

Minutes of Regular Meeting of the City Council

Tuesday, January 13, 2026 – 7:00 PM

Village of Surfside Beach

1304 Monument Drive

Surfside Beach, TX 77541

1) CALL TO ORDER, QUORUM IN ATTENDANCE

Mayor Pro Tempore called the meeting to order at 7:01 p.m. and confirmed all council members (Jonathan Gerber, Steve Kedlarchuk, Oscar Jalifi, Marsha Hines) were present. Mayor Zach Parsch was absent.

2) INVOCATION, PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Alderman Jalifi offered the invocation. Mayor Pro Tempore Green-Prats led the Pledge of Allegiance to the United States flag and the Texas state flag.

3) MAYOR/COUNCIL/DEPARTMENT HEAD REPORTS

A. EMS Monthly Report

- **Janet Solis** and **Eric Ingram** reported completion of the annual Emergency Management Form 147, signed by the Mayor. Changes included removal of the Police Chief from emergency management duties and the addition of Chris McIntyre as assistant.
- Training plans for department directors were discussed in preparation for hurricane season. FEMA coordination, disaster reimbursement progress, MOUs with TEXSAR, and call volume increases were reviewed. EMS protocol updates allowing EMT Basics to perform expanded lifesaving skills were explained.
- EMS reported December activity as slow. Staffing was confirmed as full.

B. Financial Report

- \$6.6 million in total liquid assets
- \$1,858,341 cash on hand
- Seasonal general fund losses due to property tax timing
- System fund operating at a profit
- Full compliance with Texas Water Development Board covenants
- Council discussed funds owed to the City by Freeport and potential allocation options. It was clarified the funds originated from the General Fund and were not restricted to returning there. Possible use toward water infrastructure improvements was discussed.

C. Human Resources Report:

- Vacancies were reported across EMS, Public Works, and beach operations. Seasonal positions were posted.
- Court revenue for FY 2024–25 totaled \$285,626. FEMA reimbursement progress was reviewed

D. Tourism Report

- Goal of a 15% increase in HOT revenue
- Marketing and website redesign
- Social media engagement
- Recent events and upcoming events
- Relocation of the Chili Cook-Off back to Stahlman Park

E. Police Department Report

- Police Chief Philip Hester reported patrol statistics, training hours, new equipment testing (Shatter Balls), staffing levels, and officer attendance.
- Council asked questions regarding training locations and equipment use.

F. Council Member Reports

- Jonathan Gerber reported on meetings with FLNG representatives and community members and ongoing emergency center work.
- Steve Kedlarchuk reported limited activity due to health recovery.
- Oscar Jalifi stated all updates were covered on the agenda.
- Other council members reported no additional updates.

4. BUSINESS OF VISITORS NOT ON THE AGENDA

- Drainage Concern – Gold Lake Court / Blue Runner Highway
- Christy Daly, speaking as a resident, raised concerns regarding enforcement of an approved drainage plan related to a subdivision. Questions were raised regarding whether drainage improvements would occur before or after construction of nine homes.
- Staff confirmed a drainage plan had been approved but explained it was part of the subdivision. Staff agreed to follow up with the developer to encourage earlier implementation. Council noted further discussion would arise under the relevant item.
- Scott Jones, Texas AgriLife Extension, presented Clean Coast Texas services, including grant assistance, stormwater planning, and flood mitigation resources.
- Council expressed interest in grant-writing assistance and future coordination.
- Peggy Llewellyn, resident, addressed Council regarding the status of the Seashell Sewer Line project.
- Ms. Llewellyn requested clarification and an update on the progress of the sewer line and associated grant projects, noting the length of time the project has been pending and emphasizing its importance to the community.
- Council members acknowledged the importance of the project and confirmed it remains ongoing.
- Staff stated the project is progressing through the permitting and approval process, including coordination with state and federal agencies.
- It was noted that applications and permits have been submitted and are under review, with statutory response timelines pending.
- Council referenced prior updates indicating the project remains on track, subject to regulatory approvals.
- Staff committed to providing continued updates as milestones are reached.
- No action was taken, as the item was not posted for action and was presented for information and clarification only, in accordance with the Texas Open Meetings Act.

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:

- Consider minutes from the City Council meeting on December 9, 2025.
- Consider minutes from the Special City Council meeting on December 23, 2025

MOTION:

- Alderman Jalifi moved to approve the consent agenda as presented.
- Alderman Kedlarchuk seconded the motion.

VOTE:

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

6. DISCUSS AND TAKE POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING A REPLAT AT 750 THUNDER ROAD, PROPERTY ID# 190984 SURFSIDE BEACH, TX, TO CREATE SEVEN (7) LOTS.

CONSENT AGENDA:

- Staff presented the replat request with a recommendation from Planning & Zoning for approval.
- Council discussed infrastructure concerns but noted these issues were separate from the replat process.

MOTION:

- Alderman Jalifi moved to approve a replat at 750 Thunder Road, property ID# 190984 Surfside Beach, Texas, to create seven (7) lots
- Alderman Hines seconded the motion

VOTE:

- Motion passed 4-1
- Yes – Alderman Gerber, Alderman Green-Prats, Alderman Hines, Alderman Jalifi
- Abstain – Alderman Kedlarchuk

7. DISCUSS AND TAKE POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING A VARIANCE REQUEST AT 510 RAYS WAY. THE VARIANCE REQUEST STATES THAT THE PRIVATE DESIGNATION OF THE ROADWAY (GULFWAY COURT) WAS NEVER DISCLOSED TO RESIDENTS AS REQUIRED BY CITY ORDINANCE, CITY CODE §42-6-G. THE APPLICANT IS REQUESTING THAT GULFWAY COURT BE REDESIGNATED AS A PUBLIC ROADWAY AND ACCEPTED IN ITS CURRENT DESIGN (LENGTH, WIDTH, PAVEMENT), WITHOUT REQUIRING UPGRADES TO THE CURRENT CODE, AND FURTHER REQUESTING THAT THE CITY ASSUME MAINTENANCE OF THE PAVEMENT AND ASSOCIATED EASEMENTS CONNECTING TO RAYS WAY, POINT LOOKOUT, AND CRANE.

CONSENT AGENDA:

- Staff presented the variance request to designate Gulfway Court as a public roadway. Council discussed historical maintenance, drainage benefits, and legal considerations.

MOTION:

- Alderman Gerber moved to approve the variance requested at 510 Rays Way
- Alderman Hines seconded the motion

VOTE:

- Motion passed 5-0
- Yes – Alderman Gerber, Alderman Green-Prats, Alderman Hines, Alderman Jalifi, Alderman Kedlarchuk

8. DISCUSS AND TAKE POSSIBLE ACTION TO APPROVE THE TREATY ROAD EXTENSION PROPOSAL.

CONSENT AGENDA:

- Josh Hart presented the replat request and noted Planning & Zoning recommended approval
- Infrastructure concerns were raised regarding water and sewer capacity
- Staff clarified the replat does not authorize construction and infrastructure issues would be addressed during permitting.
- Council discussed future infrastructure planning obligation

MOTION:

- Alderman Jalifi moved to approve the Treaty Road extension proposal
- Alderman Hines seconded the motion

VOTE:

- Motion passed 5-0
- Yes – Alderman Gerber, Alderman Green-Prats, Alderman Hines, Alderman Jalifi, Alderman Kedlarchuk

9. DISCUSS AND TAKE POSSIBLE ACTION TO CHANGE CITY HALL OPERATING HOURS TO 8:00 A.M. TO 5:00 P.M., REPLACING THE CURRENT SCHEDULE OF 7:30 A.M. TO 6:00 P.M.

CONSENT AGENDA:

- Council considered the agenda item pertaining to City Hall operating hours as part of the Consent Agenda.
- No council member requested removal of the item for separate discussions, and no public comment was received.

MOTION:

- Alderman Jalifi motions to table the discussion until Mayor Parsch returns
- Alderman Gerber seconds the motion

VOTE:

- Motion passed 5-0
- Tabled - Alderman Gerber, Alderman Green-Prats, Alderman Hines, Alderman Jalifi, Alderman Kedlarchuk

10. DISCUSS AND TAKE POSSIBLE ACTION TO AMEND THE APPROVED FY 2026 GENERAL FUND BUDGET TO INCREASE FUNDING TO THE FOLLOWING GL ACCOUNTS:

- 4109 – MCSF Security: Increase from \$800.00 to \$2300.00
- MCTF Technology: Increase from \$1000.00 to \$3500.00
- Increase 4109 by \$4000.00
- This amendment will increase the total General Fund expenses from \$1,957,536.76 to a new total of \$1,961,536.76.

CONSENT AGENDA:

- Council received an update and held discussion regarding the 2026 General Fund Budget.
- Information was presented related to the City's General Fund, including current fund balances, cash on hand, and projected revenues and expenditures. It was noted that General Fund balances fluctuate seasonally due to the timing of property tax collections and that temporary decreases were anticipated and consistent with prior years.
- Staff reported that the City remains financially stable, with sufficient reserves, and that debt service obligations are being met in compliance with Texas Water Development Board requirements
- Council discussed anticipated revenue timing and the impact of property tax collections on the General Fund.
- Questions were raised regarding funds owed to the City by the City of Freeport and how those funds may be allocated.
- Staff clarified that the funds originated from the General Fund and are not restricted to being returned solely to that fund.

- Potential future uses of General Fund resources were discussed, including infrastructure and water-related projects.
- Council emphasized the importance of maintaining adequate reserves while planning for upcoming capital needs.

MOTION:

- Alderman Jalifi moved to approve these budget increases
- Alderman Hines seconded the motion

VOTE:

- Motion passed 5-0
- Yes – Alderman Gerber, Alderman Green-Prats, Alderman Hines, Alderman Jalifi, Alderman Kedlarchuk

11. DISCUSS AND TAKE POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING THE APPEARANCE OF ETHICAL CONFLICTS OF INTEREST, THE SIGNING OF A \$333,200.00 ESTIMATE FOR FREESTYLE TO PROVIDE SERVICES RELATED TO A MARKETING CAMPAIGN, AND TO AMEND SEC. 2-490 (PURCHASING AND CONTRACTING FOR COMPETITIVE BIDDING REGULATIONS (c) (1) SPECIFYING THAT ADVERTISING AND MARKETING ARE TO BE CONSIDERED AS CONTRACTUAL SERVICES)

CONSENT AGENDA:

- Council considered the agenda item regarding authorization for the execution and signing of an agreement in the amount of \$333,200.00.
- Staff provided a brief explanation of the item and confirmed the amount and purpose of the authorization. Council discussed the item and acknowledged that the expenditure had been previously reviewed and budgeted

MOTION:

- Alderman Gerber motions to table the discussion
- Alderman Kedlarchuk seconded the motion

VOTE:

- Motion passed 5-0
- Tabled - Alderman Gerber, Alderman Green-Prats, Alderman Hines, Alderman Jalifi, Alderman Kedlarchuk

12. DISCUSS AND TAKE POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING THE MAY 2026 GENERAL ELECTION TO ELECT TWO (2) ALDERMEN AND THE MAYOR (1)

CONSENT AGENDA:

- Council considered the agenda item regarding the May 2026 General Election.
- Staff presented information related to the statutory requirements for calling the election, including the election date, offices to be elected, and coordination with the Brazoria County Elections Office. Council discussed compliance with applicable election laws and timelines

MOTION:

- Alderman Gerber moved to approve placing the election for two (2) Aldermen and one (1) Mayor on the May 2026 ballot
- Alderman Green-Prats seconded the motion

VOTE:

- Motion passed 5-0
- Yes – Alderman Gerber, Alderman Green-Prats, Alderman Hines, Alderman Jalifi, Alderman Kedlarchuk

13. DISCUSS AND TAKE POSSIBLE ACTION TO APPROVE A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE FINANCE DIRECTOR TO MAKE TRANSFERS BETWEEN INDIVIDUAL BUDGET LINE ITEMS (GENERAL LEDGER ACCOUNTS) WITHIN THE SME FUND, PROVIDED THAT THE TOTAL APPROPRIATION FOR THE FUND IS NOT EXCEEDED. THIS CHANGE WOULD ALLOW GREATER FLEXIBILITY AND RESPONSIVENESS IN FINANCIAL OPERATIONS WHILE PRESERVING FISCAL INTEGRITY AND COMPLIANCE WITH TEXAS LOCAL GOVERNMENT CODE CHAPTER 102

CONSENT AGENDA:

- Council considered the agenda item regarding authorization for the Finance Department to make budgetary and/or fund transfers necessary for the continued operation of the City.
- Christie Briones, Finance Director, provided an explanation of the need for transfers to address timing differences in revenues and expenditures and to ensure proper accounting and compliance with budget requirements
- Council discussed the purpose of allowing transfers to maintain operational continuity.
- It was clarified that transfers would be made in accordance with the adopted budget and applicable policies.
- Council emphasized that transfers would continue to be reported to Council as required

MOTION:

- Alderman Green-Prats moved to approve the resolution
- Alderman Gerber seconded the motion

VOTE:

- Motion passed 5-0
- Yes – Alderman Gerber, Alderman Green-Prats, Alderman Hines, Alderman Jalifi, Alderman Kedlarchuk

14. DISCUSS AND TAKE POSSIBLE ACTION TO VOTE ON AN ALTERNATE TOURISM COMMITTEE MEMBER TO REPLACE A VACANCY OR VACANCIES**CONSENT AGENDA:**

- Council considered the agenda item regarding the appointment of an Alternate member to the Tourism Committee.
- Staff explained the need for an alternate member to serve in the absence of a regular committee member and to ensure continuity of committee business. Council discussed the role of the alternate and the importance of maintaining quorum and participation on the Tourism Committee.

MOTION:

- Alderman Gerber moved to approve an alternate Tourism Committee member to replace a vacancy or vacancies
- Alderman Jalifi seconded the motion

VOTE:

- Motion passed 5-0
- Yes – Alderman Gerber, Alderman Green-Prats, Alderman Hines, Alderman Jalifi, Alderman Kedlarchuk

15. DISCUSS AND TAKE POSSIBLE ACTION APPOINT NEW MEMBERS TO THE COMMISSIONS COMMITTEE**CONSENT AGENDA:**

- Council considered the agenda item regarding the appointment of new members to the Commissions Committee.
- Staff explained the need to appoint members to fill vacancies and ensure the committee is properly constituted to perform its advisory functions. Council discussed the importance of citizen participation and maintaining balanced representation on the committee.

MOTION:

- Alderman Jalifi moved to appoint new members to the Commissions Committee
- Alderman Gerber seconded the motion

VOTE:

- Motion passed 5-0
- Yes – Alderman Gerber, Alderman Green-Prats, Alderman Hines, Alderman Jalifi, Alderman Kedlarchuk

16. Meeting Adjourned:

- There being no further business the meeting adjourned at 9:07 p.m. on January 13, 2026

MOTION:

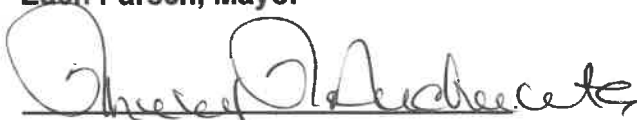
- Alderman Hines moved to adjourn the meeting
- Alderman Green-Prats seconded the motion

VOTE:

- Motion passed 5-0
- Yes – Alderman Gerber, Alderman Green-Prats, Alderman Hines, Alderman Jalifi, Alderman Kedlarchuk

Passed and approved this 13th day of January 13, 2026



Zach Parsch, Mayor

Shirley Sharrock-Archuleta,
City Secretary