



**Town of Surfside
Regular Town Commission Meeting
MINUTES**

December 12, 2023

6:00 PM

Commission Chambers - 9293 Harding Avenue
Surfside, FL 33154

1. Opening

1A. Call to Order

Mayor Danzinger called the meeting to order at 6:09 p.m.

1B. Roll Call of Members

Town Clerk McCready called the roll with the following members present.

Present: Mayor Shlomo Danzinger, Vice Mayor Jeff Rose, Commissioner Fred Landsman, Commissioner Marianne Meisheid and Commissioner Nelly Velasquez (absent from the dais but in the building) (arrived back to the dais at 6:10 p.m.).

Also Present: Town Attorney Lillian Arango, Town Attorney Tony Recio, and Town Manager Hector Gomez.

1C. Pledge of Allegiance

Interim Chief Marciante provided the pledge of allegiance.

1D. Mayor and Commission Remark - Mayor Shlomo Danzinger

Mayor Danzinger welcomed everyone present and watching from home. He wished his wife a happy anniversary. He reminded everyone present about the decorum statement and conduct during the meeting. He went over the different events that have taken place and are upcoming.

Commissioner Landsman congratulated the Mayor and his wife on their anniversary. He congratulated the Town Manager for the birth of his second daughter. He wishes everyone a happy holiday season.

Commissioner Meisheid hopes everyone had a happy thanksgiving. She gave thanks for being able to serve the community and she will not be returning for the upcoming election and there are great candidates running for commission and wishes them good luck. She will be asking her fellow commissioners to reconsider

the outdoor lighting ordinance because she was not at the meeting when it came up due to her being sick.

Commissioner Velasquez thanked everyone for being here. She wishes everyone a great holiday season.

Vice Mayor Rose thanked everyone watching from home and wished everyone a happy holiday. He gave a great shout out to the Public Works staff for their hard work and the community service aide for the incredible work being done. He stated that several residents asked why Commissioner Velasquez walked off the dais at the last meeting and explained the reason she walked out was because he lied about voting on the November 7 election. He stated there is an investigation into this and against her.

1E. Agenda and Order of Business Additions, deletions and linkages

Mayor Danzinger passed the gavel.

Mayor Danzinger would like for item 9A (Permit Fees for Condominium Recertification and Special Assessments) and item 9C (Additional Discussion for Retaining Wall Standards and On-site Containment of Stormwater) after item 2 (Quasi-Judicial Hearings); add a new item to be new item 3J (Update on Investigation against Commissioner Nelly Velasquez) to be heard after item 3 (Consent Agenda); add a new item to be new item 3K (Anti-Semitism in the Town of Surfside) to be heard after item 3J (Update on Investigation against Commissioner Nelly Velasquez); add a new discussion item to be new item 9E (Point Lake), item 9F (Donation to Ruth K. Broad) to be heard at the end of the discussion items and then add a new item 7C (Executive Session) to be heard after item 7B (Town Attorney's Report).

A motion was made by Vice Mayor Rose to walk on an item to be heard before Item 3 (Consent Agenda) making it new item 3J (Update on Investigation against Commissioner Nelly Velasquez), seconded by Commissioner Landsman. The motion carried with a 4-1 vote with Commissioner Meisheid voting in opposition.

A motion was made by Commissioner Velasquez to move item 9F (Donation to Ruth K. Broad) to be heard after item 9A (Permit Fees for Condominium Recertification and Special Assessments) and item 9C (Additional Discussion for Retaining Wall Standards and On-site Containment of Stormwater) and add the reconsideration of the light ordinance as first reading ordinance new item 4B3 (Light Ordinance Reconsideration), seconded by Commissioner Meisheid. The motion carried with a 4-1 vote with Mayor Danzinger voting in opposition.

A motion was made by Commissioner Meisheid to have the reconsideration of the light ordinance added as first reading to be new item 4B3 (Light Ordinance Reconsideration), seconded by Commissioner Velasquez. The motion carried with a 3-2 vote with Mayor Danzinger and Vice Mayor Rose voting in opposition.

1F. Community Notes - Mayor Shlomo Danzinger

2. Quasi-Judicial Hearings

3. Consent Agenda

All items on the consent agenda are considered routine or status reports by the Town Commission and will be approved by one motion. Any Commission member may request that an item be removed from the Consent Agenda and discussed separately. If the public wishes to speak on a matter on the consent agenda they must inform the Town Clerk prior to the start of the meeting by completing a speaker card. They will be recognized to speak prior to the approval of the consent agenda.

A motion was made by Commissioner Meischeid to pull item 3I (Recognition of Service for Former Surfside Elected Officials), seconded by Vice Mayor Rose. The motion carried with a 5-0 vote.

A motion was made by Commissioner Landsman to approve the consent agenda minus pulled item 3I (Recognition of Service for Former Surfside Elected Officials), seconded by Vice Mayor Rose. The motion carried with a 5-0 vote.

3A. Approval of Minutes - Sandra N. McCreedy, MMC, Town Clerk

Approved on consent.

[November 14, 2023 Regular Town Commission Meeting Minutes.pdf](#)

[November 14, 2023 Special Town Commission Meeting-Quasi Judicial Minutes.pdf](#)

3B. Board and Committee Reports/Minutes - Sandra N. McCreedy, Town Clerk

Approved on consent.

[August 31, 2023 Regular Planning and Zoning Board Meeting Minutes.pdf](#)

[September 11, 2023 Tourist Board Meeting Minutes.pdf](#)

[September 18, 2023 Parks and Recreation Committee Meeting Minutes.pdf](#)

[September 28, 2023 Planning and Zoning Board Meeting Minutes.pdf](#)

[November 13, 2023 Tourist Board Meeting Minutes.pdf](#)

3C. Gas Franchise Agreement between The Town of Surfside and Peoples Gas System - Hector Gomez, Town Manager

Town administration recommends the approval of the proposed non-exclusive franchise agreement with Peoples Gas System, Inc. as presented.

Approved on consent.

[Resolution Approve Franchise Agreement with Peoples Gas System](#)

[Gas Franchise Agreement with Peoples Gas System](#)

3D. FEMA Community Ratings System (CRS) Consultants Contract - Hector Gomez, Town Manager

Retain CRS Max Consultants, Inc. for CRS related consulting services for fiscal year 2024 for a total fee not to exceed \$6,500.00. The Town budgeted the funds in the approved fiscal year 2024 budget.

Approved on consent.

[Resolution Approving CRS Max Consultants - Community Rating System 2023-24 Exhibit A - Community Rating System Consultant Services Agreement 2023-24](#)

3E. Certification of Surfside Special Municipal Elections held November 7, 2023 - Sandra N. McCready, Town Clerk

Town Administration recommends adoption of the Resolution.

Approved on consent.

[Resolution Certifying Results of Special Election November 7, 2023 Certification.pdf](#)
[Official Election Results.pdf](#)

3F. FY 2024 Budget Amendment Resolution No. 2 - Hector Gomez, Town Manager

Town Administration recommends approval of Budget Amendment Resolution Number 2

Approved on consent.

[Resolution Approving Budget Amendment No. 2 Attachment A - FY2024 Budget Amendment No. 2](#)

3G. FPL Power Service for 96th Street Park - Hector Gomez, Town Manager

Town administration is seeking to issue a change order to Lunacon Construction for MSBI Broadband Services, sub-contractor, to install off-site electrical infrastructure on Bay Drive for Electrical services affiliated with 96th Street Park Construction. The total for work is \$33,470.58 which includes Lunacon Construction affiliated fees. Refer to **Exhibit A - COR 09 Directional Boring**. Town is requesting in addition to the scope of work an additional \$16,529.42 in the event of any unforeseen due to off-site roadway conditions for a total request of \$50,000.00.

Approved on consent.

[Attachment A - MBSI Broadband Services estimate](#)
[Attachment B - Streamline Voice & Data estimate](#)
[Attachment C - Electrical Service Miami estimate](#)
[Resolution Approving Change Order to Lunacon Contract -FPL Electrical Service to 96 St Park](#)
[Exhibit A - COR 09 Directional Boring.pdf](#)

3H. Maintenance Agreement with Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) for Custom Sidewalks Improvements within the Town - Hector Gomez, Town Manager

Town Administration is recommending approval of the agreement.

Approved on consent.

[Resolution Approving Master Maintenance Agreement with FDOT - Beautification projects State Roads](#)
[Exhibit A - MMOA Surfside](#)

3I. Recognition of Service for Former Surfside Elected Officials - Mayor Shlomo Danzinger

For the Commission to approve a ceremonial Key to the Town to be presented to former Surfside elected officials who have served a minimum of 3 consecutive terms in office.

Mayor Danzinger introduced the item.

Mayor Danzinger opened up the floor to public comment.

The following individuals from the public spoke:

Gerardo Vildostegui

Eliana Salzhauer

Mayor Danzinger closed the floor to public comment.

A motion was made by Mayor Danzinger to give a key to the Town, a presentation and proclamation to those elected officials that have served three (3) consecutive terms, seconded by Vice Mayor Rose.

Mayor Danzinger explained that there needs to be some sort of limitation.

Commissioner Landsman agrees with the Mayor.

Commissioner Meischeid would like to eliminate the word consecutive and reconsider also 2 terms.

Commissioner Velasquez stated this is another example of this Mayor trying to divide our Town. She also does not agree with the 3 consecutive years of service.

The motion carried with a 3-2 vote with Commissioner Meischeid and Commissioner Velasquez voting in opposition.

[Key to the Town Request Form - Former Elected Officials.pdf](#)

3J.) Update on Investigation against Commissioner Nelly Velasquez

Commissioner Velasquez stated that this is a political ploy.

Town Manager Gomez asked Commissioner Velasquez to stop addressing Town employees and making those statements. He provided a summary of the investigation and per their procedure they are required to bring it forth to this body. He stated that they are in the last part of the investigation and there is a scheduled interview with the last

individual scheduled for tomorrow, December 13, 2023. If that interview does not take place and is cancelled they will move forward to conclude the investigation.

Mayor Danzinger asked Town Manager Gomez how many times this individual has had the opportunity to meet with this investigator and then cancelled her interview appointment in the last three months.

Commissioner Velasquez told Town Manager Gomez to not lie and it has only been once.

Town Manager Gomez stated that he is would not lie and that it has been a few attempts to coordinate a meeting.

Commissioner Velasquez stated that coordinating a meeting and having the meeting are two different things.

Mayor Danzinger stated that 3 months is long enough to coordinate and all of them made the time to go and give their testimony.

A motion was made by Mayor Danzinger to direct the Town Manager that if the Commissioner does not take the time to cooperate with the investigation that the administration ask the investigator to conclude his investigation and bring forward an item on the January 9, 2024 commission meeting agenda, seconded by Vice Mayor Rose.

Commissioner Velasquez stated this is for political purposes and using Town funds for political purposes.

Town Manager Gomez stated that there is a formal complaint filed and they are following the process laid out in their policy.

Commissioner Velasquez continued to interrupt and called the employee that filed the complaint "insubordinate".

Vice Mayor Rose asked if this investigation is being done by the Town or a third party.

Town Manager Gomez stated it is being conducted by a third party. He stated they need to conclude this investigation. This complaint was filed by an employee for a hostile work environment and they need to investigate this further. He cannot provide more information because it is an open investigation. He stated the sooner they are able to close it the sooner they can have it available.

Commissioner Velasquez continued to state that this is for political purposes and they are impatient.

The motion carried with a 3-2 vote with Commissioner Meischeid and Commissioner Velasquez voting in opposition.

3K.) Anti-Semitism in the Town of Surfside

Mayor Danzinger introduced the item and spoke regarding the attack on Israel and what the purpose of this is and there is a strong voice saying that this is made up. He stated

that he will spare them from the gruesome video he has watched. He stated that the worse thing is that some people are trying to silence what happened. He stated when you condone the actions of terrorists, there is no reason to make an excuse of their actions. He called out Commissioner Meisheid for sending out multiple emails to rally people against the posters that were sent out and being an antisemite.

Due to the extreme yelling among some of the members of the commission, minutes were unable to be taken of this section.

A motion was made by Mayor Danzinger to direct the Town Manager to support and allow the private entities to put the posters on their property, seconded by Vice Mayor Rose. The motion carried with a 3-2 vote with Commissioner Velasquez and Commissioner Meisheid voting in opposition.

Mayor Danzinger requested to add the emails he has as proof of Commissioner Meisheid's antisemitic comments as part of the record and made part of the minutes.

4. Ordinances

Second Reading

First Reading

4B1. Update Town Code Section 70-41 and 70-42 to Increase Local Business Taxes as Allowed by State Statute - Hector Gomez, Town Manager

Town administration is recommending the Town Commission to increase local business taxes by up to 5%, which is the permissible amount under state statute.

Town Clerk McCready read the title of the ordinance into the record.

Town Manager Gomez introduced the item.

Town Attorney Arango provided an overview of the ordinance.

Mayor Danzinger opened up the floor to public comments.

There were no public speakers.

Mayor Danzinger closed the floor to public comment.

A motion was made by Vice Mayor Rose to approve the ordinance on first reading, seconded by Commissioner Landsman. The motion carried with a 5-0 vote.

[Ordinance Amending Sec. 70-41 Local Business Tax Rates](#)

[Attachment A - Schedule of Fees](#)

4B2. Ordinance Amending Chapter 54 - Offenses and Miscellaneous Provisions - Hector Gomez, Town Manager

The City of Miami Beach recently fortified the safety and well-being of its residents

and visitors by amending Chapter 70 of the City Code, specifically Article II titled "Public Places," under Section 70-45, which now prohibits camping.

The Town Commission should consider adopting the attached ordinance enacting regulations to oversee and restrict specific activities or conduct in public areas that obstruct access, jeopardize safety or sanitation, or infringe upon the public's rights to freely utilize these spaces for their intended purposes. This is essential for safeguarding the health, safety, and well-being of both Town residents, visitors and the public.

Town Clerk McCready read the title of the ordinance into the record.

Town Manager Gomez introduced the item.

Town Attorney Arango provided an overview of the ordinance.

Mayor Danzinger opened up the floor to public comments.

The following individuals from the public spoke:
Eliana Salzhauer spoke against the ordinance.

Mayor Danzinger closed the floor to public comment.

Mayor Danzinger provided an overview of the ordinance and what it will entail and the tools it will give the police department to enforce the law and ask them to leave the property.

Commissioner Velasquez asked regarding cooking on an open flame.

Mayor Danzinger explained what that section means, and you can cook in your own private property.

Vice Mayor Rose asked how you determine someone camping from a friend staying over.

Town Manager Gomez addressed the question made by Vice Mayor Rose.

A motion was made by Vice Mayor Rose to approve the ordinance on first reading and to add the portion back in for second reading which is camping is prohibited on all private residential property with the exception of explicit consent from the property owner, seconded by Commissioner Landsman. The motion carried with a 5-0 vote.

[Ordinance Amending Chapter 54-Offenses and Miscellaneous Provisions](#)

4B3.) Light Ordinance Reconsideration

Town Clerk McCready read the title of the ordinance into the record.

A motion was made by Commissioner Meischeid for purposes of discussion, seconded by Commissioner Velasquez. The motion carried with a 5-0 vote.

Town Manager Gomez introduced the item and stated this item has been brought back tonight by Commissioner Meisheid for reconsideration.

Mayor Danzinger opened the floor to public comments.

The following individuals from the public spoke:
George Kousoulas spoke in support of the item
Eliana Salzhauer spoke in support of the item

Mayor Danzinger closed the floor to public comments.

Commissioner Meisheid introduced the item and explained the importance of having something in place. She would like to keep item c and e of the ordinance.

A motion was made by Commissioner Meisheid to revise the ordinance at first reading to strike out items a, b, d, f, g, h and i and only leave items c (not to include motion sensors and intermittent lighting) and e; for it to apply to new constructions and remodels; the light will not spill out into the neighbor's yard and take out the word 10 feet, seconded by Commissioner Velasquez.

Commissioner Landsman has a concern with item e because who determines this is not in harmony and suggested to clarify the language or make it more manageable.

Commissioner Meisheid asked if the Town Manager can work with the Town Planner on the language.

Town Planner Frankel explained who the Town Manager's designee would be and the process.

Mayor Danzinger addressed the comments regarding who would take this on and if they could task the appropriate person.

Vice Mayor Rose stated that the way it is currently written he cannot support it.

After a lengthy discussion on the specifics of this ordinance and verbiage, the vote was called, and the motion carried with a 5-0 vote.

5. Resolutions and Proclamations

If the public wishes to speak on any matters in this section of the agenda, they must inform the Town Clerk by completing a speaker card and they will be recognized to speak at the beginning of this section.

5A. On-Demand Transit Services Through FREEBEE Ride Share - Hector Gomez, Town Manager

Town Administration is recommending proceeding to contracting with FREEBEE for on-demand transit transportation services funded through CITT funds for a total not to exceed \$131,760 per year with typical services occurring 7 days a week for a total

of 70 hours per week at a rate of \$36.20 per hour for a total of an initial term running from the Effective Date through April 25, 2025 (concurrent with the term on the City of Sunrise Contract), with two (2) additional one (1) year renewal periods.

Town Clerk McCready read the title of the resolution into the record.

Town Manager Gomez introduced the item.

Mayor Danzinger opened up the floor to public comments.

The following individual from the public spoke:

Eliana Salzhauer

Mayor Danzinger closed the floor to public comment.

Discussion took place to have the Town Manager make sure the Freebee will be ADA compliant.

A motion was made by Commissioner Landsman to approve the resolution, seconded by Vice Mayor Rose. The motion carried with a 5-0 vote.

[Attachment A - Proof of Advertisement](#)

[Resolution Approving Freebee On Demand Transit Services](#)

[Exhibit A & B - Cover Agreement - FreeBee On Demand Services](#)

6. Good and Welfare (Set for approximately 8:15 p.m.)

Public comments for subjects or items not on the agenda.

Mayor Danzinger opened up the floor to public comments.

The following individuals from the public spoke:

Jeffrey Zomper spoke regarding the undergrounding bond.

Gerardo Vildostegui spoke regarding the gym in town hall and believes that the commissioners should not be allowed to use it since the residents cannot use the gym.

George Kousoulas spoke regarding the discussion item last month regarding the 10% setback.

Eliana Salzhauer spoke regarding the upcoming planning and zoning items.

Mayor Danzinger closed the floor to public comment.

The Commission Members addressed the comments made by the public speakers.

Town Manager Gomez provided a summary and update of the undergrounding project.

7. Town Manager and Town Attorney Reports

7A. Town Manager's Report - Hector Gomez, Town Manager

Town Manager Gomez introduced the item and provided an overview of the Town

Manager's Report.

Mayor Danzinger opened the floor to public comments.

There were no public speakers.

Mayor Danzinger closed the floor to public comments.

Vice Mayor Rose regarding the walkability study and sidewalk improvements and would like to make sure they will get done.

Town Manager Gomez stated they have an issue with CITT and they need to use the funds if not they will be requesting it back. He stated there are certain monies to be used for walkability and he would like to bring forward some sidewalk projects.

Town Manager Gomez spoke regarding Schnabel Engineering, LLC. v. KCE Structural Engineers, P.C. and Town of Surfside, Case No. CL23-7597, Henrico County Circuit Court, Virginia.

A motion was made by Vice Mayor Rose to approve the Town Manager's Report, seconded by Commissioner Landsman. The motion carried with a 5-0 vote.

[2023-12 December Town Manager's Report](#)

7B. Town Attorney's Report - Lillian Arango, Town Attorney

Town Attorney Arango introduced the item and provided an overview of the Town Attorney's Report and pending litigations.

Mayor Danzinger opened the floor to public comments.

There were no public speakers.

Mayor Danzinger closed the floor to public comments.

A motion was made by Commissioner Landsman to approve the Town Attorney's Report, seconded by Vice Mayor Rose. The motion carried with a 5-0 vote.

[Town Attorney Report](#)

7C.) Executive Session

Town Attorney Arango provided a summary of the lawsuit regarding Schnabel Engineering, LLC. v. KCE Structural Engineers, P.C. and Town of Surfside, Case No. CL23-7597, Henrico County Circuit Court, Virginia. She explained that they need to hold the executive session on Monday, December 18, 2023 in the morning. She stated that they have to engage a law firm Sams Anderson PC a Virginia firm to represent the Town.

Town Manager Gomez stated the more immediate action is needed and they do need to have a shade session and direction to engage the firm.

Mayor Danzinger stated that it is not fair to have Mr. Kilsheimer to throw this urgency but

understands. He stated if Monday morning works for the commission.

Consensus was reached to hold the executive session for Monday, December 18, 2023, at 10:00 a.m.

A motion was made by Mayor Danzinger to direct the Town Manager to engage the law firm Sams Anderson PC for this lawsuit and file the motion and pay the retainer fee of \$3,000, seconded by Commissioner Landsman. The motion carried with a 5-0 vote.

8. Unfinished Business and New Business

9. Mayor, Commission and Staff Communications

9A Permit Fees for Condominium Recertification and Special Assessments - Commissioner Meischeid

Develop permit fees specific to condominium re-certification and special assessment that are not the same as applied for new construction in order to mitigate the increased cost of condominium re-certification and special assessments.

A motion was made by Commissioner Meischeid for purposes of discussion, seconded by Vice Mayor Rose. The motion carried with a 5-0 vote.

Mayor Danzinger opened the floor to public comments.

The following individual from the public spoke:
George Kousoulas

Mayor Danzinger closed the floor to public comments.

Commissioner Meischeid provided an overview of the item and what is coming up with the condominiums including special assessments.

Building Official McGuinness spoke regarding the permit fees and how it would work with the Building Department.

Further discussion took place among the Commission and staff as to the possible process of the permit fees and requirements.

A motion was made by Commissioner Meischeid to direct the Town Manager to develop permit fees and have the building director come up with numbers to have ready for the next meeting, seconded by Commissioner Velasquez. The motion carried with a 5-0 vote.

9B. Town Manager Performance Evaluation - Mayor Shlomo Danzinger

Perform an evaluation of the Town Manager for the performance period and motion for any additional actions as a result of the evaluation.

Mayor Danzinger stated that per the Town Manager's contract they have to do his

performance evaluation.

A motion was made by Vice Mayor Rose for purposes of discussion, seconded by Commissioner Landsman.

Mayor Danzinger opened the floor to public comments.

There were no public speakers.

Mayor Danzinger closed the floor to public comments.

Vice Mayor Rose stated that the Town Manager has done an amazing job and the people he has put around him has been great. He is the single most important thing, and he is the heart and engine of this town.

Commissioner Landsman spoke regarding the comments from his counterparts, and it is unfortunate that a couple of members of this commission decided to make it a political discourse as part of his evaluation and he is disappointed. He stated he has done a great job in taking on the responsibilities without any lead time and we wouldn't be today where we are without his help.

Commissioner Meischeid stated that her evaluation is her prerogative. She stated that this is Mr. Gomez' first year in his new position and he has put a lot of energy into this new position. She stated his weakness have been addressed with him directly.

Commissioner Velasquez stated her evaluation was based on her knowledge of the Town Manager and what she has observed. She stated he needs to enhance his negotiation skills.

Discussion regarding a previously discussed item commenced regarding emails from Commissioner Meischeid to Town Manager Gomez and anti-semitic comments by Commissioner Meischeid.

Town Manager Gomez stated that he did not provide anyone with emails and if someone does a public records request. He does not share anything with anyone, and he is here to do a job and he would appreciate for the commissioners to not accuse him of something that he has not done.

Mayor Danzinger stated this is extremely personal for this Commissioner (Commissioner Velasquez) because she is under investigation. He also stated it is incredible that Commissioner Velasquez never filled out an evaluation for the former manager, Andrew Hyatt. He stated that he has had the privilege of being here most of the time and he gets to see Town Manager Gomez' work daily and he is fortunate to work with him. He read his comments into the record "With a background in public works, the Town Manager possess valuable technical knowledge that provides a significant advantage in planning and overseeing capital improvement projects, negotiating with external vendors, and addressing resident concerns. His creative problem-solving skills have not only led to effective solutions but have also resulted in substantial cost savings for the Town. Remarkably, he successfully balanced the

Solid Waste and Water funds, achieving this milestone ahead of the initially projected five-year timeline. Additionally, his effective management abilities have boosted employee morale, creating a positive work atmosphere and ensuring a cohesive and motivated team. This has led to enhanced staff engagement, increased creative thinking, and greater employee retention".

Vice Mayor Rose addressed comments made by Commissioner Velasquez which are inaccurate.

Mayor Danzinger stated the Manager wanted to adjust some of the benefits choices and package.

Vice Mayor Rose is comfortable with a 5% raise and to discuss the 401K benefits.

Town Manager Gomez stated that at the time of the original contract he did not have time to look at the benefits because of the urgency of filling the position. He would like to choose the 401K benefits as a pension plan. He addressed the comments made by the commissioners.

Commissioner Landsman thanked Mr. Gomez for everything he has done for the Town.

After a lengthy discussion regarding the manager's benefits package and annual increase, the following motion was made.

A motion was made by Commissioner Landsman to allow the manager to select and change his contributions from the pension fund to the 401K and give him a modest increase of 3%, seconded by Commissioner Meisheid. The motion carried with 5-0 vote.

Vice Mayor Rose stated it is interesting that the two commissioners that gave the manager a bad evaluation voted for his salary increase.

9C. Additional Discussion for Retaining Wall Standards and On-site Containment of Stormwater - Jeffrey Rose, Vice Mayor

It is recommended to address retaining walls in the Zoning Code as a category of walls for stormwater retention separate from zoning code section 90-56 - Fences, Walls and Hedges.

Vice Mayor Rose introduced the item and provided a summary of what is taking place.

A motion was made by Vice Mayor Rose for purposes of discussion, seconded by Commissioner Landsman. The motion carried with a 4-0 vote with Commissioner Velasquez absent from the dais at the time of roll call.

Mayor Danzinger opened the floor to public comments.

The following individual from the public spoke:

George Kousoulas

Mayor Danzinger closed the floor to public comments.

Vice Mayor Rose explained the different options when you are building a home.

Town Manager Gomez provided an overview of the item and asked Town Planner Frankel to present the item.

Town Planner Frankel provided a presentation explaining the item.

Vice Mayor Rose spoke regarding the different examples on the presentation and the different level of grade and retaining walls and the technical issues that can be presented.

Commissioner Landsman asked regarding stormwater being retained on your property and if it is not in the code that it can be enforced they then need to add it to the code. He spoke regarding the changing environment with FEMA and this needs to be fixed and addressed.

Commissioner Meischeid asked how they could address this.

Vice Mayor Rose addressed the questions that were brought up by the members of the commission.

Commissioner Velasquez asked how high the retaining wall needs to be.

Town Planner Frankel answered the question asked.

Town Manager Gomez stated that they need to put a cap on how high they can do the grade and retaining wall.

Commissioner Velasquez asked regarding the required height of the wall.

Building Official McGuinness addressed the comments made by Commissioner Velasquez.

Mayor Danzinger recapped the item.

Town Manager Gomez explained what they are trying to achieve.

A motion was made by Vice Mayor Rose to add into the zoning code that stormwater be retained within the property in single family homes, seconded by Mayor Danzinger. The motion carried with a 5-0 vote.

A motion was made by Vice Mayor Rose that the retaining wall can be a maximum of 6 feet from neighbors' grade and must be stucco finished or ornamental, seconded by Commissioner Landsman. The motion carried with 5-0 vote.

Vice Mayor Rose spoke regarding the grade of the wall and how high they can raise

it and capping the grade.

[Attachment A: Miami Beach Code on Retaining Walls](#)

9D. Protecting Surfside Residents Right to Privacy - Shlomo Danzinger, Mayor

For the Commission to approve a resolution amending the Town's code of ordinance to include a section pertaining to Citizens Right to Privacy.

Mayor Danzinger introduced the item and explained what has been taking place and the request he has received from different residents.

Mayor Danzinger passed the gavel.

A motion was made by Mayor Danzinger to move forward and direct the Town Attorney to work with the Mayor to see if there is legislation that can be drafted, seconded by Vice Mayor Rose.

Mayor Danzinger opened the floor to public comments.

The following individuals from the public spoke:

Gerardo Vildostegui

Eliana Salzhauer

Mayor Danzinger closed the floor to public comments.

Mayor Danzinger addressed the comments made by the public speakers.

Vice Mayor Rose stated he agrees with the concept of this policy and would like to see something written. He has received calls from individuals on Bay Drive about having paparazzi out there. He would agree to move forward with this item.

Discussion among the commission continued on the item and possibly coming up with some language that can give the police some ability to enforce.

The motion carried with a 3-2 vote with Commissioner Meischeid and Commissioner Velasquez voting in opposition.

A motion was made by Vice Mayor Rose to extend the meeting 20 minutes at 10:55 p.m.

[Ordinance - Citizens Right to Privacy.docx](#)

9F.) Donation to Ruth K Broad

Mayor Danzinger introduced the item, and they are short on the funds for the library.

Unable to take minutes due to interruptions.

A motion was made by Vice Mayor Rose to take a recess at 7:27 p.m., seconded Commissioner Landsman. The motion carried with a 5-0 vote.

The meeting resumed at 7:41 p.m.

Town Clerk McCready called the roll with all the members of the commission present.

Mayor Danzinger continued introducing the item and would like to make a donation.

Mayor Danzinger passed the gavel.

A motion was made by Mayor Danzinger to donate \$10,000 to Ruth K. Broad and to request that the principal look into getting matching funds, seconded by Vice Mayor Rose.

Vice Mayor Rose opened the floor to public comments.

The following individuals from the public spoke:

Eliana Salzhauer

Frank MacBride

Mayor Danzinger closed the floor to public comments.

Mayor Danzinger addressed the comments made by the public speakers.

Commissioner Landsman stated he is very fond of Ruth K. Broad and stated as a Town they have donated significant items. He stated this is a great effort.

Commissioner Meischeid asked if they could look at having someone match these funds and it should be specific for the school's library.

Commissioner Velasquez stated this was an item she wanted to walk on. She is happy that this money is for the library and school.

Vice Mayor Rose thanked the mayor for bringing this forward and it is not important who brings it up but it getting done.

Mayor Danzinger stated that regarding the matching grant, the school should be able to obtain it and he will speak with the school to see if they can assist with the grant.

The motion carried with a 5-0 vote.

9E.) Point Lake

Mayor Danzinger introduced the item and the need to protect Point Lake and the eco system as to what is allowed to be done on the property. He stated he could not find the folio and it should be defined that there is no development allowed on the property.

Commissioner Landsman stated this is privately owned and there is a family trust and as far as he knows it is undevelopable. He stated it is worth checking and pursuing not to allow this area to be developed.

Commissioner Velasquez supports it.

Mayor Danzinger passed the gavel.

A motion was made by Mayor Danzinger to direct the Town Attorney to look into the legalities to set zoning restrictions at point lake and bring something back in next month's agenda, seconded by Commissioner Landsman. The motion carried with a 5-0 vote.

10. Adjournment

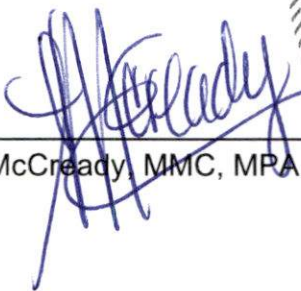
There being no further business to discuss before the Commission, a motion was made by Vice Mayor Rose to adjourn the meeting at 11:00 p.m., seconded by Commissioner Landsman. The motion carried with a 5-0 vote.

Accepted this 9th day of January, 2024.



Shlomo Danzinger, Mayor

Attest:



Sandra N. McCready, MMC, MPA
Town Clerk



From: [MARIANNE MEISCHEID <mare0413@aol.com>](mailto:MARIANNE_MEISCHEID@AOL.COM)
To: [Marianne Meischeid](#)
Cc: [Charles Burkett](#); [Victoria Saife](#); [4 Winds #512 Tina Paul](#); joel.thieme@gmail.com; [Kathy Imberman](#); [Eljana](#); gerardo.vildostegui@gmail.com
Subject: Re: Hostage Banners near Town Hall
Date: Monday, November 6, 2023 8:18:39 PM
Attachments: [IMG_2827.jpg](#)
[IMG_2828.jpg](#)
[IMG_2829.jpg](#)
[IMG_2830.jpg](#)

[NOTICE: This message originated outside of the Town of Surfside -- DO NOT CLICK on links or open attachments unless you are sure the content is safe.]

Hello,

I just wanted everyone to know that I had a meeting with the Town Manager today regarding the responses I received over the weekend from my survey. They were totally confidential as I read them to him verbally.

The good news is that the hostage banners came down this afternoon.

He said he would implement the lights to go off in the offices at Town Hall 5pm when everyone left, so that the Israeli flag does not show in Town Hall. However at this time @8pm the Mayor's office lights are still on... TBC

Marianne

Sent from my iPhone

On Nov 4, 2023, at 3:08 PM, MARIANNE MEISCHEID <mare0413@aol.com> wrote:



Marianne

Sent from my iPhone

Sandra McCready

From: Eliana S. <esalzhauer@gmail.com> <esalzhauer@gmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, November 5, 2023 2:11 PM
To: Marianne Meischeid <mmeischeid@townofsurfsidefl.gov>
Subject: Re: Hostage Banners near Town Hall

[NOTICE: This message originated outside of the Town of Surfside -- DO NOT CLICK on links or open attachments unless you are sure the content is safe.]

I would like to see the Champlain memorial banner back on that property.
Such hypocrisy that he enabled DAMAC to build on top of our own dead Jewish residents.

If the sign is temporarily on private property it's a way to express concern for the hostages without government liability.
Returning hostages isn't a controversial message.

I have a bigger problem with Shlomo leaving the lights on in his office 24/7 to illuminate the Israeli flag in the window when he made such a stink about the pride flag not being allowed and that ONLY the US & State of Florida flags could be displayed.

I also have a problem with his Gazette full page ad for the West Bank - which he keeps trying to tie to Champlain heroism - another false narrative.

Other countries helped as well

And frankly there was not much rescuing to do at that point.

Many Israelis are opposed to West Bank settlements and it's a very divisive issue within Israel politics.
Lately WB settlers there have been using the distractions of the Gaza war to attack Palestinians who live there.
It's a terrible situation.

Shlomo should never have dragged Surfside into the West Bank.

If we wanted to do a sister city agreement there are plenty of non-controversial areas of Israel to select.

The Gazette has turned into an over-stuffed glossy fanzine of Mayor photos.

Can you ask how much they are spending on the monthly publication- compared to how much it cost under prior administrations?

On Sun, Nov 5, 2023 at 12:13 PM Marianne Meischeid <mmeischeid@townofsurfsidefl.gov> wrote:

Hello, How do you feel about these non-code compliant political banners being installed on construction fence across from Town Hall?

Regards,
Marianne Meischeid
Commissioner
Town of Surfside
9293 Harding Avenue
Surfside, FL 33154
Town Cell phone 786-685-9812
mmeischeid@townofsurfsidefl.gov

Begin forwarded message:

From: Hector Gomez <hgomez@townofsurfsidefl.gov>
Date: November 5, 2023 at 12:00:14 PM EST

To: Marianne Meisheid <mmeisheid@townofsurfsidefl.gov>
Cc: Carmen Santos-Alborna <csantos-alborna@townofsurfsidefl.gov>
Subject: RE: Hostage Banners near Town Hall

Commissioner

Good morning and happy Sunday!

As you know, the Town has been removing these types of messaging from Town property and Right of Way since early October 2023. We don't believe this messaging is appropriate in public areas and is against Town Code for it to be on Town facilities without Town Manager prior approval.

Nonetheless, in order to mitigate the negative feedback the Town has obtained and aggressive behavior towards Town Staff when staff is removing said signs; we have allowed the development team for 9300 Collins Avenue to install these banners on their private property fence on a temporary basis. As you know, we have obtained numerous e-mails requesting these type of signs (flyers) to be up and we have refused.

The development team did make this request and I exercised the allowance for a temporary basis in order to mitigate Ad-hoc installations and balancing feedback. It is worth noting, that the fence is private property and this was approved only for a temporary time.

To date, we have not received feedback from residents that they are upset. If that is the case, you can defer them to me or explain its only temporary.

Thank you,

Hector Gomez

From: Marianne Meisheid <mmeisheid@townofsurfsidefl.gov>
Sent: Saturday, November 4, 2023 8:23 PM
To: Hector Gomez <hgomez@townofsurfsidefl.gov>
Subject: Fwd: Hostage Banners near Town Hall

Hector, These banners are in violation of Surfside's Code Compliance. Additionally, they are emotionally upsetting and inappropriate.

What is the status of their removal? Do you know who installed them? They are right across from Town Hall. They appeared Friday afternoon. They are too political. Residents are upset!

Regards,

Commissioner Meischeid









NOTE: Florida Public Records Law provides that most written communications to or from Municipal employees regarding town business are public records, available to the public and media upon request. Therefore, this e-mail message may be subject to public disclosure.

From: [Kathy Imberman <imbermank@gmail.com>](mailto:imbermank@gmail.com)
To: [Marianne Meischeid](#)
Subject: Re: Hostage Banners near Town Hall
Date: Sunday, November 5, 2023 3:16:33 PM

[**NOTICE:** This message originated outside of the Town of Surfside -- **DO NOT CLICK** on links or open **attachments** unless you are sure the content is safe.]

Good afternoon,

Thanks for asking for my opinion

If signs displayed on construction fences are non-code compliant, then the signs currently on display are in violation. Is the owner of the site being fined?

The administration cannot pick and choose based upon the content of the signage.

In addition, let's not continue the "confusing" rationale epitomized by the mayor's statements regarding the Pride flag.

In the May 23, 2023 edition of "Miami New Times" in an article entitled *Surfside Mayor Pooh-Poohs Idea for Town-Sponsored Gay Pride Event*, the mayor said "... **what I did not support was the use of our government flagpole to promote a specific message without a town policy in place that would grant equal opportunities to all organizations.**"

Certainly, an Israeli flag illuminated in a window at Town Hall amounts to a government display.

The same article continues "While explaining his reasoning at a March 14 commission meeting, Danzinger used some rhetorical arguments that caught attendees off-guard. **"How would we feel if we start having the Ukraine flag flying? How will our Russian residents feel about that? How would we feel if we start having Israeli day parades or shul parades that the town starts sponsoring?"**

With an Israeli flag on display in an illuminated Town Hall window, non-compliant signage on construction fences, and half of the back page of this month's Gazette devoted to a clearly political photograph, the irony is thick.

On another note, although the Town should rightfully be thankful of all help received in the aftermath of the Champlain collapse, it seems that only one group gets recognition by the current administration.

As CNN.com noted in a June 30, 2021 article entitled *"The Mexican rescuers joining the search for survivors in Surfside"*: Rescue specialists from Mexico are joining the massive search for survivors in the wreckage of the Surfside, Florida partial building collapse. In the disaster zone, assisting local, state and federal rescue crews, is the Mexico-based "Go Team" of Cadena International, a Jewish nonprofit which has responded to more than 1,000 natural

disasters and humanitarian crises since 2005. Another rescue team from Mexico on the scene, "Topos Azteca," is a non-profit Mexican group founded after the deadly 1985 Mexico City Earthquake, who are known as experts in massive search and rescue operations around the world."

Wikipedia confirms that "On June 25, Mayor Levine Cava announced that rescue teams from Israel and Mexico had joined the search and rescue effort, rotating in two daily 12-hour shifts of sifting through the rubble."

And yet...no mention of Mexico, ever.

There have been four significant earthquakes In Mexico during 2022. And silence from Surfside.

Let's try to return to the time when elected officials advocated on behalf of ALL Surfsiders.

I agree with an observation of the reporter in the May 20, 2023 Miami New Times article : "One might think that special events that celebrate a particular culture or demographic would support Danzinger's mission. But in the mayor's mind, these are implements of exclusion and run the risk of alienating residents and making people feel like they don't belong."

Thanks again for asking for my opinion.

Kathy

Sent from my iPhone

On Nov 5, 2023, at 12:13 PM, Marianne Meiseid
<mmeiseid@townofsurfsidefl.gov> wrote:

Hello, How do you feel about these non-code compliant political banners being installed on construction fence across from Town Hall?

Regards,
Marianne Meiseid
Commissioner
Town of Surfside
9293 Harding Avenue
Surfside, FL 33154
Town Cell phone 786-685-9812

Thank you,

Hector Gomez

From: Marianne Meischeid <mmeischeid@townofsurfsidefl.gov>
Sent: Saturday, November 4, 2023 8:23 PM
To: Hector Gomez <hgomez@townofsurfsidefl.gov>
Subject: Fwd: Hostage Banners near Town Hall

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Regards,

Commissioner Meischeid

<image001.jpg>

<image002.jpg>

<image003.jpg>

<image004.jpg>

From: Eliana S. <esalzhauser@gmail.com>
To: MARIANNE MEISCHEID
Cc: 4 Winds #512 Tina Paul; Charles Burkett; Kathy Imberman; Marianne Meisheid; Victoria Saife; gerardo.vildostegui@gmail.com; joel.thieme@gmail.com
Subject: Re: Hostage Banners near Town Hall
Date: Monday, November 6, 2023 10:02:55 PM

[NOTICE: This message originated outside of the Town of Surfside -- DO NOT CLICK on links or open attachments unless you are sure the content is safe.]

Running electricity 24/7 in an empty office perfectly sums up his talent for irresponsible spending.

On Mon, Nov 6, 2023 at 8:18 PM MARIANNE MEISCHEID <mare0413@aol.com> wrote:

Hello,

I just wanted everyone to know that I had a meeting with the Town Manager today regarding the responses I received over the weekend from my survey. They were totally confidential as I read them to him verbally.

The good news is that the hostage banners came down this afternoon.

He said he would implement the lights to go off in the offices at Town Hall 5pm when everyone left, so that the Israeli flag does not show in Town Hall. However at this time @8pm the Mayor's office lights are still on... TBC

Marianne

Sent from my iPhone

On Nov 4, 2023, at 3:08 PM, MARIANNE MEISCHEID <mare0413@aol.com> wrote:

Marianne

Sent from my iPhone

From: Eliana S. <esalzhauser@gmail.com>
To: MARIANNE MEISCHEID
Cc: 4 Winds #512 Tina Paul; Charles Burkett; Kathy Imberman; Marianne Meisheid; Victoria Saife; gerardo.vildostegui@gmail.com; joel.thieme@gmail.com
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Marianne

Sent from my iPhone

On Nov 4, 2023, at 3:08 PM, MARIANNE MEISCHEID <mare0413@aol.com> wrote:

Marianne

Sent from my iPhone

mmeischeid@townofsurfsidefl.gov

Begin forwarded message:

From: Marianne Meischeid <mmeischeid@townofsurfsidefl.gov>

Date: November 16, 2023 at 1:41:59 PM EST

To: Hector Gomez <hgomez@townofsurfsidefl.gov>

Cc: Carmen Santos-Alborna <csantos-alborna@townofsurfsidefl.gov>

Subject:Fwd: Residents concerned about unauthorized inappropriate posters

Hector,

I'm receiving photos and phone calls from residents regarding unauthorized and inappropriate posters & banners popping up around Surfside neighborhoods.

It is offensive to many residents and not in our code.

Please correct the situation immediately. No one is above the law. Thank you.

Froude Ave between 88th and 89th Street next to Jeff Rose home with jungle gym on front lawn

Collins Avenue and 94th Street, also on 94th Street a round the corner and two more on Harding Avenue portion of this property.

Regards,

Commissioner Meischeid

From: Hector Gomez <hgomez@townofsurfsidefl.gov>
Sent: Sunday, November 26, 2023 1:36 PM
To: Marianne Meisheid <mmeisheid@townofsurfsidefl.gov>
Subject: RE: Residents concerned about unauthorized inappropriate posters and Israeli flag inside Town Hall.

Commissioner

Good afternoon

I'm not sure what you mean by having lost credibility with residents whom voted on November 7th 2023.

You made a valid request with banners being placed within the Community Center proximity. These banners have since been relocated by the private property onto other areas of the site. As previously advised, these banners are not against code since it's the discretion of the Town Manager to permit. The property owner made a request for post temporarily and the request was granted. They were allowed for a temporary installation in order to mitigate all the flyers within the ROW. It has worked.

As for the flag from an office in Town Hall. What are your concerns? It has not bothered anyone and

From: Marianne Meisheid <mmeisheid@townofsurfsidefl.gov>
Sent: Friday, November 24, 2023 10:49 AM
To: Hector Gomez <hgomez@townofsurfsidefl.gov>
Subject: Fwd: Residents concerned about unauthorized inappropriate posters and Israeli flag inside Town Hall.

Hector,

I have not had a response back from you regarding inappropriate hostage posters at Harding near 93rd St, 94th Street near Collins, and Collins near 93rd Street, as well as locations in the residential area as seen in below attached photos.

Also, the Israeli flag continues to reside inside Town Hall on a second floor and illuminated at nighttime on tax payers dollars.

The first time we talked about the above issues, prior to the November 7th election, they came down. I reported our conversation we had that day to the concerned residents.

But then they all went up again, and I received even more communications from concerned residents. At this point you have lost credibility with the majority of residents that voted on November 7th. They come to me because they feel and see that they don't have a voice at Town Hall under the current administration and I am their only voice.

I need a status report from you today regarding the hostage posters and the Israeli flag inside Town Hall. Thank you.

Regards,
Marianne Meisheid
Commissioner
Town of Surfside
9293 Harding Avenue
Surfside, FL 33154
Town Cell phone 786-685-9812

From: mmeisheid@townofsurfsidefl.gov <mmeisheid@townofsurfsidefl.gov>
<mmeisheid@townofsurfsidefl.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, November 28, 2023 11:56 AM
To: Hector Gomez <hgomez@townofsurfsidefl.gov>
Subject: Re: Residents concerned about unauthorized inappropriate posters and Israeli flag inside Town Hall.

Hector,

These are the concerns of many residents that have contacted me because they don't feel free to speak directly with the Town.

Please give me the timeframe that you gave permission for the oversized hostage banners on private property. Again, when we spoke before the November 7, 2023 election you told me that you were not going to allow the light on the second floor where an Israeli flag is hung in a window. And I replied to the many residents that we spoke, and you were not going to allow the lights on at night. Many residents are upset because I told them one thing, but again the lights are still on. Please give me your current response on this item. Thank you.

Regards,

Marianne Meisheid
Commissioner Town of Surfside
9293 Harding Avenue
Surfside, FL 33154
Town Cell phone 786-685-9812
mmeisheid@townofsurfsidefl.gov

On Nov 26, 2023, at 1:50 PM, Hector Gomez <hgomez@townofsurfsidefl.gov> wrote:

Commissioner

Good afternoon

I'm not sure what you mean by having lost credibility with residents whom voted on November 7th 2023.

You made a valid request with banners being placed within the Community Center proximity. These banners have since been relocated by the private property onto other areas of the site. As previously advised, these banners are not against code since it's the discretion of the Town Manager to permit. The property owner made a request to post temporarily and the request was granted. They were allowed for a temporary installation in order to mitigate all the flyers within the ROW. It has worked.

As for the flag from an office in Town Hall. What are your concerns? It has not bothered anyone whom has expressed concerns directly to the Town but it has been received positive attention. Its not on an Official Town Pole like in Sunny Isles which could be brought forth by an Elected Official to do so.

Hope you had a great Thanksgiving.

Hector Gomez

From: Marianne Meisheid <mmeisheid@townofsurfsidefl.gov>

Sent: Friday, November 24, 2023 10:49 AM

To: Hector Gomez <hgomez@townofsurfsidefl.gov>

Subject: Fwd: Residents concerned about unauthorized inappropriate posters and Israeli flag inside Town Hall.

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Regards,

Marianne Meisheid

Commissioner

Town of Surfside

9293 Harding Avenue

Surfside, FL 33154

Town Cell phone 786-685-9812

mmeisheid@townofsurfsidefl.gov

From: mmeisheid@townofsurfsidefl.gov <mmeisheid@townofsurfsidefl.gov>
To: [Hector Gomez](#)
Cc: [Antonio Marciante](#); [Lily Arango](#); jose.arrojo@miamidade.gov
Bcc: [Marianne Meisheid](#); [Kathy Imberman](#); [Eliana S.](#); [George Kousoulas](#); [Charles Burkett](#); [Gerardo Vildostegui](#); [Joel Thieme](#)
Subject: Safety in Town Hall
Date: Wednesday, November 1, 2023 12:06:39 PM
Attachments: [IMG_2787.JPG](#)

Good morning Hector,

Several residents are concerned about the Israeli flag inside the window of the Mayor's office on Town property. They bring up several concerns including:

- The Mayor was against the Gay Pride flag and said that the only appropriate flags at Town Hall are the USA Federal flag, the FL State flag, and the Surfside Town flag. Now he goes against his original statement as he pleases and has an Israeli flag on his window at Town Hall. It doesn't belong there. It belongs in his private home, not Town Hall. No one put up a Ukraine flag on Town property when they went to war.
- Residents feel that this Israeli flag inside Town Hall marks the building as a high safety risk. The FBI has announced that Jewish neighborhood communities are at high risk of being targeted.
- Residents are concerned that the police did nothing to inform and protect them when the Mayor received an antisemitism email threat on August 4, 2023. This was done at the request of the Mayor to the Town Manager who acquiesced to his demand, thus putting the Commissioners and residents in potential danger. Many people were close to the Mayor during the ten days that they were uninformed. They could have made their own choices had they been informed. Instead they learn about the antisemitic email on the local TV news, not from the Town Manager. The residents feel that you only care about the Mayor and not the safety of the rest of the Town people.
- How can you assure the residents of Surfside that you will keep everyone informed and protected? How can you regain their trust in you? Surfside is a Town Manager form of government. People are counting on You to be their leader. They are counting on You to make the important decisions for Everyone in the Town. Thank you on behalf of the Residents.



Regards,
Marianne Meisheid
Commissioner
Town of Surfside
9293 Harding Avenue
Surfside, FL 33154
Town Cell phone 786-685-9812
mmeisheid@townofsurfsidefl.gov

From: [Gerardo Vildostegui <gerardo.vildostegui@gmail.com>](mailto:Gerardo.Vildostegui@gmail.com)
To: [Marianne Meischeid](#)
Subject: Re: Safety in Town Hall
Date: Wednesday, November 1, 2023 1:01:15 PM
Attachments: [IMG_2787.JPG](#)

[NOTICE: This message originated outside of the Town of Surfside -- DO NOT CLICK on links or open attachments unless you are sure the content is safe.]

Thanks, Marianne. The Mayor also seems to be illuminating his office all night long, which is an expense to the Town.

On Wed, Nov 1, 2023 at 12:06 PM Marianne Meischeid
<mmeischeid@townofsurfsidefl.gov> wrote:

Good morning Hector,

Several residents are concerned about the Israeli flag inside the window of the Mayor's office on Town property. They bring up several concerns including:

- The Mayor was against the Gay Pride flag and said that the only appropriate flags at Town Hall are the USA Federal flag, the FL State flag, and the Surfside Town flag. Now he goes against his original statement as he pleases and has an Israeli flag on his window at Town Hall. It doesn't belong there. It belongs in his private home, not Town Hall. No one put up a Ukraine flag on Town property when they went to war.
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Regards,
Marianne Meischeid

From: [Eliana S. <esalzhauer@gmail.com>](mailto:Eliana.S.<esalzhauer@gmail.com>)
To: [Marianne Meischeid](#)
Subject: Re: Safety in Town Hall
Date: Wednesday, November 1, 2023 3:11:10 PM
Attachments: [IMG_2787.JPG](#)

[NOTICE: This message originated outside of the Town of Surfside -- DO NOT CLICK on links or open attachments unless you are sure the content is safe.]

From an illumination standpoint this would also amount to a “government display”
And would also open the door to requests for other displays.

On Wed, Nov 1, 2023 at 12:06 PM Marianne Meischeid
<mmeischeid@townofsurfsidefl.gov> wrote:

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Regards,

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Town of Surfside
9293 Harding Avenue
Surfside, FL 33154
Town Cell phone 786-685-9812
mmeischeid@townofsurfsidefl.gov

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From: Kathy Imberman <imbermank@gmail.com>
To: Marianne Meischel
Subject: Re: TIME SENSITIVE re: 9440 Abbot
Date: Thursday, September 14, 2023 4:50:29 PM

[NOTICE: This message originated outside of the Town of Surfside -- DO NOT CLICK on links or open attachments unless you are sure the content is safe.]

Hello,

Here is some info on the MULTIPLE illegal synagogues in Surfside

The Surfside Minyan
8846 Harding Ave
Surfside fl 33154

From Sunbiz

<https://search.sunbiz.org/Inquiry/CorporationSearch/SearchResultDetail?inquirytype=EntityName&directionType=Initial&searchNameOrder=SURFSIDEMINYAN%20N210000026070&aggregateId=domnp-n21000002607-84ae6d23-1312-41ec-b6e9-a02d2cb4721a&searchTerm=Surfside%20Minyan&listNameOrder=SURFSIDEMINYAN%20N210000026070>

The Sephardic Center
9524 Abbott Ave,
Surfside, FL 33154

From Sunbiz

<https://search.sunbiz.org/Inquiry/CorporationSearch/SearchResultDetail?inquirytype=EntityName&directionType=Initial&searchNameOrder=SEPHARDICCENTER%20N220000123960&aggregateId=domnp-n22000012396-e95bce6a-1b51-4871-9da2-712444cf3a44&searchTerm=Sephardic&listNameOrder=SEPHARDICAMERICANCLUBFLORIDA%20N322040>

9440 Abbott Ave
Surfside, FL 33154
(can't find name of synagogue that is about to open)
Owner listed as KCS Realty

From Sunbiz

<https://search.sunbiz.org/Inquiry/CorporationSearch/SearchResultDetail?inquirytype=EntityName&directionType=Initial&searchNameOrder=KCSREALTY%20L230000643480&aggregateId=flal-123000064348-a12f43cb-81be-4b95-b943-e51674cb8af1&searchTerm=KCS%20REALTY%20LLC&listNameOrder=KCSREALTY%20L230000643480>

From MD Property Search

<https://www.miamidadc.gov/Apps/PA/PropertySearch/#/>

Registered Agent is listed as :

ROTTENSTEIN, SAMUEL
9455 COLLINS AVENUE, #802
SURFSIDE, FL 33154

The same family name listed in the article:. Above is an anglicized version of the Hebrew

From "The Florida Scoop," a Jewish newsletter

The Chasidic Jewish community in Surfside is jubilant about the news that a brand new shul will be inaugurated in time for the High Holidays to serve the residence of the area.

The Shul board which is led by well known Borough Park resident, Mr. Moshe Shmuel Rothstein has announced that it will open its doors for the first time Sept 9 Motzi Shabbos for Slichos prayers.

The committee of the shul purchased the house at 9440 Abbott Ave this past March, for \$1.5 Million Dollars, and have converted it into a synagogue..

The Shul will serve daily minyanim, Shabbos Yom Tov services, throughout the year.

As noted above, they plan on having morning, evening, Saturday (Shabbos) and holiday services throughout the year

On Wed, Sep 13, 2023 at 1:36 AM Kathy Imberman <imbermank@gmail.com> wrote:

I will be giving you a call tomorrow

Kindly be careful about including my email when forwarding info to the Manager, etc. I am sure it was an accident, but my name was included in the chain

Oops!

Didn't watch the whole meeting. (Couldn't take the Mayor's condescending tone towards uou and Nelly), however, I was proud to see you hold your one as a strong and intelligent woman)

Sent from my iPhone

On Sep 12, 2023, at 1:22 PM, Marianne Meischeid <mmeischeid@townofsurfside.fl.gov> wrote:

They have a permit. Code Compliance will be checking every day to build a case. What time and days are particularly good for them to check?

Regards,
Marianne Meischeid
Commissioner
Town of Surfside
9293 Harding Avenue
Surfside, FL 33154
Town Cell phone 786-685-9812
mmeischeid@townofsurfside.fl.gov

Begin forwarded message:

From: Hector Gomez <hgomez@townofsurfside.fl.gov>
Date: September 12, 2023 at 11:12:42 AM EDT
To: Marianne Meischeid <mmeischeid@townofsurfside.fl.gov>
Subject: Fwd: TIME SENSITIVE re: 9440 Abbot

Commissioner

Good morning

The property has permits so the concrete truck is consistent with work.

We can discuss this matter further if you wish.

Thanks

Hector Gomez

Begin forwarded message:

From: Carmen Santos-Alborna <csantos-alborna@townofsurfside.fl.gov>
Date: September 12, 2023 at 9:26:21 AM EDT
To: Hector Gomez <hgomez@townofsurfside.fl.gov>
Subject: FW: TIME SENSITIVE re: 9440 Abbot

Mr. Manager,

Below, see a list of the current building permits for the property in question. Let me know if you need anything else.

<image001.png>

Thank you.

Carmen Santos-Alborná, MPA
Code Compliance Director
Town of Surfside

From: Marianne Meisheid <mmeisheid@townofsurfsidefl.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, September 12, 2023 9:22 AM
To: Hector Gomez <hgomez@townofsurfsidefl.gov>
Cc: Lily Arango <larango@wsh-law.com>; Tony Recio <TRecio@wsh-law.com>; Carmen Santos-Alborná <csantos-alborna@townofsurfsidefl.gov>
Subject: Fwd: TIME SENSITIVE re: 9440 Abbot

Please see the email below that was sent to me by a resident. And please follow up with me on the issue. Thank you.

Regards,

Marianne Meisheid
Commissioner

Begin forwarded message:

From: Kathy Imberman <imbermank@gmail.com>
Date: September 12, 2023 at 9:10:45 AM EDT
To: marc4113@aol.com
Subject: TIME SENSITIVE

Good morning,

Nice speaking with you

Just drove past the house on Abbott.

There is a concrete truck in front of the house right now. There are workman. The truck is spinning do something is happening.

I wonder if they have permits

Did you hear anything about this from the manager?

Good luck tonight

Kathy

Sent from my iPhone

NOTE: Florida Public Records Law provides that most written communications to or from Municipal employees regarding town business are public records, available to the public and media upon request. Therefore, this e-mail message may be subject to public disclosure.

Sandra McCready

From: mmeisheid@townofsurfsidefl.gov <mmeisheid@townofsurfsidefl.gov>
<mmeisheid@townofsurfsidefl.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, September 19, 2023 9:01 AM
To: Hector Gomez <hgomez@townofsurfsidefl.gov>
Cc: Carmen Santos-Alborna <csantos-alborna@townofsurfsidefl.gov>; Lily Arango <larango@wsh-law.com>; Tony Recio <TRecio@wsh-law.com>
Subject: Fwd: Illegal synagogues on Abbott Ave... 9440 Abbot, etc

Good morning, please see additional information that came from a concerned resident on Abbott Avenue. Let me know what your findings are. Thank you.

Regards, Marianne Meisheid
Commissioner Town of Surfside
9293 Harding Avenue Surfside, FL 33154
Town Cell phone 786-685-9812
mmeisheid@townofsurfsidefl.gov
Begin forwarded: Date: September 14, 2023 at 4:50:28 PM EDT
To: Marianne Meisheid <mmeisheid@townofsurfsidefl.gov>
Subject: Re: TIME SENSITIVE re: 9440 Abbot

[NOTICE: This message originated outside of the Town of Surfside -- DO NOT CLICK on links or open attachments unless you are sure the content is safe.] Hello,

Here is some info on the MULTIPLE illegal synagogues in Surfside

The Surfside Minyan
8846 Harding Ave Surfside fl 33154

From
Sunbiz <https://search.sunbiz.org/Inquiry/CorporationSearch/SearchResultDetail?inquirytype=EntityName&directionType=Initial&searchNameOrder=SURFSIDEMINYAN%20N210000026070&aggregateId=domnp-n21000002607-84ae6d23-1312-41ec-b6e9-a02d2cb4721a&searchTerm=Surfside%20Minyan&listNameOrder=SURFSIDEMINYAN%20N210000026070>

The Sephardic Center
9524 Abbott Ave, Surfside, FL 33154

From
Sunbiz <https://search.sunbiz.org/Inquiry/CorporationSearch/SearchResultDetail?inquirytype=EntityName&directionType=Initial&searchNameOrder=SEPHARDICCENTER%20N220000123960&aggregateId=domnp-n22000012396-e95bce6a-1b51-4871-9da2-712444cf3a44&searchTerm=Sephardic&listNameOrder=SEPHARDICAMERICANCLUBFLORIDA%20N322040>

9440 Abbott Ave Surfside, FL 33154 (can't find name of synagogue that is about to open) Owner listed as KCS Realty From Sunbiz

<https://search.sunbiz.org/Inquiry/CorporationSearch/SearchResultDetail?inquirytype=EntityName&directionType=Initial&searchNameOrder=KCSREALTY%20L230000643480&aggregateId=fla-l23000064348-a12f43cb-81be-4b95-b943-c51674cb8af1&searchTerm=KCS%20REALTY%20LLC&listNameOrder=KCSREALTY%20L230000643480>

From MD Property Search

<https://www.miamidade.gov/Apps/PA/PropertySearch/#/>

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From: [Hector Gomez <hgomez@townofsurfsidefl.gov>](mailto:hgomez@townofsurfsidefl.gov)
To: [Marianne Meischeid](#)
Cc: [Carmen Santos-Alborna](#); [Lily Arango](#); [Tony Recio](#)
Subject: RE: Illegal synagogues on Abbott Ave... 9440 Abbot, etc
Date: Tuesday, September 19, 2023 11:25:51 AM

Commissioner

Good afternoon

The Town performs drive arounds and anything encountered is recorded through proactive enforcement. The Town can't undertake selective enforcement which can be deemed discriminatory. See article below of a recent case in Miami Beach:

[Miami Beach settles lawsuit by Jewish congregation for \\$1.3M | Miami Herald](#)

A sufficient enough case needs to be built in order to pursue action which can be backed up in front of a hearing. We will keep you updated.

Thank you,

Hector Gomez
Town of Surfside
786-778-1728

From: Marianne Meischeid <mmeischeid@townofsurfsidefl.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, September 19, 2023 9:01 AM
To: Hector Gomez <hgomez@townofsurfsidefl.gov>
Cc: Carmen Santos-Alborna <csantos-alborna@townofsurfsidefl.gov>; Lily Arango <larango@wsh-law.com>; Tony Recio <TRecio@wsh-law.com>
Subject: Fwd: Illegal synagogues on Abbott Ave... 9440 Abbot, etc

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Begin forwarded:

Date: September 14, 2023 at 4:50:28 PM EDT