



## **SURF CITY TOWN COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING AGENDA**

**Tuesday, January 10, 2023, 4:30 PM**

**Surf City Municipal Complex – 214 W. Florence Way**

**Stream Live: [www.youtube.com/townofsurfcity](http://www.youtube.com/townofsurfcity)**

- I CALL TO ORDER - *Teresa B. Batts, Mayor*
- II INVOCATION – *Buddy Fowler, Councilman*
- III PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE – *Donald R. Helms, Mayor Pro-Tem*
- IV SPECIAL RECOGNITION - *Swearing In of Mayor Teresa B. Batts*  
*Superior Court Judge Kent Harrell administered the formal oath while the family of Mayor Teresa B. Batts held the Bible for her. Mayor Batts was officially sworn in after the December 6, 2022 council meeting by the town clerk.*
- V BEAUTIFICATION & ENHANCEMENT COMMITTEE AWARDS -  
Business of the Month: *Coral Cottage Boutique- Owner, Becky Borneman was present to accept the award*  
Home of the Month: *703 S. Shore Drive – Owner, William Cosner was present to accept the award.*
- VI MAYOR'S REMARKS -  
*We ask that all in attendance please set your cell phones to silent or vibrate mode. The Council offers the public an opportunity to speak during the meeting. Comments should be limited to three minutes each and must be directly issue oriented with agenda items for this meeting, or an issue upon which the Council has control.*  
*Citizen speakers will be acknowledged in the order in which they sign up to speak and will address all comments to the Board as a whole and not one individual Council member. Speakers will address the Council from the speaker's podium at the front of the room and will begin their remarks by stating their name and address. Discussions between Speakers and members of the audience will not be allowed. Groups of individuals seeking to speak on the same topic of concern will need to pick an individual speaker to represent the group as whole. Public comment is not intended to require the Council to answer any impromptu questions. Speakers are expected to be civil in their language and presentation. Any comments where the primary purpose is to promote business or candidacy shall not be allowed.*  
*In accordance with the Council's adopted Rules of Procedures, Council members shall reserve responses, if any, for the Council Forum on the agenda.*
- VII ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

## VIII APPROVAL OF THE CONSENT AGENDA

*Items under Consent are generally of a routine nature. The Board may take action to approve/disapprove all items in a single vote. Any item may be withheld from a general action, to be discussed and voted upon separately at the discretion of the Council.*

1. Approval of Minutes; December 2, 2022 & December 15, 2022
2. Parks, Recreation and Tourism Part Time Permanent Position
3. Budget Ordinance Amendment Surf City Live 2023

Specific Action Requested: It is requested that the Town Council consider approval of the consent agenda as presented.

*Motion to approve by Mr. Helms, seconded by Shugarts, all in favor, consent agenda approved*

## IX PUBLIC COMMENTS - Citizens have an opportunity to address the Council for no more than three minutes per speaker on topics which concern agenda items of this meeting.

*Heather Allen from Waterside came forward to speak. She asked that the town reconsider the rule of not allowing weapons in the building. She gave statistics to support her cause.*

*Jack Solak came up to speak. He was sorry to hear about the passing of Nelva Albury. They moved here 27 years ago. She put him on the committee for beach nourishment not long after he first moved here. He loves the town but they have sold their house and will be leaving soon to move to Little River SC. He thanked everyone for working hard and he loves the people in Surf City.*

## X MANAGER'S REPORT - Presented by the town manager, Kyle Breuer.

*Federal Project Update:*

*As you know we were in a little lull during the holidays but the District will resume discussions with the South Atlantic Division now that the holidays have passed. I've requested a full meeting with the District and will let you know when we can set that up.*

*Dune Plantings:*

*The Beach Grass Program is up and running again for the winter planting season, we'll again follow up with Sea Oats and the introduction of a third species, bitter panicum.*

*Beach Management Plan*

*The Town has applied for grant funds to develop a Beach Management Plan. As soon as I hear anything on award, I'll let Council know.*

*Beautification and Enhancement*

*The Beautification and Enhancement Committee worked hard this past Sunday to get the mural wall pressure washed in preparation for primer. The mural artist will begin very soon to get this completed in the narrow window before additional tank maintenance work resumes on the water tower.*

*Stormwater*

*Numerous projects are underway regarding stormwater. The S. Shore sites are in design, I was able to meet with a representative from Pleasant Cove to go over the site and gain consensus, with the goal to eliminate impact to the secondary dune in that location.*

*Utilities Director Price and I continue to work on the stormwater plan, with anticipation of presenting findings back to Council at your Feb. 28<sup>th</sup> retreat.*

*Phase 3 of the RCCP project continues to move forward, a presentation will be provided to the TISPC as they are generally the steering committee for the 3-town project.*

#### *Budget*

*We continue to work on the fiscal year 23/24 budget. Finance Director McCole and I are meeting with department heads to review their Capital Improvement Plan items, again, with anticipation of bringing these to Council at your retreat. Staff does a good job at projecting out their needs, and this is a tool to make sure we stay on track towards larger goals.*

*Speaking of budget, I hate to announce that Mr. McCole will be leaving the town to pursue another opportunity in the middle of the state to be closer to family. Dave has been a tremendous asset to the Town and its finances, certainly highlighted by the audit presentation you'll hear later on.*

*I'll be working with him over the next few weeks to close our projects, assess progress, and make sure we're on a clear path for a new person to take over. The position is being advertised and I hope to get this filled as soon as I can.*

#### *Mainland Park Project*

*Plans for the Earl G. and Inez Batts continue to progress, Director Shepard is working closely with the RAC and McAdams, the consultant, on getting the plans to where we can start obtaining permits. We had the opportunity to travel to Oak Island to see their skate park under construction, listen about their process, and get some insight as to looking forward for the Town's project.*

*Recognize Billy Christ with Congressman Rouzer's Office and Sheriff Alan Cutler*

## **XI. OLD BUSINESS**

### *1. Council Vacancy – Ms. Batts began by reading the intended process moving forward.*

*Mr. Helms made a motion to formalize the procedure of utilizing a signed, written ballot method, seconded by Mr. Koloski, all in favor, motion carried.*

*Mr. Helms made a motion to add applicants to the ballot, seconded by Mr. Shugarts, all in favor, motion carried.*

*The first round of ballots was distributed by the town clerk, Ms. Citarelli. All ballots were signed and passed to the clerk. The clerk tallied the votes and announced that there would be a second round due to not having a majority. Three names received votes and those were Trudy Solomon, Carlton Huffman and Hugh Cannady.*

*The second round of ballots were passed out to council members, with only the three names who received votes in the first round being on the ballot. After collection by the clerk, Ms. Citarelli questioned the attorney, Brian Edes as to whether each person should be named with the number of votes they received. He confirmed. She announced there were votes for Hugh Cannady and Trudy Solomon but there was no majority. It was a tie. Mr. Edes explained that at this point, council needed to move to motion and vote method.*

*Mr. Helms made a motion to appoint Hugh Cannady. Mr. Fowler seconded the motion. At that point, the clerk called the role.*

*Councilman Jeremy Shugarts replied no. Mayor ProTem Don Helms replied yes. Councilman Buddy Fowler replied yes. Councilman John Koloski replied no. The attorney asked the mayor if she wished to vote to break the tie. She replied yes, that she would break the tie and she voted yes. Mr. Edes congratulated council for appointing a new member. There was applause in the audience.*

## **XII NEW BUSINESS**

### *1. Subdivision Approval – Waymoth Batts – Presented by the town planner, Amy Kimes.*

*The overall property is greater than 2 acres excluding it from the minor regulations and was subdivided less than 10 years ago. 2 lots were taken off of this parcel in the past year. The property will be subdivided to create one new 2 acre site with the remaining 13.6 acres staying as one tract. The subdivided lot will have access to Belt Rd. and be served by septic and Pender County water. It is zoned as R10. Planning board recommended approval at their last meeting.*

*2. Resolution to Award Bid – Presented by the Director of Public Utilities, David Price. This applies to Surf City Well #6. This also has to be approved by the state but is the first phase. It was bid out twice.*

Specific Action Requested: It is requested that the Town Council consider approval of the resolution as presented.

*Mr. Fowler made a motion to approve, seconded by Mr. Helms, all in favor, resolution approved.*

*3. NCLM Voting Delegate- Explained by the Town Manager, Kyle Breuer. Each time the league holds a vote, a delegate must be appointed.*

Specific Action Requested: It is requested that the Town Council consider approval of the delegation as presented.

*Mr. Fowler made a motion, seconded by Mr. Koloski, all in favor, motion carried,*

*4. Audit Presentation FY 21/22 -Presented by Lee Grissom of S Preston Douglas and Associates. This is the 5<sup>th</sup> year they have done the audit. There were no findings, and all was in compliance. It was submitted and approved. The books are in good shape and Mr. McCole did a terrific job.*

*Finance Director, Dave McCole, explained that out of the 3.7 million mentioned that had not been appropriated, we should be getting around 500,000 from FEMA. He asked that they keep in mind the old police station is not being sold as originally planned.*

*Mr. Fowler asked if everyone understood what was being said. He added that everything is fine and he wanted the public to know that*

*Mr. Breuer added that this board has done a great job at being fiscally responsible.*

*Mr. Grissom said there were no disagreements or new policies.*

*Implemented the new Gatsby 87 which should be captured on the sheet. He showed graphs from the past 9 years which show an increase in the general fund, which is an extremely strong performance. Overall, the financial metrics were strong.*

### XIII COUNCIL FORUM –

*Mr. Koloski congratulated Mr. Cannady and welcomed him to the team.*

*Mr. Fowler said he was glad to see everyone here. He's looking forward to working with Mr. Cannady on the council.*

*Mr. Shugarts said congratulations to Mr. Cannady. He said to all other applicants, do not lose focus. He enjoyed the process of appointment. He said thank you to the enhancement committee. He said it was a true testament to the citizens who are doing things to make the city better.*

*Mr. Helms thanked everyone for coming. He thanked the enhancement committee for the job they did power washing the building. He said a lot of citizens serve on committees and do a lot for the town. He thanked Hugh Cannady for coming onto council.*

*Mayor Batts thanked everyone who came out to support her. She thanked all applicants that applied and congratulated Mr. Cannady.*

*She then read a summary of former councilwoman and mayor pro tem Nelva Albury's service to the town of*

*Surf City and gave the dates of the funeral service.*

XIV TOWN ATTORNEY REPORT – *No report*

XV ADJOURNMENT

*Motion made to adjourn by Mr. Fowler, seconded by Mr. Helms, all in favor, meeting adjourned.*