



**SURFSIDE BEACH TOWN COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES  
NOVEMBER 26, 2019 AT 6:00 P.M.  
TOWN COUNCIL CHAMBERS**

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**1. CALL TO ORDER.** Mayor Childs called the regular meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. Mayor Childs, Mayor Pro Tempore Pellegrino, and Councilmembers Dietrich, Johnson, Ott, Scoles, and Stevens were in attendance. A quorum was present. Others present: Town Attorney Crosby; Town Administrator Pieper; Town Clerk Herrmann, and Finance Director King.

**2. INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE. A. Invocation:** Mayor Pro Tempore Pellegrino gave the invocation. **B. Pledge of Allegiance:** Mayor Childs led the Pledge.

**3. 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, (the town clerk.)

Mr. Stevens moved to enter executive session at 6:01 p.m. Mr. Johnson second. All voted in favor. **MOTION CARRIED.** Mr. Stevens moved to reconvene regular session at 6:07 p.m. Mr. Dietrich second. All voted in favor. **MOTION CARRIED.** Mayor Childs said for the record that no action was taken during executive session.

**4. MOTIONS RELATING TO AGENDA.** There were no motions; the agenda was approved by acclamation.

**5. MINUTES APPROVAL. October 22, 2019 and November 20, 2019.** Mr. Stevens moved to adopt the October 22<sup>nd</sup> and November 20<sup>th</sup> minutes as presented. Mr. Dietrich second. All voted in favor. **MOTION CARRIED**

**6. PUBLIC COMMENTS. Agenda Items Only.** There were no public comments.

**7. COMMUNICATIONS.**

**A. Proclamation #19-129 Arbor Day December 7, 2019.** Mayor Childs presented the proclamation noting that December 7<sup>th</sup> is Arbor Day in Surfside Beach.

**B. Finance.** Director King presented the written report, a copy of which is attached hereto.

**8. BUSINESS.**

**A. Second Readings of Ordinances.**

**i. #19-0909 Budget Amendments Fiscal Year 2019-2020.** Mr. Stevens moved to adopt second reading of Ordinance #19-0909. Mr. Dietrich second. Ms. King presented the decision paper and ordinance, copies of which are on file. Mayor Childs and Councilmembers Dietrich, Johnson, Ott, Scoles and Stevens voted in favor. Mayor Pro Tempore Pellegrino voted against. **MOTION CARRIED.**

**ii. #19-0910 Amend §2-39(b) Agenda (Executive Session), Mayor Pro Tempore Pellegrino.** Mr. Stevens moved to adopt second reading of Ordinance #19-0910. Mr. Dietrich second. Mr. Pellegrino said this was in response to public complaints about having to wait during executive sessions held at the beginning of the meeting. All voted in favor. **MOTION CARRIED.**

53 **B. Resolutions to Adopt Election Results, Administrator Pieper. i. #19-200 November**  
54 **5, 2019 General Election Results and ii. #19-201 November 19, 2019 Runoff Election**  
55 **Results.** Mr. Stevens moved to adopt Resolutions #19-200 and #19-201. Mr. Dietrich second. Mayor  
56 Childs said the election results were certified by the Horry County Election Commission. All voted in favor.  
57 **MOTION CARRIED.**

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59 **C. Motions and/or directions resulting from Executive Session.** Mr. Johnson moved to  
60 appoint Ms. Sheri Medina as town clerk. Mr. Dietrich second. All voted in favor. **MOTION CARRIED.**

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62 **9. PUBLIC COMMENTS.** Town Services or Business Conducted. There were no public  
63 comments.

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65 **10. TOWN COUNCIL DISCUSSION AND/OR COMMENTS.**

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67 Mr. Pellegrino thanked everyone for attending and congratulated Mr. Hellyer, Ms. Keating, Mr.  
68 Drake and Mr. Holder on their election to Town Council. He looked forward to working with them.

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70 Mr. Dietrich congratulated the winners. He has two more years on council, and who knows what  
71 will be after that. He looked forward to working with them. Thank you for coming out tonight.

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73 Mr. Johnson thanked everyone for attending and for all the support over his almost 12 years on  
74 council. He chose not to run for re-election, because it was time to give someone else a chance to sit  
75 here and dodge the bullets and catch the snow balls. It's been a great experience and he appreciated all  
76 the residents' comments, good and bad. Congratulations to the newly elected officials. If you need any  
77 guidance, call the mayor. *(Laughter)* Thanks, again. It's been a pleasure.

78  
79 Mr. Ott thanked everyone who entered the race. It was a good election. He asked the  
80 administrator to check with the Myrtle Beach Chamber of Commerce about how it supports the town,  
81 because when he stopped at two welcome centers coming from Florence, he was told at both locations  
82 not to visit Surfside Beach, because there were no good restaurants or anything to do. Mr. Pieper said he  
83 would contact the Chamber.

84  
85 Ms. Scoles thanked everyone for attending and thanked every person who ran in the council  
86 election. She looked forward to working with the four new members. Happy Thanksgiving to everyone.  
87 Please take time to enjoy your family and friends.

88  
89 Mr. Stevens said congratulations to the new councilmembers who will take office on December  
90 10<sup>th</sup>. Good luck to you; may you have wonderful four years. Remember, it is "we, as a council." When  
91 you get on council, I hope that you can look back and say that we as a council have increased the  
92 businesses. When he first got on council there were 40-some vacant businesses; now there are about 15.  
93 We as council got Highway 17 repaved on the state's nickel; got a new concrete pier, the only one in  
94 South Carolina; got almost \$10 million to build the pier; resolved the summer trash problem on Ocean  
95 Boulevard. We as a council have done many things to promote businesses in town. I hope that the new  
96 council will work as a group to promote businesses who need your help. The two welcome centers that  
97 Mr. Ott mentioned are not associated with the Chamber of Commerce. He was interested in learning  
98 what the Chamber staff says about Surfside Beach. Have a great Thanksgiving.

99  
100 Mayor Childs congratulated all the candidates that ran for office and won. Previously, I said we  
101 hoped to let bids for the pier the first of November. The architect's drawings and engineer's plans are  
102 completed. We are ready to go, but the problem is with the lease agreement with the restaurant. That is  
103 the only thing holding up progress. Candidates made many promises, but be careful, because you could  
104 end up in a lawsuit as big as the government grant. This council held several meetings and worked very,  
105 very hard over the last few months to come to an agreement with the restaurant. Good luck to the new

Town Council Regular Meeting  
November 26, 2019

106 council with that agreement. It is the last thing to resolve so construction can begin. Also, the \$10 million  
107 grant money is held by the Federal Government; the town is reimbursed as expenditures are submitted.  
108 There is a time limit to begin construction; so keep that in mind. Mayor Childs thanked all  
109 councilmembers with whom he worked during his ten years of service. He appreciated every one of  
110 them; they've done a great job and devoted a lot of time to the town. Thank you for your support. The  
111 pier is the town's biggest on-going project; Highway 17 repaving and upgrades are on schedule should  
112 be completed in about a year; the 3<sup>rd</sup> Avenue South Promenade was completed, which topped off the  
113 business district's aesthetics.

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115 Mr. Pieper thanked Ms. Herrmann for her service and wished her the best in retirement. Mayor  
116 Childs said thank you, also.

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118 **11. ADJOURNMENT.** Mr. Johnson moved to adjourn the meeting at 6:23 p.m. Mr. Stevens  
119 second. All voted in favor. **MOTION CARRIED.**

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121 Prepared and submitted by:

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125 Debra E. Herrmann, CMC, Town Clerk  
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127 Approved: December 10, 2019

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129 **Surfside Beach Town Council**

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132 Robert F. Childs, III, Mayor  
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136 David L. Pellegrino, Mayor Pro Tempore

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136 Bruce H. Dietrich, Town Council

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139 Mark L. Johnson, Town Council

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138 Ron Ott, Town Council

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142 Debbie Scoles, Town Council

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141 Randle M. Stevens, Town Council

143 Clerk's Note: This document constitutes summary minutes of the meeting that was digitally recorded,  
144 and is not intended to be a complete transcript. Appointments to hear recordings may be made with the  
145 town clerk; a free copy of the audio will be given to you provided you bring a new, unopened flash drive.  
146 In accordance with FOIA §30-4-80(A) and (E), meeting notice and the agenda were distributed to local  
147 media and interested parties via the town's email subscription list. The agenda was posted on the entry  
148 door at Town Council Chambers. Meeting notice was also posted on the town website at  
149 [www.surfsidebeach.org](http://www.surfsidebeach.org) and the town's LED marquee.