



**SURFSIDE BEACH TOWN COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
REGULAR MEETING APRIL 24, 2018 ♦ 6:30 P.M.
TOWN COUNCIL CHAMBERS**

Town Council Meeting – 6:30 p.m.

1. CALL TO ORDER. Mayor Pro Tempore Ott called the regular meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. Mayor Pro Tempore Ott, and Councilmembers Courtney, Johnson, Pellegrino, Samples, and Stevens were in attendance. Mayor Childs was absent. A quorum was present. Others present: Interim Administrator Duckett; Town Clerk Herrmann; Fire Chief Otte; Police Chief Hofmann; Public Works Director Adair; Events Supervisor Ellis, and Chief Building Official Farria.

2. INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE. A. Invocation: Reverend Mike BeLue from Timberlake Baptist Church gave the invocation. **B. Pledge of Allegiance:** Mayor Pro Tempore Ott led the Pledge.

3. AGENDA APPROVAL. Mr. Stevens moved to adopt the amended agenda as presented that includes Item 7.F. Pier Building Design, Contract, Bid Services, and Construction Observation. Mr. Johnson second. All voted in favor. **MOTION CARRIED.**

4. MINUTES APPROVAL. Pier Workshop March 23, 2018; Pier Workshop March 26, 2018; Special Meeting April 5, 2018, and Regular Meeting April 10, 2018. Mr. Stevens moved to adopt March 23rd and March 26th pier workshop minutes as presented. Mr. Johnson second. All voted in favor. **MOTION CARRIED.** Mr. Johnson moved to approve the April 5th special meeting minutes as presented. Mr. Stevens second. Mayor Pro Tempore Ott noted that the name of the member seconding the motion to adjourn was not stated. Mr. Stevens said he made that second. Ms. Herrmann said the final minutes would be corrected. All voted in favor. **MOTION CARRIED.**

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

Mr. Tom Dodge, 8th Avenue South: Speaking on the memorandum of understanding with Pier Outfitters, I see no reason at all for this town to give him any kind of a break. I think what it's called is he buys insurance. I have a rental house in town. I buy insurance in case I have a loss of income on that rental house. Mr. Kremer should likewise buy insurance; not take it out on my back. Thank you.

Ms. Betty Lowery, 4th Avenue North: I apologize for the azaleas stuck all over the back of my shirt. It happens when you climb in looking for a tennis ball. I wanted to comment on the plastic bag waiver. I'm not privy to all the details of that, but what concerns me is if we start giving one business a waiver, then I don't understand why all the businesses shouldn't get a waiver. I understand that it's inconvenient because businesses have gotten used to using plastic bags, and I understand that it's an added expense, because this means they're going to have to come up with something else: baskets, boxes, paper bags, something. We have businesses in town that don't use boxes or paper bags or plastic bags and they're doing quite well, but I understand from their point of view. However, we've got to start somewhere. We passed it. It's important. I don't see why anyone should get a waiver if you're going to do that you might as well negate the entire thing. And the other thing, I was a little bit confused by the numbers involving Collins Engineers. One time there was a 200 and something thousand [amount] and the next time it was at 400 and something thousand. I didn't understand if those were two separate figures and combined it was six, or if the second one was an accumulated number. I'm not a numbers person, so save me here; explain it to me. Thank you.

6. COMMUNICATIONS.

A. Employee Awards. Fire Captain Larry Carter was recognized for completing five years of service. He received a plaque, pin, check, and a standing ovation.

B. Department Reports.

i. Events. Supervisor Ellis presented the written report, a copy of which is attached hereto. Mayor Pro Tempore Ott said the 33 weekend baseball tournaments are a real bargain for our town. Those parents, coaches and

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57 players will come here every weekend, stay in our town and see how marvelous the Town of Surfside Beach is and
58 what it has to offer. Thank you to the Surfside Beach Youth Association.
59

60 **ii. Finance.** Mr. Duckett presented the written report, a copy of which is attached hereto. Mr. Stevens
61 understood the proposed budget might be \$27,000 short. Mr. Duckett replied we have been working on the budget
62 for next year. The budget workshop is on May 17th. My hope is to present a balanced budget.
63

64 **iii. Fire.** Chief Otte presented the written report, a copy of which is attached hereto. Chief Otte noted that
65 the total number of runs year-to-date was down about 20 to 30 calls. In his opinion, this is a result of the automatic
66 mutual aid agreement with Horry County, and the town is not being dispatched to every call outside of town. Ms.
67 Samples asked why the picture was included in the report. Chief Otte explained that at the last meeting there was
68 some question as to whether the town's fire department apparatus responded to the Pickled Cucumber fire. This
69 picture was taken that night at the Pickle Cucumber. It shows Engine 57 at the back of the building with attack lines
70 and supply lines engaged. At the front of the picture you can see that Engine 56 was also there with engaged attack
71 and supply lines. I wanted to ensure that everyone was aware that the town personnel and apparatus responded. Mr.
72 Stevens asked if all the fire inspections on Pickle Cucumber were completed. Chief Otte said yes, insofar as the fire
73 aspect. Mr. Courtney appreciated the picture and said he was at that fire and asked if the new fire truck is planned
74 for the upcoming budget? Chief Otte said yes, there are funds in capital replacement for the purchase. Mr. Courtney
75 asked if the department was still recruiting volunteers. Chief Otte said yes. We received several requests from
76 people asking to submit an application. Mayor Pro Tempore Ott said Horry County is advertising for firefighters on
77 television. They also seem to have a staffing problem. Are there any significant changes that were reported at the
78 Hurricane Evacuation Drill Meeting? Chief Otte said that drill sponsored by the state. It was more law-enforcement
79 driven so they could determine evacuation routes. Mayor Pro Tempore Ott asked if Glens Bay Road would be used
80 once it is open. Chief Otte said yes.
81

82 **iv. Planning, Building & Zoning.** Mr. Farria presented the written report, a copy of which is attached
83 hereto. Mr. Farria noted that the final inspection was issued today for the razing of the small building next to
84 Omega Pancake House Restaurant. Mr. Stevens said the Pickled Cucumber staff told him said they hope to be
85 reopening in July, and asked for the status. Mr. Farria said the plans were submitted, and there were some items to
86 be addressed. I hope to complete the review this week and give them a permit so they start repairs. Ms. Samples was
87 disappointed that the overlay ordinance was not on the agenda tonight, since first reading was on March 27th. During
88 first reading we asked that the business committee take a look at, and they did and responded with recommendations
89 on April 10th. I just want us to be aware that it would be nice if we could get things moving along. Mr. Duckett said
90 the committee delivered the report to town council and not to the person that has to present the ordinance. She didn't
91 get the changes until a number of days later. Mayor Pro Tempore Ott thanked Ms. Samples for bringing this up and
92 asked Mr. Duckett make sure that's on our next agenda. I like the Pickled Cucumber, and so does everybody else.
93 Let's make sure that moves right along, please. Mr. Farria said sure. Ms. Samples said, "Mr. Duckett, if you will
94 review the minutes of the meeting before last, when we had staff here, it was pretty clear what the plan of action
95 was." I just want to state that for the record. Mayor Pro Tempore Ott referred to the abandoned house at 4th Avenue
96 South and asked if a letter was sent. Mr. Farria said as far as I know it's an abandoned house. A certified letter was
97 sent on March 22nd giving 30 days from receipt of the letter to respond. We are right at 30 days now and I will
98 follow up. The address of record for the owner was the house address. If the letter is not received, the next step
99 would be to find exactly where the owners are. The code gives options to condemn the house or to be able to get
100 entry through an administrative warrant, if the owners cannot be located. Mayor Pro Tempore Ott said if the
101 property needs maintenance, we were working on the nuisance ordinance, which includes this type situation and
102 allow the town to maintain the property and charge the owner. Mr. Farria said the property maintenance code allows
103 you to do that, and a lien would be placed on the property for the maintenance cost and the town would be paid
104 when the property sold, if not sooner. Mayor Pro Tempore Ott asked if the police and fire departments were notified
105 of the abandoned property. Mr. Farria reiterated that he hasn't been able to go inside the building to determine what
106 problems exist. Once entry is allowed, issues can be identified and the proper departments contacted. Mr. Duckett
107 was asked to bring the nuisance ordinance to the next meeting.
108

109 **v. Police.** Chief Hofmann presented the written report, a copy of which is attached hereto. Chief Hofmann
110 said there was no property damage under the High Risk Activities during March, and apologized for the
111 typographical error. Also one note that was not in the report is that our Bike Week planning is done. All ops plans
112 were submitted to our assisting agencies. We have our outside state partners lined up to work. We will be a little

113 short on staffing this year, and short a couple cars, but we are prepared and everything is in order. Mr. Stevens
114 congratulated Chief Hofmann on the positive interview he had Trey Paul on TV. You can view it online; he gave a
115 very professional interview. Mr. Courtney cited the number of calls, summonses and warnings, and said the officers
116 were doing a fantastic job. Thank you for getting the message out to slow down in town.

117
118 **vi. Public Works.** Director Adair presented the written report, a copy of which is attached hereto. Mr.
119 Johnson said several messages were received regarding the construction noise and potential property damage at the
120 Myrtle Swash area. Can you give us an update? Mr. Adair said the contractors are continually using “silent pumps”,
121 even though they still make noise, to divert the water from the inland part of the swash to the ocean to keep it dry so
122 they can pour concrete. That will happen for at least another week. There were several items in the message that will
123 be addressed, but unfortunately, the pump noise cannot be stopped. To clear the record, that parking area being
124 disputed is a town right-of-way up. Old Colony Realty and Surfside Realty were pleased to learn the project will be
125 completed before Memorial Day. Mr. Courtney said thank you to Mayor Pro Tempore Ott for recommending the
126 13th Avenue South handicapped ramp and Mr. Adair and his crew for working on it along with the Surfriider
127 Foundation. Thank you for the cooperation with the beach sweep this past weekend. There was a good turn-out and
128 we got a lot of trash off the beach. Ms. Samples said the incessant pump noise that some residents were experiencing
129 was the big concern at the swash, and it will help if we can tell them the project will end soon. Mr. Adair was
130 hopeful the pump use could be stopped in another week or two. Ms. Samples said there was a lot of confusion that
131 you can no longer put yard trimmings in plastic bags. You need to use paper bags. However, you can still use
132 plastic bags trash bags for your trash. Mr. Adair said yes; you can still put household trash in plastic bags. Ms.
133 Samples said this change had nothing to do with the single-use plastic bag ban. Mr. Adair said no, the Solid Waste
134 Authority will not accept lawn debris in plastic bags after July 1st because their composting operation equipment is
135 being damaged from the plastic bags. Mayor Pro Tempore Ott asked if there any chance we get a waiver from the
136 Solid Waste Authority. Mr. Adair said no, and there will be penalties on all loads that show up with plastic bags.
137 Mayor Pro Tempore Ott said the Memorial Day holidays are approaching; don't mess up our golf cart parade. Tell
138 them to finish the bridge! Mr. Stevens referred to the finance report and said there was a good revenue balance in the
139 sanitation fund. Mr. Adair said some of that revenue derived from FEMA payments because of the hurricane. We
140 can't use that balance as a benchmark, because it does include hurricane money.

141
142 **C. Administrator's Report.** Mr. Duckett said I was prepared to ask for consensus of council to amend the
143 budget to the appropriate funds for an additional police vehicle, but Chief Hofmann will make do with existing
144 vehicles. *(Laughter)* The Adaptive Surf Event will be held on May 5th at 13th Avenue South, 7:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.
145 They expect 150 to 200 people, including volunteers. I think it would be on interesting for all of us able-bodied
146 people to see how they enjoy the surf; it takes a lot of intestinal fortitude when some of them can't move a limb. My
147 hat goes off to the people that make that happen. Mr. Courtney asked if there would be a problem with the upcoming
148 budget. Mr. Stevens mentioned earlier that he heard there is a \$27,000 shortage. Mr. Duckett said we are in the
149 preparatory phase. Our intent it to present a balanced budget at the workshop. Mr. Courtney asked if the budget
150 would be balanced without cutting personnel. Mr. Duckett said I can't say for sure about that. Mr. Courtney said so
151 we should be cautious about spending. Mr. Duckett replied yes. Ms. Samples said I am confused about the budget.
152 We are coming to the end of our budget where we always need to do some adjusting. The next few months are no
153 different than the past. We're not talking about extra money. We're just talking about finishing up the budget and
154 finding in each one of the departments those funds that have yet to be used in that particular department. No red
155 flags here. Mr. Duckett said in local government at the end of your current fiscal year prior to your voting to pass the
156 second reading of your new budget for the upcoming years, it's required by law that that you amend your budget to
157 actually reflect how you spent the money; not how you appropriated the money. Of course, you will have to vote on
158 that as a council. As part of that it behooves the town's finance director and the administrator to scrape the money
159 together and if you will, and apply it to current needs, because you can't put it in a bag and carry it over to the next
160 year. Mayor Pro Tempore Ott said this is basically money that we appropriated to do things and maybe some of
161 those things weren't all finished. Mr. Duckett said that is correct. Mr. Johnson asked for a reminder about the
162 Adaptive Surf Event. Mr. Duckett said that would be sent. Mayor Pro Tempore Ott said he didn't realize that many
163 handicapped people and volunteers to help them would come here to enjoy our beach. This is going to be a great
164 event for the Town of Surfside Beach. The event was taken away from another town and brought here, because of
165 the handicap access. Mr. Duckett said I might also add that they are very self-sufficient. They will bring their own
166 provisions, and tents. All they want is for people to come out to watch. Mr. Stevens asked for clarification that left
167 over revenue cannot be carried forward to the next budget year. Mr. Duckett no, you cannot. The budget workshop
168 will have slides, charts and graphs with explanations about where revenue comes and expenditures go. Well-run

169 cities of all shapes and sizes maintain a fund balance so that you actually have money that is accounted for in
170 various funds that may be put aside for specific purposes, such as emergency planning. You don't want so much
171 money at the end of the fiscal year that it could be argued that you were collecting too much tax revenue.

172
173 **7. BUSINESS.**

174
175 **A. Second Reading Ordinance #18-0869 Chapter 5, Mayor Pro Tempore election, etc., Interim**
176 **Administrator Duckett.** Ms. Samples moved to adopt second reading as presented. Mr. Pellegrino second. Mr.
177 Duckett presented the decision paper and ordinance, copies of which are on file. Mr. Johnson moved to amend the
178 residency from three (3) years to five (5) years. Mr. Courtney second. Mr. Johnson explained that, in my opinion,
179 you need to live in town at least five years to know what's going on. I don't think three years is enough; it's as
180 simple as that. Mr. Courtney agreed with Mr. Johnson and said I sat in the audience many, many years before
181 running for council. I think it's important to you really to know [what is going on.] When you attend meetings for
182 years, you have an idea what's going. Serving on committees prior to running for council is also helpful, but should
183 not be required. Mr. Pellegrino said the difference in living in town between three and five years is inconsequential
184 if the individual is not involved in the process. If you don't attend meetings, or read minutes, etc. you could live here
185 20 years and not know what it going on. I think three years is fine. If someone plans to run for office, the key is to
186 become involved for some time so they can learn about the process ahead of time. Mayor Pro Tempore Ott agreed
187 that committee involvement gave individuals a different perspective. Mayor Pro Tempore Ott, and Councilmembers
188 Courtney, Johnson and Stevens voted in favor. Councilmembers Pellegrino and Samples voted against. **MOTION**
189 **TO AMEND CARRIED.** Mr. Stevens moved to amend the mayor pro tempore election to state that the mayor pro
190 tempore shall have at least two years of experience on council. Mr. Courtney second for purpose of discussion.
191 Mayor Pro Tempore Ott said that was a question when he became mayor pro tem, but I had 14 years of experience
192 as chairman of the board of zoning appeals. Mr. Pellegrino said I think seven councilmembers can determine
193 whether the level of experience and qualifications are sufficient. I do not support the amendment. Mayor Pro
194 Tempore Ott agreed. Councilmembers Courtney, Johnson and Stevens voted in favor. Mayor Pro Tempore Ott and
195 Councilmembers Pellegrino and Samples voted against. **MOTION TO AMEND FAILED – No Majority.** All
196 voted in favor of the primary motion as amended. **MOTION CARRIED AS AMENDED.**

197
198 Mr. Johnson called *point of order*, and said, "I would just like to mention that it's not just about the mayor
199 pro tem; it's about the fees as well." Mayor Pro Tempore Ott said thank you; Mr. Duckett addressed that during the
200 presentation.

201
202 **B. Resolution #18-188 Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with Pier Outfitters, Inc., Interim**
203 **Administrator Duckett.** Mr. Duckett said this MOU with Pier Outfitters is almost identical to the one that was
204 passed by this council almost exactly one year ago. The one difference is I am recommending that the rent be
205 increased by \$10,000, and we are forgiving them a provision of the original contracted that stated if they made more
206 than X number of dollars they would have to pay 10% of that the town. One reason for the recommendation is that
207 your previous administrator before her departure had been in contact with Mr. Kremer, and this is one of those calls
208 that you get as the interim administrator where somebody discloses a discussion with the previous administrator that
209 was made on behalf of the town. You want to respond that person is no longer here, but as a practical matter, if a
210 businessman made a business decision based on representations on what his ability is to earn a decent wage this
211 summer, then I think that needs to be honored. That's why I bring this to you today. Mayor Pro Tempore Ott said
212 this resolution would increase the rent payment. Mr. Duckett said yes, but not collect any other compensation. Ms.
213 Samples moved to approve Resolution 18-188. Mr. Pellegrino second. Mr. Pellegrino asked if this had already been
214 communicated to Kremers. Mr. Duckett said he spoke with the Kremers about a disputed repair, but the Kremers
215 agreed to cover the \$4,500 cost without debating responsibility as to whether it was required by the contract. The
216 Kremers understand the terms of the resolution and also understand their contract expires at the end of this calendar
217 year. MS. Samples asked what would happen after the five months. Mr. Duckett said we don't know. The Kremers'
218 generally start closing after the season is over. They didn't elect to keep it open when it was operating as a fishing
219 pier during the off season; certain months were optional. Ms. Samples asked when the five month period began. Mr.
220 Duckett said when they open; I think it is February. Mayor Pro Tempore Ott called *point of order*, and asked that the
221 discussion stay within this context of the resolution. Mr. Stevens said the resolutions states they will pay \$12,000 per
222 month for five months. Mr. Duckett said that's correct. Mr. Stevens asked if the contract would be renegotiated at
223 that point, since it is a publicly owned property. Mr. Duckett said if the buildings are completed, habitable, and
224 rentable I suggest that this council then instruct your employees to issue an RFP (request for proposals) so anybody

225 interested in renting it could submit their proposal. Proposals normally arrive sealed; they are opened at same time,
226 and are cataloged. All voted in favor. **MOTION CARRIED.**

227
228 **C. Resolution #18-190 Declaration of Runoff Election Results, Interim Administrator Duckett.** Mr.
229 Duckett presented the resolution, a copy of which is on file. Mr. Stevens moved to adopt Resolution #18-190 as
230 presented. Mr. Courtney second. All voted in favor. **MOTION CARRIED.** Ms. Samples noted that there were 705
231 ballots cast out of 3,414 registered electors. Voter apathy is alive and well in the Town of Surfside Beach. Mayor
232 Pro Tempore Ott thanked everyone who voted.

233
234 **D. Plastic Bag Waiver – Surfside Beach Bargain Beachwear Store, Interim Administrator Duckett.**
235 Mr. Duckett presented the decision paper, a copy of which is on file. Ms. Samples said I do not support this. I think
236 it sets a terrible precedent. We've been talking about plastic bags for a while and this council saw fit to enact a
237 plastic bag ban, which I think that's a great thing. I do have concerns about the plastic bag ban, which I brought up to
238 council before. The previous administrator had a plan of action in place to have an 'inform and educate' session for
239 our local businesses. Unfortunately, that has not happen, so I do have some concerns about the implementation.
240 However, the CVS at the corner of the 5th Avenue North is already using paper bags, and we appreciate that effort. I
241 am not in support of any waivers as it relates to the single use plastic bags. Mr. Pellegrino said I'm not in support of
242 any waiver either, because once you allow one then everyone will be asking. It kind of defeats the purpose of the
243 ban. It stinks, though, because this business probably bought their stock of bags many months ago before we voted
244 on that ordinance. We really don't have a concrete implementation plan, so no one had a timeline for anything. Mr.
245 Stevens concur with Ms. Samples and Mr. Pellegrino. We voted for it and we decided to do it. In this particular case,
246 Bargain Beachwear and Eagles have stores from one end of this is the beach area to the other and can use those bags
247 in their other stores. Mr. Johnson said a precedent was set a long time ago when we passed the single use plastic bag
248 ban. It was ill conceived. Amazingly, we don't have any of the outside residents in the audience now that supported
249 the bag ban. Imagine that! I've gone to several restaurants in town, and they said they were never told about the ban.
250 That's ironic, because we had a town administrator sitting over there saying that 70% of the restaurant owners or
251 managers were notify and so on and so forth. It's ironic that places I frequent were never contacted. I don't like the
252 bag ban simply because Horry County does not have one. There are Walmart stores just outside town on both the
253 north and south end; they are everywhere Horry County and on the beach. If we are going to ban bags, ban them on
254 the beach. Otherwise, it's a [mess.] I apologize for voting for it. *(Laughter)* I'm the only one that has apologized for
255 voting for it. Mr. Pellegrino said I did vote 'no.' I do agree with Mr. Johnson. This council voted yes, so we have an
256 ordinance now, and whether I agree or not, the ordinance has to be enforced. Mr. Courtney said I'm concerned about
257 what I'm hearing, and what the impact will be to our local businesses. I also heard feedback from local businesses
258 and this has impacted them in a big way. Was any information sent out by the town about this ordinance or was any
259 anything given to the business owners that gave him a timeline. Most of the businesses I spoke to had bought their
260 stock for the summer. Mr. Duckett said I'm not aware; I was merely a citizen when this was adopted. Since I am
261 now known as an employee, I have caught a lot of disrespect from various store owners and employees. They are
262 saying I will have caused them to lose their jobs when their store closes. I'll do whatever council decides, and
263 council has already decided it's a matter of communication. Mr. Courtney said the town did not inform the
264 businesses, correct. Mr. Duckett said not to my knowledge. Mayor Pro Tempore Ott said ignorance of the law is no
265 excuse. The other thing is this town led the way with a smoking ban and Horry County still hasn't adopted it. All of
266 our retail operations are glad we don't smoke. Ms. Herrmann informed Town Council that a flyer about the single
267 use plastic bag ban was included with the business license applications, which were mailed around April 1st. Mr.
268 Johnson said I do not recognize the economic hardship issue [in this case,] and do not support a waiver. However, I
269 do believe the ordinance should be brought back to council within the next month. *(Applause)* Mayor Pro Tempore
270 Ott said it would be brought back automatically in 12 months. Ms. Samples said memory is a funny thing. We all
271 received copies of the surveys that were sent out to the businesses before the plastic bag ban was enacted. In the
272 information listed all of the businesses who responded and who didn't respond. We were aware of who did and did
273 not support the ban. And yes, 70% of them based on the information we got did support the plastic bag ban. As it
274 relates to plastic bags, you can spend \$20 and get a 1,000 bags; spend \$100 and get 5,000, or you can spend \$200
275 and get 10,000 bags. The cost of plastic bags does not create a hardship, in my opinion. Tonight is not the night to
276 debate the plastic bag ban ordinance. But, I believe it is this council's failure as it has been we enact laws, and then
277 we do nothing about it. We just sit back and say okay, let it be done, and then we do not inform anybody about
278 anything. I've brought this up numerous times since my term began. We make changes and then we don't tell
279 anybody about them until they come in to have something done, and that includes our residents and businesses. The
280 single use plastic bag ban has been talked about; it's been all over the press; we notified the businesses, and it is

281 incumbent upon us to help to inform and educate. We have not done that, and that's our failure to do so. Instead of
282 changing what we've done, let's talk about what staff can do. I understand that notices were sent with the business
283 license renewals. But we can do more, and there are opportunities, businesses and organizations out there that are
284 willing to come in and help us. We need to reach out and ask the people who came before council and were so
285 passionate about it, because they know what they're doing. Plastic bag bans are being adopted all over the state. We
286 either need to get on board or get out of the way. Mayor Pro Tempore Ott said I agree with Ms. Samples. Ms.
287 Samples moved to deny the request for a one year waiver from Surfside Beach Bargain Beachwear Store. Mr.
288 Pellegrino second. Mayor Pro Tempore Ott and Councilmembers Courtney, Samples and Stevens voted in favor.
289 Councilmembers Johnson and Pellegrino voted against. **MOTION TO DENY WAIVER REQUEST CARRIED.**
290

291 **E. Accommodations Tax Committee Appointment (1 Vacancy), Ms. Melody Lane-Laveglia.** Mr.
292 Stevens moved to appoint Ms. Lane-Laveglia to the accommodations tax committee for a four year term. Mr.
293 Johnson second. All voted in favor. **MOTION CARRIED.**
294

295 **F. Pier Building Design, Contract, Bid Services, and Construction Observation with Collins**
296 **Engineers, Director Adair.** Mr. Adair presented the decision paper, a copy of which is on file. Mayor Pro Tempore
297 Ott said council would approve the buildings, but no plans have been presented. Mr. Adair explained that Town
298 Council would be asked to consider options for building designs, colors, paints, etc. however, these preliminary
299 plans are necessary to get to that point. There will be multiple meetings for Town Council input about the pier as the
300 process continues. Mr. Pellegrino referred to Ms. Lowery's comments about the \$436,000. Does this include
301 previous payment? Mr. Adair said this is a separate agreement from the 208 that was approved last month, which
302 was for the pier design. This estimate was included in the estimate given to FEMA for reimbursement. The
303 engineers were asked to design the buildings to accommodate a second story in the future. Once the preliminary
304 building plans are finished, the EHP (Federal Environment and Historical Preservation) review can start. Mr.
305 Pellegrino said the consultant said the EHP could take up to 18 months. Is FEMA firm on that timeframe? Mr.
306 Adair responded that the time will depend on other storm events in the country, but the consultant hopes it is
307 completed much faster. This review has to be done for all the large scale projects. I'm hopeful the EHP will be
308 completed sooner, because we are not changing the pier footprint, but I can't speak for FEMA. **COUNCIL**
309 **CONCURRED TO HAVE INTERIM ADMINISTRATOR DUCKETT EXECUTE THE AGREEMENTS AS**
310 **REQUESTED.**
311

312 **8. TOWN COUNCIL DISCUSSION.** Any matters of concern or information to be discussed.
313

314 Mr. Stevens referred to the letter sent to Town Council from director Sandy Martin, Horry County
315 Elections & Registration, requesting that the town move its elections to November in odd years, because Surfside
316 Beach is the only municipality in the county with a different election day. I think this would actually save us some
317 money that we're spending on elections. Why not have 'em when everybody else has 'em. I've even like to see it on
318 the same time that everybody else is running for office, because you always will have more turnout. We have voter
319 apathy, but when they have a President or Congress running, I guarantee y'all get out and vote. We need to seriously
320 look at our election and change it from the odd time of April and make it to November when everybody else has
321 theirs. Mr. Johnson said this is not the first time this has requested, and I'm sure that the town clerk can back me up
322 on this. It's been going on for years and years. It's always an issue. Mayor Pro Tempore Ott said to echo Ms.
323 Samples' comment that we don't have the voter turnout, and if it was, we would get a much better turnout probably
324 with a major election in there, too. Mr. Pellegrino said I have no problem with it. I think it would help the voter
325 turnout, but I would like to hear input from the Election Commission and the clerk. I don't even know why we have
326 elections in April, or whether that is a better time. Ms. Herrmann said the reason our elections are in April is because
327 the fiscal year used to end on March 31st. With the April elections, new councilmembers were seated after the
328 budget was adopted. When council changed the fiscal year to end on June 30th, they didn't change the election time.
329 Now new councilmembers are being seated a month before the budget has to be adopted. The county will not handle
330 our election, the town's Election Day just would occur on the same day as everyone else's. It is entirely up to
331 council. It is the same amount of work and cost whether we do it in April or November. Ms. Samples said also we
332 hold nonpartisan elections, and it was always nice that we were unique, and we could concentrate on the Town of
333 Surfside Beach elections, and not the national, state, or local elections. I certainly don't have an issue, if this council
334 decides to change the day, but as the clerk pointed out, we're still going to have to run the election for the Town of
335 Surfside Beach. So it isn't going to save us any money, and it's just going to put us in the pool with everyone else. I
336 don't know if that's a good thing or not. Mr. Courtney said I think it should go back to the Election Commission and

337 let them work it out to research; what the exact cost is to the taxpayers; what the ins and outs are, and if it would be
338 beneficial to the town. As the letter states, we are the only city that has a different election day. Mayor Pro Tempore
339 Ott agreed. Mr. Stevens agreed. **Council CONCURRED to send this to the Election Commission and to bring**
340 **the matter under business on the next meeting.**

341
342 Mr. Stevens said Mr. Duckett told me the advertisement for the town administrator on the website is the job
343 description. I am dissatisfied and disillusioned that the exact same ordinance we have all our town website was not
344 used. The Section 2-113 used states there are 11 different items for the duties of the town administrator. Section 2-
345 113 duties administrator the town administrator says the town administrator is responsible for keeping the Town
346 Council fully informed to support Town Councilmembers fulfillment of their fiduciary responsibilities, and better
347 react represent the citizens. Nowhere in this Section 2-113 did it have that. It didn't have anything about us keeping
348 council fully informed, except for the financial condition and future needs and make recommendations that as may
349 seem to him desirable. I told the guy that I talked to last Saturday was this was not the town ordinance. We don't
350 want somebody coming in here thinking their duties will be different. We want the duties to be spelled out, and they
351 are in our ordinances. The duties should be exactly word for word as in our town ordinance. Mr. Stevens didn't
352 know how that happened and wanted an answer. Mr. Duckett said it happened when nobody was in charge. Mr.
353 Courtney said good answer. Mr. Stevens asked when it was put on the website. Mr. Duckett said it was put on the
354 website in February when Town Council directed that it be done. Mayor Pro Tempore Ott jokingly said [the Mayor]
355 isn't here, let's blame him! (*Laughter*) Mr. Stevens wanted consensus of council that we change this on our website.
356 **Council CONCURRED.**

357
358 Mr. Johnson said many times people have complained about Huckabee Complex and the fact that most of
359 the participants live in the county. I serve on the Municipal Association Board of Directors and we meet regularly.
360 That is not an unusual incident. Virtually every city or town that has a nice park or facilities has the same issue. I
361 just wanted to bring that out to let everyone know. Ms. Ellis is nodding agreement from the audience. We're doing
362 what we do and the people are glad that we do it. Mayor Pro Tempore Ott said let me add that I love baseball and I
363 think team sports build character in youth.

364
365 **9. PUBLIC COMMENTS. General Comments. (5-minutes per speaker)**

366
367 Mr. Tom Dodge, 8th Avenue South: The following is my opinion. The city of Chicago is said to have dirty
368 politics. But here in Surfside Beach, we have filthy politics. Candidates running as a team. Mayor and councilperson
369 heavily involved in the election. Money pouring into town from Fort Mill, Lexington, Myrtle Beach and who knows
370 where else, and a group of evil people called 'Surfside Strong' who sent out a disgusting mailing vilifying Mr.
371 Courtney. Why didn't the other candidates who had to be as shocked as I was condemn this garbage? But no, they
372 did not. I guess they thought if it hurt him, it'll help them. This is not very Christian like to me. This all makes me
373 wonder why this dirty money would be spent to sway an election in the little old 2 mile town. Could it be to ensure
374 passage of the proposed E District at the pier area? Who knows? Could it be to ensure enough votes to vote for
375 raising the building height limit at the pier area so high-rises could be built? Who knows? Could it be so our
376 politicians could become wealthy at the cost of giving this gem called Surfside Beach to the developers from
377 Lexington, Fort Mill, Myrtle Beach, and elsewhere? Maybe even right here, or could it be all of the above? Lastly, I
378 am requesting that a background check be done on the two recently elected councilmembers, and the results be
379 publicly discussed at the next council meeting. I do not think this is asking too much since our recently fired
380 administrator, Mrs. Fellner, did background checks on about 40 townspeople without their knowledge for apparently
381 no reason. Each one of these 40 or so or less residents should be made aware that these checks were done on them.
382 That is called an invasion of privacy. I also think that the new administrator should be required if that's possible to
383 live in the Town of Surfside Beach so they have a vested interest in this town. Thank you.

384
385 Mr. Boyd Sadler, 8th Avenue South: I have a lot to say that I was gonna say tonight, but I'm gonna keep it
386 short, because I don't want to get thrown out. Chief Hofmann might want to do that to me. But anyway, I think
387 democracy worked again here today. Wow, it's shocking. It really is. There's no way that the exceptions to the rule,
388 the ordinances, the plastic bags should be given to anybody at this point. It's been all over the news. It's not a secret.
389 The day it was voted on that next morning it was on all the news stations. Everybody had knowledge of it. It is a real
390 controversy and the State of South Carolina is even trying to stop it from happening in other towns and cities. So far,
391 since that's been done, groups like Surfrider and other organizations around have been handing out bags. In fact,
392 even one of our candidates, Carol Cook, and she handed out, I forget the number, it's gotta be around 1,300 bags in

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393 town here. At least that, probably more. I'm not good at counting anymore, either, but she visited a lot of houses and
394 I'm sure most of you got one [delivered] to your door. They're there. Everybody knew. Maybe some people didn't
395 want to hear, and I'm gonna leave it at that. But it was really pleasant to see democracy working again, and having
396 an ordinance, it's established and backing it up, not giving breaks on it. We don't need that door open. Thank you.
397

398 Ms. Carrie Johnson, Harbor Lights Drive: I'd like to speak just a little bit about the bag thing, too. For
399 years I've come to these meetings and I've heard you all sit up there and talk about how you're so on the side of the
400 businesses; business friendly; you want to bring in businesses, and now you want to dictate to the businesses here in
401 town that they can't use plastic bags, whereas, just down the street a mile or two, there's plenty of plastic bags. We
402 do frequent the businesses in town; 90% of the time when we go out to eat, we're in town. It's been said again
403 tonight that 70% of the businesses they got back; they were in favor of it. Well every business that we have been has
404 said they were never asked. They did not get anything to ask them whether they were in favor of it or not. Then you
405 bring up the smoking thing that we were first on that. Yes, we were, and other businesses not in the town, in the
406 county, followed along. There are other businesses, I think they are on their own doing the paper bags, but still,
407 you've got the Styrofoam cups; you've got the straws, all that stuff, and they're taking it upon themselves to change
408 things. I feel like that that's what we need in the Town of Surfside Beach. Let them take it upon themselves to do it,
409 not push this on them, because it's a huge expense to these smaller businesses, and I personally would not be
410 surprised if you did not see some of these businesses moving out of town, because they don't have to go very far.
411 Just a mile or two and be in the county. They'll get the same clientele, but then they wouldn't have to go to the extra
412 expense of these plastic, not having, being able to use plastic bags. Thank you, and just one more comment. When it
413 was passed, 95% of the people that were here were from North Carolina, Pawleys Island, Timbuktu. Hardly any
414 people in the town spoke in favor of it. Thank you.
415

416 Ms. Liz Bradley, Juniper Drive: I was one of the people that spoke about it then. I'm one of the people that
417 will speak about it now. People that were here were supporting, and were also people that I work with and I've gone
418 to other places to help support this there as well. The fact that people from all over want to make this world a cleaner
419 and better place, not only for us, but for generations to come, is not something that's limited to only Surfside. The
420 fact that I have a passion about trying to keep our beaches and oceans clean, the fact that I'm a teacher and it's
421 important to me as a parent and a professional is just something that's upsetting to see coming back up again.
422 However, I'm thrilled that you guys all decided that this waiver was definitely not something you should support
423 and I hope you continue keep that in mind in the future. You guys made a great step forward; don't take two steps
424 back.
425

426 Ms. Betty Lowery, 4th Avenue North: I am not a rabid [sic] supporter of plastic bags one way or the other,
427 but here we go. The biggest issue that were having with plastic bags is that you had to rush to a decision, because
428 you knew the state was gonna come in and try to take that decision out of your hands, and because of that there are
429 a lot of issues that are going to develop. Plastic bags coming in from out of town; as Carrie just said, you don't have to
430 go very far to find businesses that are gonna be using plastic bags. But, I am so sick of seeing those things blowing
431 out the back of pickup trucks. I'm sick of seeing them in the trees. I hate seeing them like that. We can, we just
432 won't even go there. I really understand why businesses are having an issue with it. I really do. It's hard to make
433 changes. Change hurts. It just does. As I said, there are businesses in town that don't use any kind of bag. Don't use
434 any kind of container. Shortly after you passed this, there was something on TV about a diver in Australia who had
435 gone down to take pictures of fish. When he went down, he couldn't find any fish, and they had the video; what he
436 was seeing was shredded plastic bags. So we have to consider that. What we also have to consider is how we're
437 going to handle plastic bags coming in from out of town. Visitors are gonna come in. If they're anything like my
438 daughter-in-law, they pack in plastic bags. They are going to buy their groceries along the way, and they're gonna
439 bring those bags in. So, how are we going to handle that? I understand that business feel like they're at a
440 disadvantage, because this is going to be able to use plastic bags, and this one is not. We've got a lot of issues that
441 we have to develop. Something else you need to consider, if you bring this thing back up, if you get rid of it, you're
442 not going to have the option to go back and put it back in place, because the state will see that that wasn't done.
443 There's a lot of misinformation about it. I was in Piggly Wiggly one day and there was a man in the checkout
444 counter ahead of me talking to the girl on the register, and they were absolutely sure that the state was, regardless of
445 what Surfside said, the state was going to be able to say you can't do it that way, and I had to explain to them, sorry,
446 we did it. And you know I wasn't ugly about it. That's already been done. The state can keep other people from
447 doing it, but they can't change what we've done. So there's misinformation about that. I know this seems very
448 rambling, but there's so much going on here. There's just a lot of issues that need to be addressed, and I don't know

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449 how much change you can do to this plastic bag ordinance, and still make sure that he stays in place. Can you
450 change the date that is going to be implemented? Maybe not. How are you going to have it enforced in town? What
451 if businesses say, 'Hey, I'm just not gonna do it.' How do you enforce that? There are a lot of things that you need to
452 put in place, but I don't think one of them is removing the ban. I know it's hard. I know it's not going to be popular,
453 but there's that saying if you not the leader, your view is never gonna change.
454

455 Ms. Gail King, Hollywood Drive North: Integrity is the quality of being honest and having strong moral
456 character, sincerity, and trustworthiness. Insanity is a spectrum of both group and individual behavior characterized
457 by abnormal behavior patterns; doing the same thing over and over and expecting different results. Hopefully the
458 group of people in Surfside Beach that have continually used inappropriate flyers, social media, and lies and slander
459 in an attempt to discredit and criticize particular ideas, beliefs, and principles of our candidates, mayor, and citizens
460 will finally realize that the people of Surfside Beach will not tolerate this. This insane behavior, and I repeat, insane
461 behavior is not what we wanted in the past nor in the future. We as a town are so much better than this. Integrity has
462 won elections past and present. In the future if you want to know what the candidates' goals and agendas are, don't
463 assume what you read on social media or flyers is accurate. Seek out the candidate and asked them personally.
464 Debates were great source of information this year. Social media is fake news, especially when a person slanders a
465 citizen of our town, and condemns them for renting and not owning a home and accusations of it being an attic,
466 which could cause permanent brain damage. Slanderous and insane accusations that this person continues to do on
467 social media regularly should not be tolerated. Last time I checked a lot of people rent, and they have the exact same
468 voting rights as a homeowner. Town Councilmembers should be held to a higher standard, and your actions should
469 reflect that. Was that the case in last week's runoff, [no.] The police had to be called a couple times.
470 Councilmembers, we vote you in. Your actions and words will have consequences. Time for each and every one of
471 you to try and get along and please try to work together and stop acting at times like petulant children. If you cannot,
472 then please step down and let someone who is willing to act like an adult do the job. If you attended the beach sweep
473 that we had on Saturday, you would've seen how real leaders directed a group of people to accomplish a task
474 without negativity or any problems. Actually it was a great time and most people enjoyed it and will be willing to
475 return in June. Finally, Atlantic Beach has always been on the news, but it seems like Surfside has taken that spot.
476 People are not going to agree on all the topics most of the time, but from here on out, let's treat others, everybody
477 with respect and kindness instead of slandering and bullying, and maybe Surfside Beach will go back to being
478 known as the Family Beach. Thank you.
479

480 Ms. Patricia Magliette, Harbor Lights Drive: With respect to our last speaker, who spoke very well, I'd like
481 to talk about our past election flyers. Okay, I do believe that Surfside Beach isn't as bad as Atlantic Beach or is a
482 mess. I think Surfside Beach is trying to heal. We have different people with different opinions and it gets messy
483 sometimes. However, on the respective flyers, the good flyer came out with the man that said, well with somebody
484 that said that they truly support the fire department and the police, and the person won. So, okay. So I read the flyer.
485 I believe the flyer, and I'm watching really, really closely. When this comes up, and it should come up soon, because
486 we need two more firemen. There were even asked last time or so about how they handled the fire, and did they do it
487 right, and yet and still they've not gotten their two more full-time firemen. So alright, when this comes up, and it
488 should come up soon, I expect said candidate who won who had that on his, on their flyer to support the firemen
489 with their two more firemen needed to retain the ISO number one status. Also, shortly should come up with; talk
490 about a raise for policemen, and once again on this flyer, support the police, I'm gonna be watching to see if the said
491 person supports the police getting a raise, even if it's just a little one. So then another positive flyer came to my
492 house that said the person believed in safety for the town. So, okay, when this voting for our firemen, two of them
493 that we need, and for our police who need that raise, I'm gonna be looking at this candidate, also who ran to see the
494 wonderful flyer, the truth in his flyer, I'm gonna watch his words and see if he put his money where his mouth is,
495 and I'm watching to see what happens on these flyers happens in real life. You can put anything on a flyer, but once
496 you do, I expect you to step up and do it in person. I will be watching and listening. Third and finally, the flyer that
497 came out with Surfside Strong that ugly, horrible flyer that compared someone to a dictator and had that woman on,
498 okay, we don't know yet who Surfside Strong was, but the town of Surfside, the people of Surfside are not like that.
499 Whoever decided to call themselves Surfside Strong and put this garbage into our mailboxes is as yet to come out
500 and say who they really are. And that's cowardly. If you're gonna put out a flyer like that you need to man-up; say
501 who you are, and why you said it or don't even bother sending out that flyer. I believe in our town. I believe in our
502 people, until proven otherwise. And that's all I have to say. Good night and God bless.
503
504

505 Mr. Don Reed, 16th Avenue South: To be honest with you, I didn't see this plastic bag thing coming today,
506 so I don't have a script. I'm just talking, so please pardon the random, and maybe I'll even have an anxiety attack.
507 *(Laughter)* The reason I started coming here is because my wife insisted I come here to support the plastic bags. I
508 didn't. I saw this as a pick; bumper sticker ordinance that had no meaning; wasn't addressing the problem, and was
509 focused on the 17 Corridor. We're talking about the suppliers. We supply cars and people still speed. We supply
510 alcohol and people still get drunk. We still buy drugs, and people still miss use it. The education and the
511 enforcement is what solves the problem. This ordinance that you had had none of that. I don't think we should repeal
512 it. I think we should address the things. The group that you're criticizing all came with good hearts, good passion,
513 and they all offered to help. They all had activities that could do things. You had an educational system there. You
514 have the total people; you had the people from North Carolina, they all offered help. You haven't asked; you haven't
515 solicited. Your promise was that that was going to be the first step. I haven't seen yet any directive from this council
516 to the town administrator to come up with a proposal for education. On a personal note, I think we need to move that
517 from the 17 Corrido down onto our beach as Mr. Johnson said. There's one group in this town that's thinks they're
518 very influential. They supply money to the elect few people and they do nothing but rape our beaches, and that's the
519 real estate industry. They bring the people in here, they don't educate them on how they're supposed be. They don't
520 post notices at their, in their facilities. The people that rent and the real estate people need to step up. They need to
521 man up and say take ownership of how they're making their money, instead of sending money to the PACs to elect
522 people in their favor, some of that money should go for polls signs and postage and education and public
523 announcements, and some give back to this community, not just take it. That's it. Thank you.

524
525 **10. TOWN COUNCIL COMMENTS.**
526

527 Mr. Johnson: Thank you all for coming out tonight. There were great comments, and I appreciate them all.
528 Again, thank you for coming out. It's gonna be an interesting two to four to six to ten years! Thank you very much.
529

530 Mr. Stevens: I was thinking about what people said about the election; about the nasty politics. Also
531 thinking about what people said about social media. I can tell you that I've seen stuff on social media written about
532 me. I had somebody that claimed that they had a background check on me. Maybe Ms. Fellner did, I don't have any
533 idea who did the background check. But it was all just factious stuff. Total lies. I got a copy of it. Just remember, if
534 you say something bad, you can be sued for slander, defamation, and libel. And if people want to say false stuff, it's
535 different when you say something that's actually true. If you say something that's true, it's public record, it can be
536 proven without a shadow of a doubt you can't be sued for that. But if you say something that is false, defamatory,
537 slanderous, and I consider that flyer against Tim Courtney slanderous, most slanderous thing I've ever seen. That
538 was defamatory and libelous. I did find out who sent it out. National Direct Marketing they're right over there on
539 Forestbrook Road. Anybody wants to find out who did it, that's who did it. That's who mailed it out. How did I find
540 out? I went straight to the post office, and I showed them the mailing names, and they said, just like that National
541 Direct Marketing. The other flyers which had Permit 200 were mailed out by Pronto Press. Sooner or later Surfside
542 Strong you're going to be exposed, and when you are exposed, whoever was behind it, I hope you get the biggest
543 lawsuit for defamation, libel and slander that you've ever seen, because that's what you deserve. You're nothing but
544 lower than the bottom of the septic tank. I don't like any of that kind of stuff. Anybody wants to slander me, see you
545 in court.
546

547 Mr. Pellegrino: Thank you for coming tonight. Some of the comments were good. Some weren't. I'll just
548 respond to some of them. I did condemn the flyer two weeks ago. We had comments on that, and I thought it was an
549 awful flyer, and I said that, and I also said that I don't support Surfside Strong, and I don't want their support. In fact,
550 the flyers that were also talked about by another citizen about me, police, and fire, although I do support them, that
551 did not come for me. That was information from four years ago, and it wasn't even current information, and I have
552 no idea who sent it out. But I have proven in the past my support of ISO1 and different things, and raises for the
553 police two years ago, and working on raises for different areas now. I do support our public safety. As far as the
554 height restriction. I will never vote for anything that raises height restriction over 55 feet in R3. That's clear. I spent
555 \$250 on my campaign: \$240 on signs and \$10 on copies of my orange flyers, which many of you got. That's it. I
556 accepted no money from anyone, because money creates bias and money creates obligation, and I don't want that
557 affecting my vote. I vote for citizens. I vote for tourists. I vote for business owners. And, I vote for second
558 homeowners. That's who I vote for, because they all pay taxes and that's who I represent. You know one side may
559 benefit; one side may not this time, but then it'll flip-flop the other time. So that's who I consider. I struggle with the
560 fact that no one puts their names on anything. It's a problem with the flyers, Surfside Strong, obviously, also social

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561 media. I get crushed on certain sites. I don't do social media, but my wife does and she'll show it to me and I'll
562 respond on her [site] and put this is David so they know, and they may delete my comments. Come on, really!?
563 Anyways, but it's ridiculous. It's not just the flyers. It's social media, too, like Mr. Stevens said, it's all lies. Anyway,
564 that has to clean up, and unfortunately not knowing who it is, we can't clean it up. But I will say one thing, God
565 always knows. So you'll have to deal with that. Anyway, thank you very much for coming. I would like to thank
566 Ms. Samples and Mr. Courtney for serving on council and all their efforts there, and I'd also like to congratulate Mr.
567 Dietrich and Ms. Scoles who will be joining us in a couple weeks. So, thank you very much for coming. Have a
568 great night.
569

570 Ms. Samples: Thank you, Mr. Mayor Pro Tem. Great job tonight. A lot of the comments are pretty rich
571 tonight. Interesting. I want to thank staff so much for your constant hard work and support of our residents and of
572 this council. You are all to be admired and I appreciate you very much. Mr. Duckett, it's been a pleasure to work
573 with you, even though it's been short, and I know that you are as anxious to become a private citizen again as I am,
574 so thank you very much. I wanted to thank my friends and supporters. It's been a fun two years, and I appreciate all
575 of the kind comments, in particular the last few weeks. Thank you very much. I also wanted to take a moment to
576 thank the Mayor; he's not here. As you all know Bob Childs defeated Mayor Samples in the election two years ago,
577 and when I decided to run there were people who said, 'Oh, my gosh. How's that gonna work?' The one thing my
578 husband asked me to do when I took office when I was seated was do not criticize the mayor. It is a difficult job.
579 He's got a lot to learn even though he's been on council for a while. So, please be supportive of him, and I assured
580 him I would. Let me tell you this, Mr. Childs, Mayor Childs, could not have been more welcoming to me, and more
581 respectful of me, and we've worked well together and I've really appreciated that, and I wanted to share that with
582 you because he is a kind and honorable man who's doing a very, very difficult job. So, sometimes I don't think we
583 give him enough respect, quite frankly. So, I wanted to say that. I wish he was here to hear it, but he and I will talk
584 after, and again, to the citizens, thank you very much for coming out. It's always a pleasure to see you and to have
585 you come up and share with us your thoughts and concerns. Mr. Mayor Pro Tem, thank you. *(Applause)* Mayor Pro
586 Tempore Ott: Thank you very much, Julie. It's been a pleasure to serve with you.
587

588 Mr. Courtney: Thank you. This night is one of the best nights that I've had here in two years. The election;
589 I wasn't even gonna bring it up. Surfside Strong, you're weak. Very weak. You know why? You didn't even give
590 me a run for my money. I wasn't really trying that hard. I had two back surgeries, and had some problems, so I'm
591 not gonna dance around it. The flyers were a joke. I find them very; I'm thick skinned. It doesn't bother me. You
592 could mail them out; throw them right in the garbage. I think most of the people do that with them, as well. So, it
593 was a joke to me. To be a police officer, you have to have thick skin and if you ever want to challenge me on my
594 credentials, feel free. I'd be more than happy to show them to you. I really want to express one thing, be nice and be
595 kind to each other when you leave here. Be civil. I've said this many times. Hasn't this election taught us anything?
596 Have even the past elections? I mean this goes on election after election. It's getting boring already. Try to get along.
597 Try to be civil. I've gotta live here with my wife and children. I have no regrets for what I've done, and by being up
598 on this council, and I want to thank staff for their hard work. They do a good job, each and every one of them. Yeah,
599 it's our job to challenge them; to question them when we see something wrong, but we always, we care for them.
600 They're considered family. They're part of us; the Family Beach, so are our businesses, second homeowners, our
601 tourists, our real estate [companies.] Everybody that comes together. Be civil out there. Be nice when you see me
602 you don't have to look the other way. You can wave. It's okay. Put away your political differences, and put them
603 away. I want thank you for the great two years. It was an honor and a pleasure to serve each and every one of you. I
604 will be out in there in the community. I will be sitting in that chair right behind you in a couple weeks, so I'm
605 looking forward. So, we'll have some fun. I'll keep it quiet and nice. Again. I want thank everybody. Have a blessed
606 night. God bless you. Thank you. *(Applause)* Mayor Pro Tempore Ott: Thank you, Mr. Courtney. It was a pleasure
607 serving with you.
608

609 Mayor Pro Tempore Ott: I miss Ms. King tonight. I hope she feels a lot better. She's a real ace the way she
610 takes care of this town and the money in this town. I did miss her, because I had a couple of questions for her. I'll
611 get her next time. Keep Surfside Beach Beautiful really did a great job on the beach Saturday, and as one resident
612 said, it does show our family. We get out there. We help each other and we do these things. We can see it. I thank
613 the Election Commission that took care of this election, and stayed unbiased completely, and all our residents that
614 worked in the polls. I appreciate everything and thank you for coming out. Thank you for your comments and as
615 we're losing our two companions, this is not easy to do, because we do face you every two weeks. Whatever
616

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617 happens, we gotta pay the piper, and you guys are blowing on that pipe and telling us. Thank you very much for
618 coming out here and listening to us.
619

620 **11. ADJOURNMENT.** Mr. Johnson moved to adjourn the meeting at 9:10 p.m. Ms. Samples and Mr.
621 Courtney second. All voted in favor. **MOTION CARRIED.**

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Prepared and submitted by:

Debra E. Herrmann, CMC, Town Clerk

629 Approved: May 8, 2018
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Surfside Beach Town Council

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Robert F. Childs, III, Mayor

Ron Ott, Mayor Pro Tempore

Timothy T. Courtney, Town Council

Mark L. Johnson, Town Council

David L. Pellegrino, Town Council

Julie M. Samples, Town Council

Randle M. Stevens, Town Council

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