



**Town of Surfside  
Special Town Commission Meeting  
MINUTES  
January 22, 2013  
7 p.m.**

Town Hall Commission Chambers - 9293 Harding Ave, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor  
Surfside, FL 33154

**1. Opening**

**A. Call to Order**

Mayor Dietch called the meeting to order at 7:00 P.M.

**B. Roll Call of Members**

Town Clerk Sandra Novoa called the roll with the following members present: Mayor Dietch, Vice Mayor Karukin, Commissioner Olchyk, Commissioner Kligman and Commissioner Graubart.

**C. Pledge of Allegiance**

Chief of Police David Allen led the Pledge of Allegiance

**2. Town Attorney Recruitment**

Mayor Dietch spoke about the purpose of the meeting.

Linda Miller, Interim Town Attorney, gave an overview of the current situation and suggested that the Town Commission appoint her as Interim Town Attorney and Sarah Johnston as Assistant Interim Town Attorney for a period of six (6) months.

Vice Mayor Karukin stated that his preference is to have an in house Town Attorney rather than a firm.

Commissioner Olchyk expressed her agreement with Vice Mayor Karukin in keeping an in house Town Attorney. She stated that she would like to give Linda Miller an opportunity as Interim Town Attorney for a term of six (6) months. She explained that Ms. Miller is very much aware of all the issues in the Town Attorney's office and this will give them time to fill other vacant positions in the Town.

Commissioner Graubart would like to maintain the status quo. He stated that Linda Miller and Sarah Johnston have been with the Town for a long time and they are capable of getting the job done.

Commissioner Kligman agreed with the rest of the Town Commission and she thinks that it would be in the best interest of the Town to appoint Ms. Miller as Interim Town Attorney.

Commissioner Olchyk, Commissioner Graubart, Commissioner Kligman and Vice Mayor Karukin thought that six months was appropriate.

Commissioner Graubart spoke about the compensation for Linda Miller and Sarah Johnston. He stated that Ms. Johnston is currently a contractor and in his opinion she should become a regular Town employee immediately. He suggested that the Town Commission appoint someone to negotiate the salary and bring it back for discussion.

Town Manager Roger M. Carlton suggested that whoever is appointed from the Commission to negotiate should work with Brett Schneider, Special Labor Counsel, to develop an engagement letter for the Town Commission to review and approve during the February 12, 2013 meeting.

Louis Cohen spoke in favor of appointing Linda Miller as the Interim Town Attorney.

Anthony Blate spoke about the importance of having an experienced attorney.

Mark Goldstein stated that he submitted his resume for consideration and wished the Town Commission the best of luck.

Commissioner Olchyk made a motion to appoint Linda Miller as Interim Town Attorney for a period of six months. Commissioner Graubart made a friendly amendment to hire Sarah Johnston as a regular Town employee effective tomorrow and to have Commissioner Kligman as the appointed person to negotiate the engagement letter for Linda Miller including compensation. Commissioner Olchyk accepted the friendly amendment and all voted in favor.

### 3. Adjournment

There being no further business to come before the Commission, the meeting adjourned at 7:40 p.m.

Accepted this 12<sup>th</sup> day of March, 2013

  
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Daniel Dietch, Mayor

Attest:



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Sandra Noyoa, CMC  
Town Clerk