

Minutes of Regular Meeting of the City Council

Tuesday, March 10, 2026 – 7:00 PM

Village of Surfside Beach

1304 Monument Drive

Surfside Beach, TX 77541

1) CALL TO ORDER, QUORUM IN ATTENDANCE

Mayor Parsch called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. and confirmed all council members (Jonathan Gerber, Steve Kedlarchuk, Marsha Hines, Jennie Green-Prats) (Oscar Jalifi was absent)

2) INVOCATION, PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

David Calhoun offered the invocation. Mayor Parsch led the Pledge of Allegiance to the United States flag and the Texas state flag.

3) MAYOR/COUNCIL/DEPARTMENT HEAD REPORTS

A. Mayor Report

- New City Administrator, William Cox, will begin employment on Monday, March 16, 2026. A public meet and greet will be scheduled at Stahlman park.
- The city recently received positive updates regarding FEMA reimbursements.
- CDBG Infrastructure Grant has a potential \$123,000 grant available pending results of an income survey. Survey efforts are under way in the Seashell area. If 51% or more households qualify as low to moderate income, the project will be funded.
- GrantWorks is assisting with a GLO-funded sewer project. Engineering work will begin soon.
- A \$450,000 disaster recovery grant is currently being processed. Council previously allocated \$63,000 in local matching funds for improvements in Surfside Shores.
- FEMA and TDEM grant for a mobile generator is in the works for the Emergency Operations Center
- February and March are scheduled road repair months as tax revenues become available,

B. Council Reports

- Alderman Gerber reported:
 - He has been working with CenterPoint Energy to inspect and repair streetlights throughout the village. Approximately half of the lights required repair or replacement. He has been coordinating installation of additional street lighting in areas requested by police for officer safety.
 - Conducted electrical work at the Emergency Operation Center, including surge protection installation. He is working to diagnose intermittent voltage issues affecting the facility.
 - Announced a collaboration called Aqua Search, an app-based program connecting trained surfers and first responders to assist distressed swimmers.
 - Volunteers assisted with preparation for a Historical Commission and Planning & Zoning Commission.

- Alderman Stephen Kedlarchuk
 - Congratulated Chief Hester on one year of service
 - Welcomed City Administrator William Cox
 - Discussed lighting concerns near the bridge intersection
 - Recognized residents for helping identify potholes and road repair needs through community reporting
- Alderman Marsha Hines
 - Addressed the use of social media urging both council members and residents to verify facts before posting information regarding city operations
- Alderman Jennie Green-Prats
 - Voiced concerns agreeing with Alderman Hines regarding misinformation on social media and encouraged respectful communication within the community

C. Police Department Report

- 385 beach patrol hours
- 1,640 citizen contacts
- 1,422 building checks
- 188 citations
- 78 warnings
- 68 calls for service
- 20 incident reports
- 4 arrests
- Preparations underway for a large “Senior Skip Day” crowd expected from Houston. DPS, County Agencies and additional Beach Patrol resources will assist. This day is scheduled as a mandatory workday for officers
- Community cooperation was credited for helping control large gatherings

D. EMS Report

- 8 EMS calls
- A seasonal EMS medical tent has been established on the beach. The tent successfully treated several patients onsite; the beach medical tent will operate full time during Spring Break and weekends thereafter through the summer.
- Staff training and certification programs are underway

E. Public Works

- 2 service calls
- Completed 1,000 ft of water line installation to improve system looping
- Additional 1,200 ft of water line installation planned
- Meter reader position filled
- Recognized Mayor Parsch for work assisting utilities

F. Building Safety/Code Enforcement

- Drainage project approximately 75% complete
- Carlton Road drainage improvement requires future budgeting
- Salty Pelican Restaurant inspections completed, opening expected soon

G. Finance Report

- Energy accounts: \$1,687,850
- Petty cash accounts: \$5,142,588
- Total assets: \$6,834,420
- Total in TexPool: \$4,298,643
- Restricted HB1915 funds: \$2,470,249
- Remaining HOT funds available: \$1,828,394

H. Human Resources Report

- Four full-time positions currently open
- Seasonal staffing underway
- February court revenue: \$44,625

I. Tourism Report

- Upcoming Surfside Sunset and Sound Festival March 20-21
- Contract with Freestyle Advertising Agency terminated
- Future advertising will go through a competitive bid process
- Tourism strategy will focus on family-friendly marketing

4. BUSINESS OF VISITORS NOT ON THE AGENDA

- Janice Stahl spoke regarding hosting a beach rally raising awareness about fentanyl dangers
- Council agreed to coordinate with the Police Department regarding event logistics

5. ALL ITEMS UNDER THE CONSENT AGENDA ARE CONSIDERED TO BE SELF-EXPLANATORY, AND THE COUNCIL WILL ENACT THEM WITH ONE MOTION. UNLESS A COUNCIL MEMBER SO REQUESTS, NO SEPARATE DISCUSSION OF THESE ITEMS WILL OCCUR.

CONSENT AGENDA:

- Approval of City Council minutes of meetings held on February 10, 2026, and February 25, 2026
- Approval of Surfside Sunset and Sound Festival

MOTION:

- Alderman Green-Prats moved to approve the consent agenda as presented
- Alderman Kedlarchuk seconded the motion

VOTE:

- Motion passed unanimously
- Yes – Alderman Gerber, Alderman Kedlarchuk, Alderman Hines, Alderman Green-Prats

6. DISCUSS AND TAKE POSSIBLE ACTION TO APPROVE A COMPREHENSIVE COURSE OF ACTION TO IMPROVE SURFSIDE BEACH INFRASTRUCTURE. DISCUSS OPTIONS AND OPPORTUNITIES WITH COUNCIL, CONTRACTORS (AUSTEN SMITH OF VACU-TEX LLC) AND ENGINEERS WHO HAVE BEEN SUCCESSFUL ON PORT O'CONNOR ASSISTING IN PROVIDING RESOLUTIONS TO SIMILAR PREDICAMENTS AND CHALLENGES.

CONSENT AGENDA:

- Presentation provided by Vacu-Tech and engineering representatives regarding improvements to the VOSB vacuum system. It was explained that many issues stem from flooding and outdated system design.
- Proposed upgrades include simpler float activated vacuum pits. Improvements could reduce system failures and treatment costs

MOTION:

- Alderman Gerber moved to authorize Vacu-Tech to prepare an engineering plan and recommendations
- Alderman Kedlarchuk seconded the motion

VOTE:

- Motion passed unanimously
- Yes – Alderman Gerber, Alderman Kedlarchuk, Alderman Hines, Alderman Green-Prats

7. DISCUSS AND TAKE POSSIBLE ACTION TO ACCEPT THE PROPOSAL FOR REPAIRS AT CITY HALL AS RECOMMENDED BY BUILDING OFFICIAL AND AS PREVIOUSLY DISCUSSED AND APPROVED BUDGET ITEMS 4730 AND 5110 FOR FISCAL YEAR 2026.

CONSENT AGENDA:

- Josh Hart, Building Official/Code Enforcement, presented two bids from contractors he received, and the process required to repair the City Hall building. Both contractors (John Deen and Robert Lee) spoke to Council regarding their bids, materials and the scope of action needed for the building repairs. Upon discussion it was decided to table the item until further review of bids and plans of action could be investigated due to design differences.

MOTION:

- Alderman Hines moved to table the item
- Alderman Green-Prats seconded the motion

VOTE:

- Motion passed
- Yes – Alderman Green-Prats, Alderman Hines, Mayor Parsch
- No – Alderman Gerber, Alderman Kedlarchuk

8. DISCUSS AND TAKE POSSIBLE ACTION TO FIX LOW WATER PRESSURE AT COAST GUARD DR. AND HILLTOP AS PRESENTED BY SALLY ANGELL

CONSENT AGENDA:

- Council discussed low water pressure and fire protection concerns. Following discussions Public Works was directed to obtain an engineering analysis and prepare project costs

MOTION:

- Alderman Gerber moved to task Public Works with obtaining and engineering analysis and prepare project costs
- Alderman Kedlarchuk seconded the motion

VOTE:

- Motion passed unanimously
- Yes – Alderman Gerber, Alderman Kedlarchuk, Alderman Hines, Alderman Green-Prats

9. DISCUSS AND TAKE POSSIBLE ACTION TO AMEND SEC.2-490 (PURCHASING AND CONTRACTING FOR COMPETITIVE BIDDING REGULATIONS)

CONSENT AGENDA:

- Council discussed clarifying that advertising and marketing services fall under contractual services requiring council approval over \$25,000

MOTION:

- Alderman Gerber moved that advertising and marketing services fall under contractual services requiring approval over \$25,000

VOTE:

- Motion passed
- Yes – Alderman Gerber, Alderman Kedlarchuk, Alderman Green-Prats, Alderman Hines

10. DISCUSS AND TAKE POSSIBLE ACTION TO ALLOW TEXAS MILITIA REENACTMENT TEAM TO CONDUCT THE RIFLE AND CANNON FIRE AT THESE LISTED SURFSIDE TOURISM HOSTED EVENTS.

- Texas Independence Celebration – Music & Historical participation – March 21, 2026
- Treaties of Velasco Celebration – Music, Market & Historical participation – May 2, 2026
- Texas Navy/Hispanic Heritage Celebration – Music, Market & Historical Celebration – Sept. 19, 2026
- Surfside Beach/Historical Awards Celebration – Music, Market & Historical participation – Nov.7, 2026

CONSENT AGENDA:

- Michael Bailey spoke on behalf of the Historical Committee and explained what the rifle and cannon fire consists of and their schedule of times during the festivities to conduct the rifle and cannon fire.
- November 7, 2026, event has removed from the list

MOTION:

- Alderman Gerber moved to exclude the Nov. 7, 2026, event on the list
- Alderman Jennie Green-Prats seconded the motion

VOTE:

- Motion passed
- Yes – Alderman Gerber, Alderman Green-Prats, Alderman Hines
- No – Alderman Kedlarchuk

11. DISCUSS AND TAKE POSSIBLE ACTION TO ADOPT A RESOLUTION TO DESIGNATE AUTHORIZED SIGNATORIES FOR THE COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT – MITIGATION PROGRAM (CDBG-MIT) PROGRAM FOR GLO STATE CONTRACT # 24-065-060ES570

CONSENT AGENDA:

- GrantWorks is requesting City Council to designate authorized signatories to move this grant forward

MOTION:

- Alderman Gerber moved to adopt a resolution to designate authorized signatories for the block grant mitigation program CDBG-MIT program for the GLO state contract #24-065-060ES570
- Alderman Green-Prats seconded the motion

VOTE:

- Motion passed unanimously
- Yes – Alderman Gerber, Alderman Kedlarchuk, Alderman Hines, Alderman Green-Prats

12. DISCUSS AND TAKE POSSIBLE ACTION TO ADOPT A RESOLUTION FOR CDBG-MIT GLO GRANT.

- **Citizen Participation**
- **Section 3 Policy**
- **Excessive Force Policy**
- **Limited English Proficiency (LEP Standards Plan)**
- **Section 504 Policy and Grievance Procedures**
- **Code of Conduct Policy**
*And to Proclaim April as Fair Housing month (This proclamation will help to fulfill Fair Housing activity obligation as required by the grant)

CONSENT AGENDA:

- GrantWorks is requesting City Council to adopt a resolution for CDBG-MIT GLO grant

MOTION:

- Alderman Green-Prats moved to adopt all from city participation to fair housing
- Alderman Kedlarchuk seconded the motion

VOTE:

- Motion passed unanimously
- Yes – Alderman Gerber, Alderman Kedlarchuk, Alderman Hines, Alderman Green-Prats

13. DISCUSS AND TAKE POSSIBLE ACTION TO INCREASE THE GF ROAD REPAIRS BUDGET TO ACCOMMODATE THE \$106,600 EXPENSES FROM REPAVING FT. VELASCO STREET

CONSENT AGENDA:

- This is in regard to our inter-local agreement with Brazoria County
- VOSB pays for materials, Brazoria County pays for the labor
- Increases the line item for street paving

MOTION:

- Alderman Gerber moved to increase \$210,000
- Alderman Green-Prats seconded the motion

VOTE:

- Motion passed
- Yes – Alderman Gerber, Alderman Kedlarchuk, Alderman Hines, Alderman Green-Prats

14. DISCUSS AND TAKE POSSIBLE ACTION TO APPROVE THE SEA TOW FOUNDATION LIFE JACKET LOANER PROGRAM GRANT FOR 2026

CONSENT AGENDA:

- Cito Foundation will supply life jackets in a stand
- VOSB will be responsible for maintaining it and discussion ensued regarding life jackets aiding in a persons ability to self-rescue. Liability to VOSB was discussed as well as the beach entrances where they would be located

MOTION:

- Alderman Gerber made a motion to approve the Sea Tow Foundation life jacket loaner program
- Alderman Kedlarchuk seconded the motion

VOTE:

- Motion passed unanimously
- Yes – Alderman Gerber, Alderman Kedlarchuk, Alderman Hines, Alderman Green-Prats

15. DISCUSS AND TAKE POSSIBLE ACTION ON FREEPORTS OFFER OF REPAYMENT \$651,641.41

CONSENT AGENDA:

- Council discussed negotiating repayment terms with the City of Freeport
- \$200,000 upfront payment
- \$100,000 annually until balance is paid in full
- Receiving interest equivalent to the TexPool rate

MOTION:

- Alderman Green -Pratts motioned to make the repayment offer
- Alderman Gerber seconded the motion

VOTE:

- Motion passed
- Yes – Alderman Gerber, Alderman Kedlarchuk, Alderman Hines, Alderman Green-Prats

16. DISCUSS AND TAKE POSSIBLE ACTION TO MOVE THE CITY COUNCIL MEETINGS TIME FROM 7:00 P.M. TO 6:00 P.M.

CONSENT AGENDA:

- Discussion ensued as to the pros and cons of moving the meetings time and how it would affect employees and residents alike.

MOTION:

- Alderman Green-Prats moved to change the City Council meetings time from 7:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.
- Alderman Hines seconded the motion

VOTE:

- Motion passed
- Yes – Alderman Green-Prats, Alderman Hines, Mayor Parsch
- No – Alderman Gerber, Alderman Kedlarchuk

17. DISCUSS AND TAKE POSSIBLE ACTION TO VOID THE HOTEL ADVERTISING CONTRACT AND ESTIMATE WITH NOTICE TO PROCEED WITH FREESTYLE AGENCY OF OKLAHOMA CITY, OKLAHOMA ON THE GROUNDS AS THEY WERE NOT REGISTERED TO DO BUSINESS IN TEXAS AT THE TIME THE CONTRACT WAS SIGNED AND NO FORMAL ADVERTISED PROCUREMENT WAS CONDUCTED AND/OR SOE-SOURCE JUSTIFICATION WAS DOCUMENTED PRIOR TO AWARD OF A CONTRACT EXCEEDING \$100,000

CONSENT AGENDA:

- Mayor Parsch stated the item has been removed and the item was addressed very correctly before this meeting

MOTION:

- No motions required

VOTE:

- No vote required

18. DISCUSS AND TAKE POSSIBLE ACTION TO RETABLE THE TREATY ROAD EXTENSION PROPOSAL THAT WAS PREVIOUSLY TABLED AT THE CITY COUNCIL MEETING ON JANUARY 13, 2026

CONSENT AGENDA:

- This item was erroneously put on the agenda to retable

MOTION:

- Alderman Gerber moved to table the item
- Alderman Hines seconded the motion

VOTE:

- Motion passed
- Yes – Alderman Gerber, Alderman Kedlarchuk, Alderman Hines, Alderman Green-Prats

19. ADJOURN

- Meeting was adjourned at 9:47 p.m.

Passed and approved this 10th day of APRIL 2026



Zach Parsch, Mayor



**Shirley Sharrock-Archuleta,
City Secretary**