478 what's necessary to talk with DOT and as far as the kids fair and the movies in the park, come to the  
479 budget meeting, if you need to say something about it. That's the time to say it, because we're gonna  
480 be looking. I'm will say this, I go to Sandy Island, and I walk along Sandy Island and there's big oak  
481 trees over there been living for a thousand years. I don't like spending money on vitamins for trees that  
482 live forever. Thank you for coming out. All y'all have a good night and have a good weekend.  
483

484 Mayor Childs: I just have one thing to say. The meeting that DOT is putting on, the only reason  
485 it was set over at the elementary school, they thought about having it here, but with their charts and all,  
486 they figured this venue was not big enough, and that was the only reason it went to Seaside. They made  
487 that decision. They brought up having it here in town hall and they discussed it and said they didn't think  
488 there was enough room. As I understand it, they're gonna have two public meetings on that so  
489 everybody can go. It won't be just one time. I don't know if the next one will be at Seaside Elementary,  
490 but if there's not a big turnout for that, I can assure you I will ask them if the next meeting, if there is  
491 one, and I'm pretty sure I remember that there is another meeting, whether we can have it here in town  
492 hall. DOT was concerned with the numbers of people attending. That is the only reason it went to  
493 Seaside Elementary. I'd like to thank everybody for coming out tonight. I appreciate it so much.  
494

495 **11. ADJOURNMENT.**

496  
497 Mr. Courtney moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:34 p.m. Mr. Ott second. All voted in  
498 favor. **MOTION CARRIED.**  
499

500 Prepared and submitted by,

501  
502 \_\_\_\_\_  
503 Debra E. Herrmann, CMC, Town Clerk

504 Approved: June 27, 2016

505  
506 \_\_\_\_\_  
507 Robert F. Childs, Mayor

508  
509 \_\_\_\_\_  
510 Ron Ott, Mayor Pro Tempore

509 \_\_\_\_\_  
510 Timothy T. Courtney, Town Council

511  
512 \_\_\_\_\_  
513 Mark L. Johnson, Town Council

511 \_\_\_\_\_  
512 David L. Pellegrino, Town Council

513  
514 \_\_\_\_\_  
515 Randle M. Stevens, Town Council

513 \_\_\_\_\_  
514 Vacant Seat

517  
518 Clerk's Note: This document constitutes summary minutes of the meeting that was digitally recorded.  
519 Contact the town clerk for appointments to hear recordings. Bring a flash drive to obtain a free copy. In  
520 accordance with FOIA §30-4-80, meeting notice and the agenda were distributed to local media and  
521 subscribers on the town's email subscription list. The agenda was posted on the town website and the  
522 entry door at Town Council Chambers. Meeting notice was also posted on the Town marquee.