



**SURF CITY TOWN COUNCIL REGULAR  
MEETING MINUTES  
Tuesday, August 3, 2021  
Surf City Municipal Complex – 214 W. Florence Way  
Stream Live: [www.youtube.com/townofsurfcity](http://www.youtube.com/townofsurfcity)  
4:30 PM**

**Council Members Present:**

**Douglas C. Medlin, Mayor**

**William J. (Buddy) Fowler, Mayor Pro-Tem**

**Donald Helms**

**Teresa Batts**

**Jeremy Shugarts**

**Dwight Torres**

- I. CALL TO ORDER - Douglas C. Medlin, Mayor
- II. INVOCATION - William J. (Buddy) Fowler, Mayor Pro-Tem
- III. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE - Donald R. Helms
- IV. BEAUTIFICATION & APPEARANCE COMMITTEE AWARDS -

Home of the Month: The Brent Family at 53 N. Ridge

Business of the Month: Handy Mart at 2700 NC Hwy 210

V. 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, Councilmembers shall reserve responses, if any, for the Council Forum on the agenda.*

## VI. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA -

Mr. Shugarts made a motion to approve the agenda with an addition to New Business for Greater Area Chamber of Commerce. Mr. Fowler seconded the motion, and it was carried.

## VII. 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. July 6<sup>th</sup> & 16<sup>th</sup>, 2021 Minutes
2. Budget Ordinance Amendment – Beach Wheelchairs
3. Advisory Committee Handbook
4. Ordinance Amendment No. 2021- 13- Chapter 13 Planning

Mr. Torres made a motion to approve the consent agenda as presented. Mr. Helms seconded the motion and it was carried.

## VIII. PUBLIC COMMENT - 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.

Dennis Stuart 912 Broadway stated he can see a big improvement in the noise since the implantation of the new noise permit. He stated he was appreciative of the council and staff's efforts.

## IX. MANAGER'S REPORT -

### • **Street Sweep**

- Thank you to staff and the Topsail Island Longboard Association for their efforts on completing a street sweep on Monday.

### • **Surveys**

- The Town has multiple surveys that we are requesting participation in. The first is the Comprehensive Plan survey, which can be found on the website and through our social media platforms. It is imperative to have a strong participation with this as it attempts to capture people's sentiment on the town's overall growth and development.
- The next survey that will be published will be on the topic on Reuse water. The utilities department is seeking people's thoughts on deploying this and if it could be provided, would people consider utilizing reuse water for irrigation, potentially replacing their irrigation meter or seeking a new reuse water irrigation meter. This survey too will be posted on the website and social media platforms.
- Lastly, the Town put out a survey on vegetative debris pickup and potential changes to that process (review survey results and recommendation).

### • **Noise Ordinance**

- Since adoption of the updated noise ordinance, the Town has received two complaints:
  - On July 31st at 10:00 AM an officer responded to Magnolia Reserve for workers playing loud music. We arrived on the scene a used the decibel meter. The reading was 78 dB. Contact was made with the individuals who agreed to turn the music down.
  - On August 1st at 12:34 AM Chief Shanahan received an email about Tortugas Nest dumping bottles. On Aug 3rd an email was sent to the Tortugas owner advising them of the complaint.

- **Parking Capacity Analysis**
  - Staff received two proposals for the parking capacity analysis. These are under review and a recommendation will be provided to Council at your August Work Session.
- **Mobile Application**
  - Staff has published an RFP for this project and proposals are due by the end of the week. Similarly, staff will review any submissions and provide Council a recommendation.
- **Shoreline and Resiliency Committee Meeting**
  - The Committee will be meeting on August 12<sup>th</sup>, it is anticipated to continue diving into the federal project, status update, etc.
- **Beach Nourishment – Federal Project**
  - From the Corps: The team is meeting internally to update the cost risk information needed to get the Rough Order of Magnitude (ROM) estimates of the authorized project vs. SC-only project pulled together. They are pulling to get that info back to Division within the next 10 days to support HQ/SAD dialogue on how best to get where we need to be. To be updated next week.
- **COVID-19**
  - The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention has now recommended that fully vaccinated people begin wearing masks indoors again in places where the virus is spreading, based on their "level of community transmission." Specifically, the updated guidance applies to places that the CDC categorizes as having "high" and "substantial" transmission rates, as measured by a combination of case count and positivity rate thresholds.
  - According to the CDC's Level of Community transmission in Pender and Onslow Counties is "high"
  - Based on this and guidance from the CDC, the Town will be preparing additional guidance for vaccinated and unvaccinated employees to follow. We anticipate having this information out by the end of day tomorrow.

#### X. CHAMBER DISCUSSION –

Mr. Shugarts stated due to the reduction in funding and the fact that the town manager and his self both set on the board. He requested that just the town manager sit on the chamber board. He requested the approval of the council for his resignation.

Mr. Breuer stated he is happy to serve the town and keep notes and send out updates.

Mr. Fowler stated the town has reduced the funding to the chamber. They are focusing on the chamber and not the tourism aspect of it. He stated the board could find something else for Mr. Shugarts to do.

Mr. Shugarts made a motion to remove himself from the Chamber of Commerce board. Mr. Fowler seconded the motion, and it was carried.

#### XI. COUNCIL FORUM -

Mr. Shugarts thanked everyone for attending and it's been a wonderful summer.

Mr. Helms stated he was happy to see everyone in attendance today. She spoke of sentiments to the Wayne Lanier family.

Mrs. Batts thanked the staff for the completion of the committee handbook. She thanked everyone that donated towards the beach wheelchairs. Everyone is speaking highly of the new street sweeper. She thanked Preston for attending today's meeting.

Mr. Fowler stated he was happy to see everyone in attendance. He encouraged everyone to get wear a mask and get vaccinated to protect our community. He spoke on how clean the town has been looking lately. He thanked employees, volunteers, and citizens for helping to keep our community clean. He asked that residents not leave overflow trash bags on the ground for rodents to get into.

Mr. Torres stated he wanted to extend thoughts and prayers to the Lanier family. He thanked everyone for coming out.

XII. TOWN ATTORNEY REPORTS -

Mr. Edes commended Chief Shanahan for his pro-active measures with the noise ordinance.

XIII. ADJOURNMENT -

Mr. Torres made a motion to adjourn.