



Town of Surfside
Special Town Commission Meeting
AGENDA
Tuesday, August 9, 2022
5:30 PM
Commission Chambers

Rule 7.05 Decorum. Any person making impertinent or slanderous remarks or who becomes boisterous while addressing the commission shall be barred from further appearance before the commission by the presiding officer, unless permission to continue or again address the commission is granted by the majority vote of the commission members present. No clapping, applauding, heckling or verbal outbursts in support or opposition to a speaker or his or her remarks shall be permitted. Signs or placards may be disallowed in the commission chamber by the presiding officer. Persons exiting the commission chambers shall do so quietly.

Rule 6.05 Agenda. The good and welfare portion of the agenda set for 8:15 p.m. shall be restricted to discussion on subjects not already specifically scheduled on the agenda for discussion and debate. In no event shall this portion of the agenda be allotted more than 45 minutes with each speaker to be given no more than three minutes, unless by vote of a majority of the members of the commission present, it is agreed to extend the time frames. Likewise, commission members shall be restricted to speaking three minutes each unless an extension is granted in the same manner as set forth in the prior sentence.

Any person who received compensation, remuneration or expenses for conducting lobbying activities is required to register as a lobbyist with the Town Clerk prior to engaging in lobbying activities per Town Code Sec. 2-235. "Lobbyist" specifically includes the principal, as defined in this section, as well as any agent, officer or employee of a principal, regardless of whether such lobbying activities fall within the normal scope of employment of such agent, officer or employee. The term "lobbyist" specifically excludes any person who only appears as a representative of a not-for-profit community-based organization for the purpose of requesting a grant without special compensation or reimbursement for the appearance; and any person who only appears as a representative of a neighborhood, homeowners or condominium association without compensation for the appearance, whether direct or indirect or contingent, to express support of or opposition to any item.

Per Miami Dade County Fire Marshal, the Commission Chambers has a maximum capacity of 99 people. Once this capacity has been reached, people will be asked to watch the meeting from the first floor.

1. Opening

1.A Call to Order

1.B Roll Call of Members

1.C Pledge of Allegiance

2. Mayor, Commission and Staff Communication

2.A Update on Improving Walkability and Pedestrian Safety within Residential Area - Andrew Hyatt, Town Manager

2.B Turtle Friendly Lighting on the Beach Walking Path within Dune Limits and Reviewed Options for Implementation - Andrew Hyatt, Town Manager
[Turtle Friendly Lighting on Walking Path Pictures](#)

2.C Upgrade to Surfside Street Signs - Shlomo Danzinger, Mayor
[Surfside Street Sign Upgrade.pdf](#)

2.D Discussion to Hold a Public Forum Regarding the New Laws Affecting Condominiums and HOA's. - Commissioner Marianne Meisheid
[City of Aventura.PNG](#)

2.E Creating a Limited Public Forum for Flag/banner Display on Town Property. - Mayor Shlomo Danzinger

2.F Obtaining a Public Relations Firm for Surfside to Combat Negative Media. - Mayor Shlomo Danzinger

2.G Future Format of Town Gazette. - Town Manager Andrew Hyatt

2.H Seaweed Cleanup on the Beach - Vice-Mayor Jeff Rose

3. Adjournment

Respectfully submitted,

Andrew Hayatt
Town Manager

THIS MEETING IS OPEN TO THE PUBLIC. IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT OF 1990, ALL PERSONS THAT ARE DISABLED; WHO NEED SPECIAL ACCOMMODATIONS TO PARTICIPATE IN THIS MEETING BECAUSE OF THAT DISABILITY SHOULD CONTACT THE OFFICE OF THE TOWN CLERK AT 305-861-4863 EXT. 226 NO LATER THAN FOUR DAYS PRIOR TO SUCH PROCEEDING.

IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE PROVISIONS OF SECTION 286.0105, FLORIDA STATUTES, ANYONE WISHING TO APPEAL ANY DECISION MADE BY THE TOWN OF SURFSIDE COMMISSION, WITH

RESPECT TO ANY MATTER CONSIDERED AT THIS MEETING OR HEARING, WILL NEED A RECORD OF THE PROCEEDINGS AND FOR SUCH PURPOSE, MAY NEED TO ENSURE THAT A VERBATIM RECORD OF THE PROCEEDINGS IS MADE WHICH RECORD SHALL INCLUDE THE TESTIMONY AND EVIDENCE UPON WHICH THE APPEAL IS TO BE BASED.

AGENDA ITEMS MAY BE VIEWED AT THE OFFICE OF THE TOWN CLERK, TOWN OF SURFSIDE TOWN HALL, 9293 HARDING AVENUE. ANYONE WISHING TO OBTAIN A COPY OF ANY AGENDA ITEM SHOULD CONTACT THE TOWN CLERK AT 305-861-4863. A COMPLETE AGENDA PACKET IS ALSO AVAILABLE ON THE TOWN WEBSITE AT www.townofsurfsidefl.gov.

TWO OR MORE MEMBERS OF OTHER TOWN BOARDS MAY ATTEND THIS MEETING.

THESE MEETINGS MAY BE CONDUCTED BY MEANS OF OR IN CONJUNCTION WITH COMMUNICATIONS MEDIA TECHNOLOGY, SPECIFICALLY, A TELEPHONE CONFERENCE CALL. THE LOCATION 9293 HARDING AVENUE, SURFSIDE, FL 33154, WHICH IS OPEN TO THE PUBLIC, SHALL SERVE AS AN ACCESS POINT FOR SUCH COMMUNICATION.



**Town of Surfside
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DISCUSSION ITEM MEMORANDUM

Agenda #: 2.A

Date: August 9, 2022

From: Andrew Hyatt, Town Manager

Subject: Update on Improving Walkability and Pedestrian Safety within Residential Area

Background/Analysis: – In order to improve walkability and pedestrian safety within the Town, and based on Town Commission direction to report back with an implementation time frame and associated costs, the following status update is being provided:

- Town administration is seeking to retain The Corradino Group to perform a Town-wide traffic study. Request to approve and expend funding was brought forth to the July 2022 General Town Commission meeting.
- New street signage for pedestrian safety "Shared Roads" and other types have been deployed throughout Town.
- Town Administration evaluated Multi-use bike lanes on existing conditions of residential streets and avenues and determined:
 - Streets do not have the required width (average 26'-00") to host two side parallel parking, two way traffic vehicular travel and a multi use lane. In order to accomplish adding a multi-use lane, one of the stated travel or parking ways will need to be removed.
 - Avenues do not have the required width (average 32'-00") to host two side parallel parking, two way traffic vehicular travel and a multi use lane. In order to accomplish adding a multi-use lane, one of the stated travel or parking ways will need to be removed.
- Finalized review of 88th Street Stop Signs at every intersection from Abbott Avenue to Bay Drive and the County finalized that the minimum traffic count did not warrant the all stops along the corridor. The Town advised that if the stop signs are removed, an immediate safety issue will be present as the signs mitigate traffic flow for pedestrians in lieu of walking infrastructure (sidewalks). In conclusion, the Town requested that the signs stay until the Town-wide traffic study is complete in order to assess other possible alternatives that can be studied and implemented.



MEMORANDUM

ITEM NO. 2.B

To: Honorable Mayor, Vice-Mayor and Members of the Town Commission

From: Andrew Hyatt, Town Manager

Date: August 9, 2022

Subject: **Turtle Friendly Lighting on the Beach Walking Path within Dune Limits and Reviewed Options for Implementation**

Town administration is seeking Town commission discussion regarding the current pilot program implementation and for Town commission to provide recommendation on how to proceed.

During the June 2022 General Commission meeting, Town administration was tasked to explore turtle friendly lighting alternatives on the walking path. The lighting on the walking path is meant to assist pedestrians to enjoy the walking path during early evening hours by amplifying the foot level visibility. This is to assist with safety as the walking path is a naturally preserved surface with various uneven sections.

The walking path is located on the dunes eastern of the property line of adjacent buildings along the east coast line. This means, it is part of the State beach system and is not Town owned property. The State will not permit the installation of a permanent lighting infrastructure within the State beach system per confirmation with Florida Department of Environmental Protection (FDEP). This is because of various ecological and liability reasons.

The Town of Surfside does have a field permit which was obtained through FDEP which allows the Town to maintain the dune system and maintain the rope and pole dune protective barrier encountered throughout the dune line. As a lighting option, the Town can use the existing rope and pole infrastructure to install minimally invasive solar lights which are amber (turtle friendly). The installation can occur on every pole or any other variation. The Town's Public Works Department installed a pilot program behind the community center during the month of June 2022 in order to determine the durability of the lighting fixtures as well as to document the intrusion of the amber lights onto the beach. As a result, due to the low foot level installation of the lights, the pilot was deemed minimally invasive to sea life and the lights are easy to replace if they ever failed. The lighting of each fixture is approximately 10 hours which is enough to light the path for the early evening hours. The walking path is closed during the evenings as it follows the same beach rules.

The following alternatives with corresponding probable cost of construction are presented:

- Two Sides Every Pole Option, \$42,900
- One Side Every Pole Option, \$28,700
- Two Sides Every Other Pole Option, \$28,700
- One Side Every Other Pole Option, \$21,600

The pilot behind the community center has a variation of bullet number one and bullet number two. All wood poles are spaced at an average of twelve feet between poles. **Exhibit A** - "Turtle Friendly Lighting on Walking Path Pictures" provides pictures of the currently deployed pilot program.

[Turtle Friendly Lighting on Walking Path Pictures](#)



Town of Surfside
Public Works Department
Turtle Friendly Lighting on Walking Path
Pilot Program Pictures





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DISCUSSION ITEM MEMORANDUM

Agenda #: 2.C

Date: August 9, 2022

From: Shlomo Danzinger, Mayor

Subject: Upgrade to Surfside Street Signs

Suggested Action: – To direct the town manager to report back at the August meeting with options and costs for upgrading the street signs throughout Surfside.

Background/Analysis: – Upgrading out street signs to decorative street signs would greatly enhance our towns appearance. This is a simple upgrade that would make such a visible impact for our residents.

Budget Impact: – To be determined

Surfside Street Sign Upgrade



Standard Street Sign



Decorative Street Sign



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DISCUSSION ITEM MEMORANDUM

Agenda #: 2.D

Date: August 9, 2022

From: Commissioner Marianne Meisheid

Subject: Discussion to Hold a Public Forum Regarding the New Laws Affecting Condominiums and HOA's.

Suggested Action: – Direct Town Administration to coordinate and host a Town Hall discussion forum to educate and discuss the new laws pertaining to Condominium and HOA's.

This forum will be for the members of the community, elected officials, and legislators.

Background/Analysis: – One year after the Surfside collapse, local officials are still working to ensure that buildings are safe. Now, thanks to our Florida legislators, we have new laws that will protect our Condominiums and HOA's.

A public forum for Condo Boards, Condo Associations, and HOA's will help educate the residents regarding this new legislation.

Florida Legislature Discuss New Condo Law at Town Hall Meeting

Following the Champlain Towers South collapse in Surfside, the Florida Legislature recently adopted new legislation which impacts condominiums.

Aventura was proud to host our own Senator, Jason Pizzo, as well as Senator Jennifer Bradley, who sponsored the new condo legislation, Senate Democratic Leader Lauren Book, and Speaker Designate of the Florida House, Daniel Perez for a town hall on the new law. If you missed the town hall, you can find a full video of the event on the [City of Aventura YouTube page](#).

Under the new law, buildings in Aventura will undergo an initial recertification 25 years after construction. Under the prior law, this recertification was done after 40 years. Once recertification takes place, buildings will undergo recertification every 10 years. Recertification requires that the building undergo structural and electrical inspections and make any necessary repairs.

Condominiums will now be required to undergo a reserve study to determine their needs every ten years, and fully fund reserves for structural integrity. Associations have until 2025 to achieve fully funded reserves. This requirement only applies to structural reserves. Funds for things such as upgrading the appearance of common areas or replacing furniture or equipment remain at the discretion of each association.

Last year, Aventura adopted the first legislation in Florida which requires all of its buildings to submit any engineering reports it receives to the city. All engineering reports submitted to the city are published on the city website and available for viewing to the public.

If you would like to read the full condo legislation adopted by the State of Florida, we have posted a copy of it on the [city website](#).





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DISCUSSION ITEM MEMORANDUM

Agenda #: 2.E

Date: August 9, 2022

From: Mayor Shlomo Danzinger

Subject: **Creating a Limited Public Forum for Flag/banner Display on Town Property.**

Suggested Action: –

1. For the Commission to create a policy, with specific procedures and parameters, in which residents can request the Town to temporarily display flags/banners on the turtle walk poles or elsewhere on Town property in support of an organization or message.
2. For the Town to establish a scope or criteria for the messages expressed in the limited public forum.
3. For all residents to have the same opportunity to have their messages displayed on flags/banners in a limited public forum, providing they follow the procedures and meet the requirements and criteria.
4. If the Commission reaches a consensus on this proposal, to direct the Town Administration and Attorney to bring back a resolution to implement this program.

Background/Analysis: – Residents have requested that various flags be flown on Town property to signal support for their organization or cause. Absent a policy, this could have opened the Town to be required to display flags which may be controversial or even hateful. The goal is for the Commission to create a policy, with specific procedures and parameters, by which residents can request the Town to temporarily display flags/banners in support of an organization or message.

Budget Impact: – Any and all costs are to be covered by the applicants.



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DISCUSSION ITEM MEMORANDUM

Agenda #: 2.F

Date: August 9, 2022

From: Mayor Shlomo Danzinger

Subject: **Obtaining a Public Relations Firm for Surfside to Combat Negative Media.**

Suggested Action: – For the Town Manager to present options to the Mayor for approval for the engagement or retention of a public relations firm to help the town navigate and alleviate negative public relations through strategy and drafting of meaningful responses.

Background/Analysis: – With the tragic collapse of the Champaign Towers South on June 24, 2021, the Town of Surfside was thrust into the global spotlight. This attention has made Surfside a target for media looking for sensational news stories. Adding to this, Surfside has a few residents, and previously elected official(s), who in an effort to undermine the Town's Administration and elected officials, have weaponized the media and utilized every opportunity to shine a negative light on the town and its' administration.

Until now the town's response strategy and comments (if any) have been formulated by the town's attorneys. While their legal expertise is prudent to our responses, they are calculated and measured but lack the strategy required to respond appropriately.

The Town requires the services of professionals to help combat negative media attention by responding appropriately. This service would be utilized on an as needed basis.

Since it is the elected officials, more specifically the mayor, who is naturally singled out at as the face of the party responsible for responding to every allegation, it is requested that the mayor and the commission ultimately make the decision as to which agency they feel confident in to represent the elected officials and the Town.

Budget Impact: – The budget impact will be determined once proposals are received.



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DISCUSSION ITEM MEMORANDUM

Agenda #: 2.G

Date: August 9, 2022

From: Town Manager Andrew Hyatt

Subject: Future Format of Town Gazette.

Suggested Action: – The Town Administration seeks direction from the Town Commission on whether to move forward or keep exploring this more timely, environmentally-friendly and cost effective way of delivering the Town Gazette.

Background/Analysis: –

The monthly Surfside Gazette is currently both mailed to residents and distributed digitally.

Due to increased challenges with the U.S. Post Service, delivering the Gazette on a timely basis during the first few days of the month has proved increasingly difficult and can no longer be guaranteed. In order to try and achieve timely delivery, the Gazette needs to be produced two plus weeks in advance, which means information that would often be relevant for an upcoming issue does not get featured until the following month.

The Administration recommends revisiting the distribution format of the Town Gazette and moving towards general digital distribution.

However, the Administration also recognizes that some of Surfside's elderly residents or with special needs require a physical copy. Staff would reach out directly to this group of residents and make arrangements to deliver their Gazette.

Additionally, the Town would print 1,200 copies monthly that would be available at Town Hall, the Community Center, and the 95th Street news racks.

This change would ensure that the information featured in the Gazette each month is more up to date for readers. Drastically reducing the amount of paper used will also help reduce our environmental footprint.

Budget Impact: – From a cost perspective, significant savings could be expected as printing 1,200 copies per month would amount to an estimated \$16,300 annually.

Current costs for printing and mail preparation are approximately \$36,000 plus the postage which is an additional \$9,000.



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DISCUSSION ITEM MEMORANDUM

Agenda #: 2.H

Date: August 9, 2022

From: Vice-Mayor Jeff Rose

Subject: Seaweed Cleanup on the Beach

Suggested Action: – Clean up the seaweed on the beach.

Background/Analysis: – Residents have brought up that there is a lot of seaweed on the beach. For the town to work with an approved contractor to clean up the seaweed on the beach.