

# SURFSIDE BEACH TOWN COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING COUNCIL CHAMBERS, 115 US HIGHWAY 17 NORTH, SURFSIDE BEACH, SC 29575 TUESDAY, JANUARY 22, 2019

**EXECUTIVE SESSION 6:00 P.M.** 

**REGULAR MEETING 6:30 P.M.** 

## EXECUTIVE SESSION - 6:00 p.m.

- 1. Call to Order, Mayor Childs
- 2. Executive Session pursuant to the Freedom of Information Act §30-4-70(a)(1) to discuss the appointment of a person or persons to a public body, specifically the Keep Surfside Beach Beautiful Committee. (See Business Item 7.C.)
- 3. Adjournment

#### TOWN COUNCIL MEETING AGENDA - 6:30 p.m. AMENDED TO INCLUDE 7.D.

- 1. CALL TO ORDER. Mayor Robert F. Childs, III
- 2. INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE.
  - A. Invocation: Pastor Oakey Landers, Pine Drive Gospel Church
  - B. Pledge of Allegiance: Mayor Childs
- 3. AGENDA APPROVAL.
- 4. MINUTES APPROVAL. Executive Session and Regular Meeting January 8, 2019
- 5. **PUBLIC COMMENTS Agenda Items Only.** (3-minutes per speaker)
- 6. COMMUNICATIONS.
  - A. Department Reports
    - i. Events, Supervisor Ellis
    - ii. Finance, Director King
    - iii. Fire, Chief Otte
    - iv. Planning, Building & Zoning, Director Morris
    - v. Police, Chief Kenny Hofmann
    - vi. Public Works, Director Adair
  - B. Administrator's Report.
- 7. BUSINESS.
  - A. First Readings of Ordinances
    - i. #19-0882 Chapter 13, Permits, Reviews, & FOIA Disclosure, Director Morris
    - ii. #19-0883 Easement to Grand Strand Water & Sewer Authority, Director Adair
    - iii. #19-0884 to Prohibit Residential Use in C4, Director Morris
    - iv. #19-0885 §14-52 (8) accessory structures 200 sq. ft. or less, Director Morris
  - B. Intergovernmental Agreement to transfer Elections to Horry County, Attorney Crosby
  - C. KSBB Appointment (2 Vacancies): Ms. Gail King; Ms. Missy Schilling, and Mr. Bernard Murray
  - D. Accommodations Tax Recommendations to Amend FY2018-2019 Budget, Director King
- **8. TOWN COUNCIL DISCUSSION.** Any matters of concern or information to be discussed by Town Council.
- 9. **PUBLIC COMMENTS General Comments.** (5-minutes per speaker)
- 10. TOWN COUNCIL COMMENTS.
- 11. ADJOURNMENT.

This agenda is published pursuant to the Freedom of Information Act Section 30-4-80(A) and (E). The public is invited to attend all meetings and events.

Written By: John Adair

- 1. SUBJECT: Purchase of Public Works Director Truck (Transfer of current truck to Beach Patrol)
- 2. PURPOSE: Condition of Beach Patrol Vehicle Requires Replacement

## 3. FACTS:

- (a) At appx. 4 year intervals, the Police Dept. Beach Patrol vehicle gets replaced by the Public Works Director's 4x4 Pickup, based on condition. In this manner, we ensure the police are getting a quality, maintained vehicle. The current beach truck is beyond the point of cost-effective repair.
- (b) The A-Tax committee, at their 1/17/19 meeting, voted to approve the use of A-Tax Funds to purchase the used truck from the General Fund.
- (c) Since the new truck purchase must be made from unbudgeted funds, staff requests that Council approve the purchase, which will be a current FY budget amendment.
- (d) The Beach Patrol season begins in mid-April, and the delivery time for a new truck is appx. 3 months. Due to this, staff desires to order it now.
- (e) The rounded cost of the new vehicle is \$34,000 delivered.

## 4. ACTION:

Staff recommends the approval of this purchase, for efficient fleet management.



Lower Control Arm Condition

Written By: Kenneth Hofmann, Chief of Police

**SUBJECT:** Purchase of used truck for Beach Patrol (\$10,000)

- 1. FOR: Authorization to purchase a used 4 wheel-drive vehicle from the Town of Surfside Beach General Fund for the police department's Beach Patrol operations from FY 2018/19 Accommodation Tax funding.
- 2. PURPOSE: To be utilized by full-time SBPD officers assigned to the Beach Patrol and for beach-related activities that support tourism.
- **3. ASSUMPTIONS:** It is assumed that the safety of residents and visitors of Surfside Beach are an upmost priority and concern.

#### 4. FACTS:

- a. SBPD deploys a Beach Patrol Officer assigned to the beach district during peak season. This officer mainly covers a district that consists from Dogwood Drive to the Ocean and from Melody Lane to 17<sup>th</sup> Ave North.
- b. The Beach Patrol Officer is primarily tasked with enforcing the laws and ordinances related to public safety in the waterfront area of Town. This includes responding to calls for service, responding to beach-related emergencies, enforcing traffic and parking laws, assisting the public, and providing proactive patrol to detect and deter burglaries, breaking into autos, and other offenses unique to the beach-area commercial and rental district.
- c. It is often necessary for the Beach Patrol Officer to respond to the beach for incidents that may require a 4 wheel-drive truck for assistance or emergency management. This may include the towing of emergency equipment in the event that SBPD Beach Patrol Officers enter the water for an ocean rescue.
- d. The current vehicle, a 2010 Ford F-150 with 108,312 miles, was bought used out of 2015 Accommodation Tax Funds. It was a used vehicle purchased from the Town after serving the Public Works director.
- e. The current vehicle is in poor condition and suffered expensive repairs and maintenance in 2018 and is predicted to have more expensive repairs in 2019.
- f. The vehicle to be purchased is currently being used by the Town's Public Work's Director and is recommended for replacement in the FY 2019/20 General Fund.
- g. The cost of the vehicle is expected to be: 2015 Ford F-150 4X4 Crew Cab \$10,000.00
- **5. RECOMMENDATION:** Approval to purchase a used 4 wheel-drive vehicle from the Town of Surfside Beach General Fund for the police department's Beach Patrol operations from FY 2018/19 Accommodation Tax funding.
- **6. RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION:** The purchase of this unit will equip the police department's Beach Patrol Unit with a 4-wheel drive truck capable of entering and operating on the beach in emergency situations.

Written By: Kenneth Hofmann, Chief of Police

**SUBJECT:** Wireless surveillance camera system (\$20,000.00.)

- 1. FOR: Authorization to fund the originally-budgeted \$14,000 for the wireless camera system upgrade funded in the 2017/18 FY Accommodations Tax Budget and the additional \$6,000 in infrastructure and electrical costs related to completing the project. The project resulted in the addition of 8 high definition wireless cameras at four additional locations in the high-density tourist areas of town.
- **2. PURPOSE:** To provide surveillance and recording abilities in public areas where large numbers of tourists and visitors assemble.
- **3. ASSUMPTIONS:** It is assumed that the safety of residents and visitors of Surfside Beach are an upmost priority and concern.

# 4. FACTS:

- a. Surfside Beach experiences a high influx of visitors during the peak seasons. The majority of these visitors frequent the beach, often using the Town's public parking areas.
- b. The Police Department has identified several additional areas of interest attendant to these activities such as the safety of persons on the beachfront, safety of persons in beach accesses, security of vehicles and belongings in the parking areas, etc.
- c. Funding was provided in the 2017-2018 Accommodations Tax Funding for 4 additional cameras to the existing system. Due to significant damage to the existing system's cameras caused by Hurricane Matthew and the age of the system (5 years), the system is not fully functioning and requires updating and repair.
- d. Due to the need for updates and repairs to the existing system's cameras and the need to update the system's digital video recorder, the deployment of new cameras funded in the 2017/2018 FY had been postponed until February 2018.
- e. This project was delayed due to infrastructure issues until the 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter of 2018. The pier's infrastructure failed and the vendor discouraged its repair due to the impending pier deconstruction.
- f. When Hurricane Florence impacted the Grand Strand in September of 2018, availability of electrical contractors further delayed the project.
- g. The project was completed in November 2018 with a final cost of \$20,000.00
- h. The proposed additional cameras were deployed at the following locations:
  - Ocean Boulevard at 16<sup>th</sup> Avenue North Beach Access to monitor the public beach access for pedestrian safety and the public parking adjacent to the Holiday Inn property. (3 camera angles)
  - Ocean Boulevard at 6<sup>th</sup> Avenue North. This is a high traffic area with pedestrian parking and previously-reported criminal activity. (1 camera)
  - Ocean Boulevard at 13<sup>th</sup> Ave South. This area is a high traffic area due to the surfing area, and newly-constructed handicap beach access. (1 camera angle)

- Ocean Boulevard at Melody Lane. This is the southern entrance to the town with high traffic, dense parking, and previously-reported criminal activity. (3 camera angles)
- i. The proposed wireless cameras utilize wireless technology to transmit video across long distances to a central relay point. This data is then transmitted back to the Police Department where it is recorded.
- j. The system and its cameras can be controlled by staff members at the Police Department.
- k. Our current system, since its deployment, has been an invaluable resource that is used by our agency often. Numerous cases have been made that include charges and arrests, video evidence has been retrieved to assist in investigations, and they have also have been used to assist in locating lost individuals.
- **5. RECOMMENDATION:** Approval to fund the originally-budgeted \$14,000 for the wireless camera system upgrade funded in the 2017/18 FY Accommodations Tax Budget and the additional \$6,000 in infrastructure and electrical costs related to completing the project. Project total \$20,000. The project resulted in the addition of 8 additional wireless cameras at four additional locations in the high-density tourist areas of town.
- **6. RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION:** The system provides surveillance ability in our high traffic areas where visitors gather. The system is beneficial for not only safety, but for investigative purposes in the case of property and or victim crimes in these areas.

























