

**MINUTES**  
**City Council meeting July 8th, 2014**

OFFICIALS PRESENT

Mayor Larry Davison, Councilwoman E. Elizabeth Brown, Councilman Troy McMinn  
Councilman Chris Gaschler, Councilman Gregg Bisso, Councilwoman Sharon Aust

VILLAGE EMPLOYEES PRESENT

Chief of Police Gary Phillips, City Secretary Sandra Miller, PW Supervisor Pete Gutierrez

**1) OPEN PUBLIC HEARING**

**2) MOMENT OF SILENCE**

**3) PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**4) Discuss violations of City Ordinance 2004-15A on substandard structure located at;**

SURFSIDE, BLOCK 542, LOT 8-SW/2 LOT 7, SURFSIDE, A0051 FJ CALVIT (830 Monument Drive)

*There was no owner present at the meeting and it was noted that there was no response to the certified letter. Council reviewed pictures provided. City Secretary noted that the house was open to the elements and potentially rotten.*

SURFSIDE SD A (A0051 FJ CALVIT DIV 2 (BCIC) (SURFSIDE), BLOCK 2, LOT 8 (913 Seashell)

*There was no one present to speak about this house and there was no response to the certified letters. It was noted the fact that it is rotten and beyond repair and that the lot is for sale.*

SURFSIDE, BLOCK 502, LOT 1-5, SURFSIDE, A0051 FJ CALVIT (309 East Hwy 332)

*A letter from the owner was read aloud by Mayor Davison. Mayor Davison stated that he had been in touch with the owner as well. The Mayor said he explained to the owner that the building was likely beyond repair and that he would lose the ability to rebuild on the ground.*

SURFSIDE, BLOCK 522, LOT 12-14 (NE/2), SURFSIDE, A0051 FJ CALVIT (323 Oyster)

*The owner of the house was present. Her name is Susan Courville and she inherited the house from her late Father Joe Duffner. She stated that she had a medical illness and lacked the financial resources to repair and maintain the house despite her desire to do so. She said that she had the house listed to sell. She asked for enough time to sell the house.*

JORDAN (A0051 FJ CALVIT DIV 2 (BCIC)), BLOCK 2, LOT 7, SURFSIDE (1018 Militia)

*The owner, Douglas Frazier, was present and had a letter of intent that he shared with the Council. He explained that he had already started repairs and had met with Andy Moody to go over all that was required. He asked for time to make the repairs, He stated that he would like to sell the house after the repairs were made.*

SURFSIDE, BLOCK 539, LOT 10-12-14, SURFSIDE, A0051 FJ CALVIT (807 Ft Velasco)

*There was no one present for this house and there was no response to the letter.*

SURFSIDE (A0051 FJ CALVIT), BLOCK 517, LOT 1-2-3-4, ACRES 0.482 (210 TREATY)

*The owner, Van Nguyen, was present and stated that he would like 6 months to make repairs.*

**At the time a motion was made to close the public hearing and have a  
brief break before starting the regular city council at 7:00 PM.**

## 6) CITIZENS'/VISITORS' COMMENTS TO COUNCIL

\* Brooks Porter asked how the CEPR projects were coming along and if they were fully funded. Mayor Davison gave an update that the projects are on schedule and the city has no cost share.

\*\* Glenda McGonigle wanted to thank Chief Phillips for a smooth July 4th weekend. She also wanted to thank Janna Williams for placing the stickers on the trash cans. – A member of the audience then stated that we needed more trash cans. Pete Gutierrez stated that he was open to hear any suggestions.

\*\* Louis Golish stated that he received some violation letters that were not signed by anyone.

## 7) MAYORAL/ALDERMEN/COMMITTEE/POLICE ANNOUNCEMENTS

\*\* Chief Phillips gave an update on the police activity for the week. He went over the report from the court with Council.

\*\* Pete Gutierrez spoke about trash issues. He stated that the more dumpsters you place for the public the more trash you tend to get. Mrs. Bisso said she applauded the work that the public works is doing. There was further back and forth discussion with the audience and council about the maintenance of the beach and management of the seaweed. Councilman McMinn stated that the Galveston Beaches were in worse shape than ours as far as seaweed and lack of maintenance. He also added that folks were coming here more. A member of the audience asked about the water bacteria issues. Pete apologized for this. He explained the issue was that the chlorine levels would not hold. This was an indication of a broken line that he replaced. A member of the audience from Bay Street stated that she had gotten sick and had never been that sick in her life. Mayor Davison stated that she could not be sick from the water because the water never fell below the allowed levels of chlorine, they were low not under. Councilman McMinn asked Pete if we use the beach cleaning machine that was purchased. Pete said that the machine is for grooming, not handling large amounts of seaweed. Councilman Gaschler asked if the water tanks had all been cleaned, Pete said yes. Councilman Troy spoke more about the numerous complaints that he had gotten about the seaweed, Mayor Davison stated that we need to gear efforts toward education of the benefits of it. Jalene Hoffmann suggested a seaweed festival.

○ Councilwoman Aust asked about the schedule of the mosquito spray. Mayor Davison said that it was on Fridays and then only when the plane could fly over due to weather and wind.

\*\* Ronnie Grant spoke about the historical committee meeting. He said that they were working on the Texas Navy Day dinner. He said that they wanted to think of creative ways to promote the fort project. Dortha Pekar added that they are in need of auction items.

\*\* Brooks Porter gave an update on the planning committee meeting, he said that they had met but really did not accomplish much. There were too few at the meeting.

\*\* Mayor Davison noted the Nature Trail project phase two now underway. He stated that we were now waiting on the Army Corp of Engineers to grant the required permit for the mowed path and observation towers. The Mayor went into how the whole trail all would tie together at the fort.

## 8) CONSENT ITEMS:

**Consider approval of the minutes from City Council June Meetings.**

**Consider approval of the financials for June 2014.**

\*\* Motion made by Bisso, second by Brown with all in favor the consent items were approved.

## 9) REGULAR SESSION

**a) Discuss, consider and take action on violations of City Ordinance 2004-15A on substandard structure located at**

○ \*\* SURFSIDE, BLOCK 542, LOT 8-SW/2 LOT 7, SURFSIDE, A0051 FJ CALVIT (830 Monument Drive) – motion was made by McMinn, second by Bisso to repair or DEMO within 10 days of receipt of the certified letter. With all in favor this order passed.

\*\* SURFSIDE SD A (A0051 FJ CALVIT DIV 2 (BCIC) (SURFSIDE), BLOCK 2, LOT 8 (913 Seashell) – motion was made by McMinn. Second by Aust to repair or DEMO within 10 days of receipt of the certified letter. With all in favor this order passed.

**\*\* SURFSIDE, BLOCK 502, LOT 1-5, SURFSIDE, A0051 FJ CALVIT (309 East Hwy 332) – motion was made by Aust, second by Bisso to repair or DEMO within 45 days of receipt of the letter. With all in favor the order passed.**

**SURFSIDE, BLOCK 522, LOT 12-14 (NE/2), SURFSIDE, A0051 FJ CALVIT (323 Oyster) – The owner of this house was present. She requested of the Council adequate time to sell the house. Gaschler made the motion to allow 90 days from receipt of the letter (which is the max allowed by law), seconded by Bisso for the owner to repair or sell the house. With all in favor the order passed.**

**\*\* SURFSIDE, BLOCK 539, LOT 10-12-14, SURFSIDE, A0051 FJ CALVIT (807 Ft Velasco) – McMinn made a motion to allow 30 days from receipt of the certified letter to repair or DEMO, seconded by Gaschler and with all in favor the order passed.**

**\*\* JORDAN (A0051 FJ CALVIT DIV 2 (BCIC)), BLOCK 2, LOT 7, SURFSIDE (1018 Militia) – Bisso made a motion to allow 90 days from receipt of the certified letter to make repairs, seconded by McMinn and with all in favor the order was approved.**

**\*\* SURFSIDE (A0051 FJ CALVIT), BLOCK 517, LOT 1-2-3-4, ACRES 0.482 (210 TREATY) – The owner who had been present had apparently left. Brown made the motion to allow 30 days from receipt of the letter to repair or tear down, seconded by McMinn and with all on favor the order passed.**

**b) Discuss and consider the Village of Surfside Beach designating the Saturday before Easter (April 4, 2015; March 26, 2016; April 15, 2017; March 31, 2018; etc.) as the official date of the Annual Lions Club Easter Egg Hunt at Stahlman Park. – Lions club president Glenda McGonigle stated that this would be a positive event for the city. A motion was made to approve by Brown, second by Bisso and with all in favor the item was approved.**

**c) Discuss and consider lease purchase of copier for city hall. – Brooks Porter of the audience asked if we could ask Dow to donate a copier. There was some discussion of the various features and price options. A motion was made by Brown to approve the color copier, second by McMinn the item was approved.**

**d) Discuss grant applications submitted for the benefit of Surfside Beach Police Department. – Chief Phillips stated that resident Todd Hoffmann submitted to obtain a grant for new computers for the police fleet vehicles. The grant was approved. He was grateful for this as they were needed but expensive. Chief stated that he did not know that he had to get Council approval prior to obtaining a grant. Mayor Davison stated that Council should be notified and approve grants prior to submission in order to prevent fraud. Council and the Mayor stated their gratitude to Mr. Hoffmann and to Chief. Chief also mentioned another grant he had in the works through Freeport LNG.**

**e) Discuss and consider Budget Amendments for fiscal year 2014. – After some review and Q and A there was a motion was made to adopt budget amendments as presented by McMinn, second by Aust and with all in favor the item was approved.**

**f) Discuss and consider appointment of two alternates to the Planning Commission in lieu of Mrs. E. Elizabeth Brown being elected to City Council. – There were two applicants: Toni Capretta and Richard Sherman. A motion was made by McMinn, second by Brown, Bisso and Gaschler approved, Aust abstained. With four in favor the two nominations were approved.**

*Mayor Davison adjourned the meeting.*

Attest: \_\_\_\_\_

City Secretary