

Surfside Beach City Council Meeting

Tuesday October 8, 2024

Village of Surfside Beach

1304 Monument Drive

Surfside Beach, TX 77541

An agenda information packet is available for public inspection on the website at
www.surfsidetx.org

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the City Council of the Village of Surfside Beach will conduct a Council meeting scheduled for **7:00 p.m. on Tuesday October 8, 2024**. To view the meeting electronically please use the following website:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84253545017?pwd=VHFGMXRoZmJHNG5lcDBISIJ3MldjUT09>

Meeting ID: 842 5354 5017 Passcode: 1304

The City Council reserves the right to meet in closed session on any agenda item, should the need arise and if applicable, pursuant to authorization by Title 5, Chapter 551, of the Texas Government Code.

COUNCIL MEETING:

- 1) CALL TO ORDER, QUORUM IN ATTENDANCE
- 2) INVOCATION, PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE
- 3) Presentation of Appreciation to former Surfside Tourism Director, Michelle Booth
- 4) Mayor/council/department head reports
- 5) Business of visitors not on the agenda.
- 6) ALL ITEMS UNDER THE CONSENT AGENDA ARE CONSIDERED TO BE SELF-EXPLANATORY, AND THE COUNCIL WILL ENACT THEM WITH ONE MOTION. UNLESS A COUNCIL MEMBER SO REQUESTS, NO SEPARATE DISCUSSION OF THESE ITEMS WILL OCCUR.

CONSENT AGENDA:

- A. Consider approval of minutes from the Council meeting on September 10 & 24, 2024.
 - B. Consider approval of accounts payable from September 2024.
 - C. Consider approval of the 2025 City Holiday list.
- 7) Discuss and take possible action on Resolution designating and updating the authorized representatives for the TexPool accounts, effectively adding Toni Truly. *Davenport*

- 8) Discuss and take possible action creating a Surfside Beach office of Emergency Management as well as the official position of an Emergency Management Coordinator. *Bisso*
- 9) Discuss and take possible action on a rate adjustment by Waste Connections, Inc. *Bisso*
- 10) To discuss and take possible action on a proposal to amend Chapter 2 of the Ordinances of the Village of Surfside Beach, TX requiring Commission Chairs those current and those who seek appointment to be a full-time resident within the Village. *Bisso*
- 11) Discuss and take possible action to appoint an H-GAC representative. *Bisso*
- 12) Discuss and take possible action to amend the City organizational chart to reflect current chain of command and post to the website. *Green-Prats*
- 13) Discuss and take possible action to compare Hotel Occupancy Tax revenues collected by the Village to those reported to the State Comptroller. *Gerber*
- 14) Discuss and take possible action to approve the FY 24-25 Hotel Fund and FY 24-25 Beach Fund budgets.
- 15) Adjourn

CERTIFICATION

I hereby certify that a true and correct copy of the above and foregoing "Notice of Meeting" by the City Council was posted on the front bulletin board of the City Hall of the Village of Surfside Beach, Texas. Said notice was posted Thursday, October 3, 2024 at or before 6:00 PM and remained so posted continuously for at least 72 hours before the scheduled time and date of the aforementioned meeting.

City Secretary

Minutes of Regular Meeting of the City Council

Tuesday, September 10 – 7:00 PM

Village of Surfside Beach

1304 Monument Drive

Surfside Beach, TX 77541

- 1) **CALL TO ORDER, QUORUM IN ATTENDANCE**
Mayor Bisso called the meeting to order at 7:15 p.m. and announced that all Council members were in attendance.
- 2) **INVOCATION, PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**
Jalifi gave the invocation and Mayor Bisso led the Pledge of Allegiance.
- 3) **Mayor/council/department head reports:**
Interim Chief Marsh – still checking applicants, Brazoria County still helping us out on Patrol and we are utilizing our reserves;
Chris Beall – EMS activity for the month of August 2024 and upcoming activities;
Erick Ingram–gave an update on the sewer system, vacuum pump burned up this morning;
Gerber – I am always available just call;
Kedlarchuk – researching pothole material
Jalifi – Tourism committee looking for chairperson;
Bisso –update on debris monitoring and removal; asked for help from Council and Community, drainage update with Velasco Drainage.
- 4) **Business of visitors not on the agenda.** None
- 5) **ALL ITEMS UNDER THE CONSENT AGENDA ARE CONSIDERED TO BE SELF-EXPLANATORY, AND THE COUNCIL WILL ENACT THEM WITH ONE MOTION. UNLESS A COUNCIL MEMBER SO REQUESTS, NO SEPARATE DISCUSSION OF THESE ITEMS WILL OCCUR.**
CONSENT AGENDA:
 - A. Consider approval of minutes from the Council meeting on August 12, 13, 14, 20, 26, 29 and September 3, 2024.
 - B. Consider approval of accounts payable from August, 2024.

Motion was made by Parsch to approve the consent agenda as presented. Motion was seconded by Green-Prats and approved unanimously.
- 6) **PUBLIC HEARING: Open PUBLIC HEARING regarding the FY 2024-2025 Maintenance and Operating Budget for the Village of Surfside Beach. This budget will raise more revenue from property taxes than last year's budget by an amount of \$82,637, which is a 5.27 percent increase from last year's budget. The property tax revenue to be raised from new property added to the tax roll this year is \$28,214.**

Public Hearing was opened at 8:00 p.m. Comments were made by the Public

who were in attendance and the public hearing was closed at 8:03 p.m.

- 7) Discuss and take possible action to approve Ordinance 2024-09-10A approving (by record vote) the FY 2024-2025 Village of Surfside Beach Maintenance and Operating General Fund Budget.**

Motion was made by Parsch to approve the General Fund Budget for FY 2024-2025. Motion was seconded by Green-Prats and was approved unanimously as follows: Gerber – yes; Kedlarchuk – yes; Jalifi – yes; Parsch – yes; Green=Prats – yes.

- 8) Discuss and take possible action to ratify the FY 2024-2025 Budget and find that the Proposed Tax Rate of .279199/\$100 will generate more property tax revenue than the previous fiscal year budget.**

Motion was made by Jalifi to ratify the proposed tax rate. Motion was seconded by Green-Prats and passed unanimously.

- 9) Discuss and take possible action on Ordinance 2024-09-10B setting the 2024 Ad Valorem Tax Rate for Maintenance and Operation of .24848, and the Ad Valorem tax rate for Debt Service of .030719 totaling a rate of .279199.**

Jalifi made the motion as follows: I move that the property tax rate be increased by the adoption of a tax rate of .279199, which is effectively a 3.68 % increase in the tax rate. Motion was seconded by Parsch and passed with the following recorded vote: Gerber – yes; Kedlarchuk – yes; Jalifi – yes; Parsch – yes; Green=Prats – yes.

- 10) Discuss and take action to establish Surfside Beach EMS as a stand-alone department, effectively decoupling from PD.**

Motion was made by Parsch to look into the step to create a stand-alone EMS, meaning not reporting to the Police Department. Motion was seconded by Green-Prats and passed unanimously.

- 11) Discuss and take possible action to raise the rental rates for Stahlman Park.**

Motion was made by Jalifi to approve the Stahlman Park rate increases effective immediately.. Motion was seconded by Green-Prats and passed 4 for; 1 against (Kedlarchuk)

New Stahlman Park Rental Rates

<i>Upstairs/Downstairs Combo</i>	<i>\$1200/daily</i>	<i>\$200 deposit</i>
<i>Upstairs only</i>	<i>\$1100/daily</i>	<i>\$200 deposit</i>
<i>Downstairs Only</i>	<i>\$250/ daily</i>	<i>\$100 deposit</i>

- 12) Discuss and take possible action to create a Mayor's Clean Water Task Force and to define the duties of such advisory committee.**

Motion was made by Jalifi to create a clean water task committee. Motion was seconded by Parsch and approved unanimously.

- 13) Discuss and take possible action regarding a rate increase notice by Waste Connections, Inc.**

Motion was made by Jalifi to table this item. Motion was seconded by Gerber and passed unanimously.

- 14) Executive Session: Sec. 551.072. DELIBERATION REGARDING REAL PROPERTY; CLOSED MEETING. A governmental body may conduct a closed meeting to deliberate the purchase, exchange, lease, or value of real property if deliberation in an open meeting would have a detrimental effect on the position of the governmental body in negotiations with a third person.**

Sec. 551.071. CONSULTATION WITH ATTORNEY; CLOSED MEETING. A governmental body may not conduct a private consultation with its attorney except: (1) when the governmental body seeks the advice of its attorney about: (A) pending or contemplated litigation; or (B) a settlement offer; or (2) on a matter in which the duty of the attorney to the governmental body under the Texas Disciplinary Rules of Professional Conduct of the State Bar of Texas clearly conflicts with this chapter.

Motion was made by Parsch to adjourn into executive session at 8:31 p.m. with Davenport and Ritter. Motion was seconded by Jalifi and passed unanimously.

- 15) Action, if any, out of executive session. No action was taken and the meeting was adjourned at 9:05 p.m.**

Passed and approved this 8th day of October 2024.

Gregg Bisso,
Mayor

Amanda Davenport,
City Secretary

Minutes of Special Meeting and Budget Workshop

Tuesday September 24, 2024 – 4:30 PM

Village of Surfside Beach

1304 Monument Drive

Surfside Beach, TX 77541

An agenda information packet is available for public inspection on the website at
www.surfsidetx.org

COUNCIL MEETING:

- 1) **CALL TO ORDER, QUORUM IN ATTENDANCE**
Mayor Bisso called the meeting to order at 4:30 p.m. and announced that a quorum of council was in attendance.
- 2) **Discussion and possible action on a Resolution of the City Council of the Village of Surfside Beach, Texas, Expressing Intent to Finance Expenditures.**
Jonathan Frels explained the intent to finance expenditures and answered council questions and explained that this resolution does not commit the City to issue debt.
Motion was made by Jalifi to approve the resolution expressing intent to finance expenditures. Motion was seconded by Kedlarchuk and passed unanimously.
- 3) **Discussion and possible action on the engagement of a placement agent in connection with a potential issuance of emergency notes.**
Motion was made by Green-Prats to allow Mayor Bisso to designate a placement agent. Motion was seconded by Gerber and passed unanimously.
- 4) **Budget Workshop regarding the Beach and Hotel Funds of The Village of Surfside Beach.**
The Beach and Hotel Fund were discussed at length.
- 5) **Adjourn @ 7:23 p.m.**

Passed and approved this 8th day of October 2024.

Mayor

City Secretary

Minutes of Meeting of the Board of Adjustment and Appeals

Tuesday September 10, 2024 – 7:00 PM

Village of Surfside Beach

1304 Monument Drive

Surfside Beach, TX 77541

- 1.) Call to order and establish a quorum is present.

Mayor Bisso called the meeting to Order at 7:00 p.m.

- 2.) Discuss and take possible action regarding 614 Texas Street, Surfside Beach, Texas, a sub-standard and dilapidated structure specifically to discuss the property owner's plan of action and/or the Board of Adjustment's ruling.

Motion by Jalifi for the Owners of the home at 614 Texas to get started on repairs to the home per the presented plan on today's date, by 1/1/2025 and to complete project within 120 days from 1/1/2025 with progress updates to Council, as specified, from the building official Josh Hart. Motion was seconded by Kedlarchuck and passed unanimously.

- 3.) Adjourn at 7:14 p.m.

Passed and approved this 8th day of October 2024.

Mayor

City Secretary

VILLAGE OF SURFSIDE BEACH

PAID HOLIDAY LIST 2025

- *January 1, 2025 - New Year's Day*
- *February 17, 2025 - President's Day*
- *April 18, 2025 - Good Friday*
- *May 26, 2025 - Memorial Day*
- *July 4, 2025 - Independence Day*
- *September 1, 2025 - Labor Day*
- *November 27 & 28, 2025 - Thanksgiving*
- *December 25 & 26, 2025 - Christmas*
- *December 31, 2025 - New Year's Eve*

Proposal for a new department, Surfside Beach Office of Emergency Management, as well as the official position of an Emergency Management Coordinator.

Surfside Beach is in a unique vicinity for a small village. The village is on the coast, and bordered by the ocean, a ship channel, a waterway and industrial plants, and the rest of an open 'isolated' island. It faces imminent concerns both planned and unplanned, from hosting parades and events to the extremes of hurricanes, industrial accidents, and mass casualty incidents (MCI). With the ideas of moving forward and aligning more with modern technologies and community advancements, it's time to consider developing an Office of Emergency Management (OEM).

With the development of OEM, it would need to be led by an employee with the designation of the Emergency Management Coordinator (EMC). The EMC would follow the Incident Command System/National Incident Management System (ICS/NIMS) ensuring that the citizens, city, and infrastructure would be taken care of to the system's best ability at the time while following the National Preparedness Goal (NPG) of:

- Prevention
- Protection
- Mitigation
- Response
- Recovery

The OEM would be operational year-round researching, developing, writing, and updating the necessary emergency management (EM) plans and annexes. The EMC would also develop either new or better relationships with local business, the community, local industries, cities, and other agencies. During an activation the office and city would align with the requirements of the Stafford Act (Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (1988)) and follow the policies and procedures within the ICS. This would also allow for better communication, tasking, tracking, and easier reimbursement during the recovery period of an incident. Having such a department and position would help the Village "be on the map" when it comes time for funds, recovery, partnerships, etc. Surfside is not just some small town in the middle of the country out in the county... it is an important location for the surrounding infrastructure, for history and tourism, and for Texas itself.

OEM would also pursue additional funds and equipment from various sources available to agency's official OEM's. There are tens-of-thousands of grants and proper channel must be established and throughout the year benefits could be met. These would be accomplished through the Emergency Management Accreditation Program (EMAP). Sample of some of the grants that can be explored:

- EMPG (Emergency Management Performance Grant)
- HSGP (Homeland Security Grant Program)
- UASI (Urban Area Security Initiative)
- AFGP (Assistance to Firefighters Grant Program)
- ASPR (Assistant Secretary for Preparedness and Response)
- EOC Grant

October
Council

Surfside Beach would, with the development of partnerships and the grants/funds, be available for mutual aid and unified command situations. OEM would also better align all the departments and agencies with the city for better planning, response, and recovery for the Village. Trainings would be established for all full-time employees to include the 'national norm' of having the main four certifications:

- ICS 100
- ICS 200
- ICS 700
- ICS 800

Depending on the employees' position with the city, additional trainings would be required for their normal employment, and if assigned, essential personnel roles. Exercises and all-hand events would also be required to ensure proper roles and expectations and allow to expose for weaknesses and gaps in the Village's plans and procedures. The partnerships and alliances would naturally be with the local cities, refineries and industries, and Brazoria County, but should and will also include to name a few:

- Galveston and Fort Bend Counties
- TEEX, TDEM, Task Force 1, DPS, TPWD
- USCG and TMD/TXSG
- Red Cross, Salvation Army, Texas Baptist Men's Association, and other relief organizations
- National United States Armed Forces Museum

Initial estimated fiduciary requirements for the initial start-up of the new department would be:

- Compensation for the EMC
- Emergency vehicle for EMC (\leq \$20,000 for vehicle and graphics (at a minimum a used Explorer or Tahoe))
- Vehicle equipment (\leq \$3000 - \$5000)
- Vehicle fuel allowance (*)
- Communication equipment (\leq \$2000 - \$3000)
- Equipment and supplies (\leq \$2000 - \$3000)
- Uniform and PPE allowance (\leq \$1000)
- Village training and exercises (\leq \$2000 - \$3000)
- TDEM annual conference (\$1000) (Texas Department of Emergency Management)

*Note, the EMC would be required to attend regular meetings and trainings not only in the area around Surfside, but also the region, Houston, Austin, and other areas of Texas, as well as respond to incidents around the island (and neighboring agencies if needed.)

With the proposed grants and additional funding, the Village should be able to acquire traffic control devices, Zumro shelters (for operations, cooling areas, task-force headquarters, etc.) with trailers, more up to date communication equipment, additional IT support and equipment, develop a two-tiered EOC (Emergency Operations Center), etc.

In closing, the better prepared the Village is prior to an incident, and with timely response and recovery, the island would be in a better position to safeguard its citizens, the infrastructure, the Village itself... and reopen to visitors and tourism sooner. The projected image of that would show visitors we are prepared, we are organized, and we are a safe place to visit and stay.

ZUMRO

AIR SHELTER SYSTEMS



QUAD INTERFACE

Part # 9412



The multi-function ZUMRO Quad deploys in under seven minutes and serves as both a stand-alone shelter as well as a hub for up to four ZUMRO shelters. Our exclusive Universal Quick Connect System allows other shelters to quickly and easily attach to the Quad, expanding its already robust 454 sq ft. of clear span work space.

- 454 Square Feet
- 7-Minute Auto-Deployment
- Light & Durable
- Scalable
- Multiple Colors



DEFENSE | EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT | FIRE & RESCUE | LAW ENFORCEMENT | HOSPITAL & EMS | PUBLIC HEALTH | INDUSTRIAL



800.932.6003
ZUMRO.COM





QUAD INTERFACE

Part # 9412

KEY PERFORMANCE FEATURES

- Wind Rating (Sustained): 50 mph
- Wind Rating (Gust): 60 mph
- Rain/Snow Load: 750 GPM (104.25 lbs p/s)
- Operating Temperature Range: -60OF -140OF
- Operating Air Pressure: 4.5 PSI (Set by PR Valve)
- Minimum Air Pressure: 0.7 psi

PACKED DIMENSIONS

Cube: 20.14 cu.ft.
Length: 50 inches
Width: 29 inches
Height: 24 inches
Shelter Weight: 390 pounds .
With Accessories: 412 pounds

DEPLOYED DIMENSIONS

Floor Space: 454 square feet
Length: 29.4 feet
Exterior Width: 19.5 feet
Interior Width: 15.7 feet
Exterior Height: 8.5 feet
Interior Height: 8.0 feet



RECOMMENDED OPTIONS AND ACCESSORIES

- Integrated LED Light Systems
- Rigid Door
- Identification Panels
- Storage Carts
- Climate Control
- Power Generation and Distribution

UPGRADES AVAILABLE

- Berry Compliant
- Heavy Duty Canopy
- Extreme Duty Cover
- Insulation



ZUMRO

AIR SHELTER SYSTEMS



MODEL 600

Part # 8250



ZUMRO Model 600 is a rapidly-deployable, portable, all-weather shelter system that provides 600 square feet of clear span extremely usable area. It is designed for emergency use, including Rehab, Triage, Command, Isolation/Infection Control, Surge Capacity, Sleeping Quarters, Morgue, Community Events, Additional Field Workspace, etc.

- 600 Square Feet
- 6-Minute Auto-Deployment
- Light & Durable
- Scalable
- Multiple Colors



DEFENSE | EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT | FIRE & RESCUE | LAW ENFORCEMENT | HOSPITAL & EMS | PUBLIC HEALTH | INDUSTRIAL



800.932.6003
ZUMRO.COM





MODEL 600

Part # 8250



KEY PERFORMANCE FEATURES

Wind Rating (Sustained): 50 mph
Wind Rating (Gust): 60 mph
Rain/Snow Load: 750 GPM (104.25 lbs p/s)

Operating Temperature Range: -60OF – 140OF
Operating Air Pressure: 4.5 PSI (Set by PR Valve)
Minimum Air Pressure: 0.7 psi

PACKED DIMENSIONS

Cube: 28.1 cubic feet
Length: 72 inches
Width: 33 inches
Height: 33 inches
Shelter Weight: 450 pounds
With Accessories: 482 pounds

DEPLOYED DIMENSIONS

Floor Space: 600 square feet
Length: 31 feet
Exterior Width: 20.4 feet
Interior Width: 19.3 feet
Exterior Height: 9.7 feet
Interior Height: 9.0 feet



RECOMMENDED OPTIONS AND ACCESSORIES

- Integrated LED Light Systems
- Rigid Door
- Identification Panels
- Storage Carts
- Climate Control
- Power Generation and Distribution

UPGRADES AVAILABLE

- Berry Compliant
- Heavy Duty Canopy
- Extreme Duty Cover
- Insulation





WASTE CONNECTIONS INC.
Connect with the Future®

July 29, 2024
City of Surfside
Attn: Mayor Bisso
1304 Monument Drive
Surfside Beach, TX 77541

RE: Annual Rate Adjustment

Dear Mayor,

Waste Connections would like to sincerely thank you for the great opportunity we have had to serve the citizens and community of Surfside. We thoroughly enjoy and appreciate the relationship between Waste Connections and the City of Surfside.

Each year we evaluate the CPI-U, costs per our contract with the city. This year the CPI-U adjustment is 3.80. I have enclosed further details of this adjustment with this letter.

We would like to adjust these rates on the October billing cycle.

Should you have any questions or concerns regarding this adjustment or anything else, please feel free to contact me at the office at 281-331-0810.

Best Regards,

Zachary Ryan
District Manager
Waste Connections of TX
Zachary.ryan@wasteconnections.com

<u>Rate Adjustment</u>	<u>Percentage Increase</u>
CPI-U	3.80% **See tab CPI-U for supporting documentation
Total Surfside Rate Adjustment	3.80%

Village of Surfside

Residential Rate \$20.31
 Additional Cart Rate \$5.85

7.75% Tax

Rates for Section 9C - Regular Commercial and Industrial

Front Load Container

	1 time	2 times	3 times
Two Yard Container	\$52.31	\$104.63	\$156.94
Three Yard Container	\$85.07	\$170.14	\$255.20
Four Yard Container	\$113.42	\$226.85	\$340.27
Six Yard Container	\$139.22	\$278.45	\$417.67
Eight Yard Container	\$184.28	\$369.76	\$554.63

Casters and Locking Devices \$5.19 per item per month

Front Load Compactor Service

	1 time	2 times	3 times	4 times	Rental
Two Yard Container	\$124.60	\$219.07	\$316.29	\$410.73	\$419.07
Three Yard Container	\$169.07	\$277.39	\$385.73	\$494.07	\$419.07
Four Yard Container	\$196.72	\$319.07	\$438.52	\$560.74	\$419.07
Six Yard Container	\$257.95	\$416.29	\$588.53	\$760.77	\$419.07
Eight Yard Container	\$302.39	\$530.19	\$760.77	\$988.57	\$419.07

Casters and Locking Devices \$8.14 per item per month

Rates for Section 9D - Intermittent Commercial and Industrial

Front Load Container

	2 Yard	3 Yard	4 Yard	6 Yard	8 Yard
Each Extra Pick Up	\$57.95	\$60.72	\$63.50	\$69.05	\$78.78
Delivery Charges and discontinued removals			\$77.85		

Commercial Roll Off Container

	Delivery	Day Rental	Haul	Deposit
20 Yard	\$103.80	\$2.60	\$303.18	\$368.49
30 Yard	\$103.80	\$2.60	\$350.73	\$410.01
40 Yard	\$103.80	\$2.60	\$398.29	\$451.53

Additional \$23 per ton for over 6 tons for all sizes

Compactor Service

	Delivery	Day Rental	Haul	Install	Deposit
28 Yard	\$123.35	\$16.23	\$412.13	\$729.68	none
30 Yard	\$123.35	\$16.23	\$432.97	\$729.68	none
35 Yard	\$123.35	\$16.23	\$467.68	\$729.68	none
40 Yard	\$123.35	\$16.23	\$432.97	\$729.68	none
42 Yard	\$123.35	\$22.08	\$467.68	\$729.68	none

Amanda Davenport

From: Gregg Bisso <gbisso@aol.com>
Sent: Friday, September 27, 2024 9:28 AM
To: Amanda Davenport; Mark Wilson
Subject: Re: Revisit of a Proposal

Amanda, please put this on the agenda.....Gregg

On Friday, September 27, 2024 at 03:47:01 AM CDT, Mark Wilson <69gto217@gmail.com> wrote:

Good morning. For the October Council meeting.

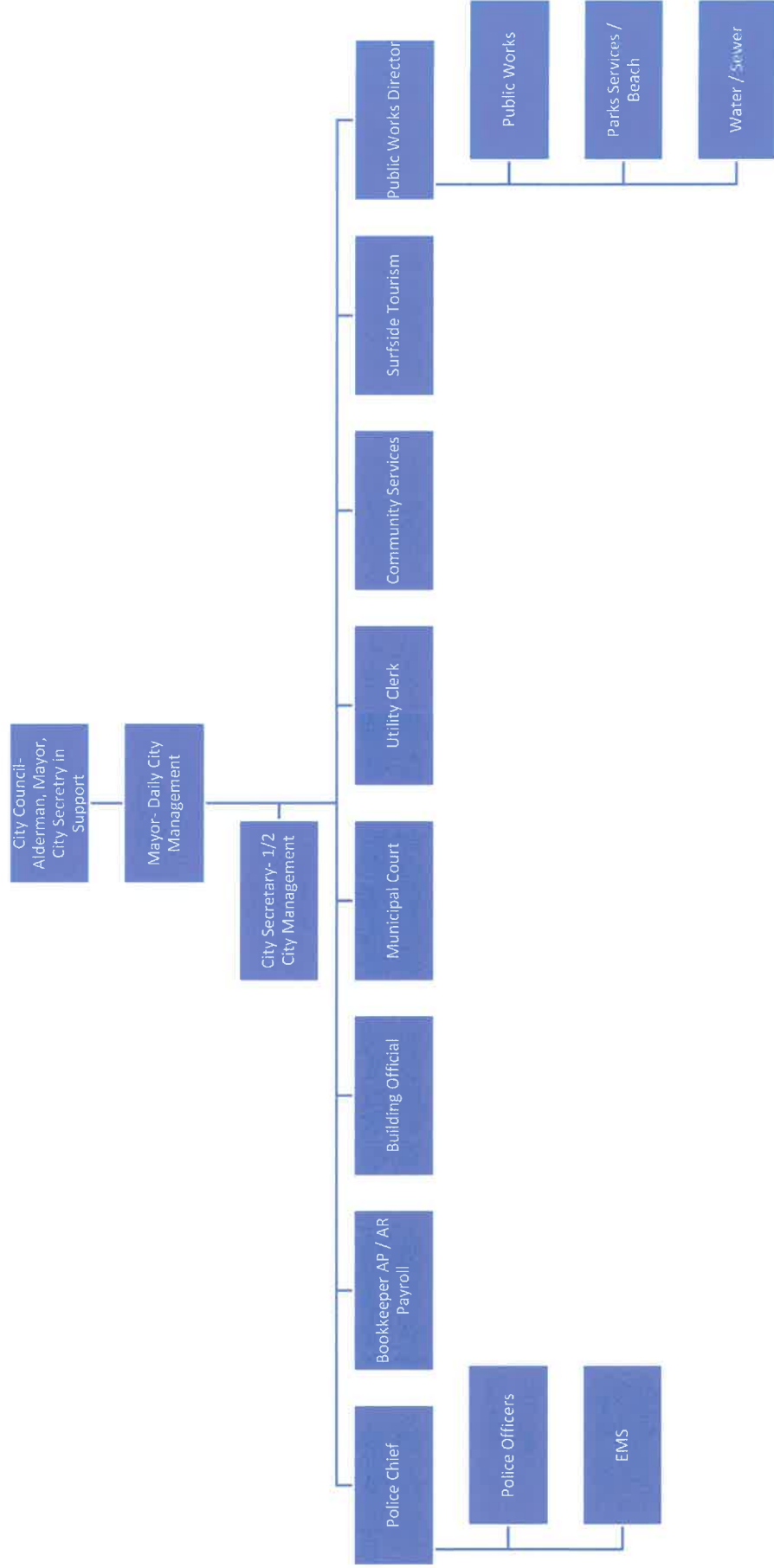
To discuss and take possible action on a proposal to amend Chapter 2 of the Ordinances of the Village of Surfside Beach, TX requiring Commission Chairs those current and those who seek appointment to be a full time Resident within the Village.

This is in line with the Mayoral position and with Council positions.

The Locals who I have spoken to about this are totally in favor.

Sent from my iPhone

CURRENT





HOUSTON-GALVESTON AREA COUNCIL
OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

To: Mayors – General Law Cities
Subject: 2025 General Assembly Designations
From: Chuck Wemple
Date: September 19, 2024

The Houston-Galveston Area Council has had an exciting and eventful 2024. We remain dedicated to better serving our member governments. We are working to do this by continuing to bring the conversation to your communities to listen to your needs and determining how we can help improve quality of life across the region. Thus far we have visited all of our regions' counties, and have started the second round of visits.

As we look forward to 2025, we ask that you appoint elected leaders from your governing body to represent your community and be a part of our decision-making progress. H-GAC bylaws allow each member of General Law cities to designate an elected official to represent you on the General Assembly and at the General Law cities caucus meeting. At the caucus meeting, General Law cities from across the region will elect two members to represent all General Law cities on the H-GAC Board of Directors, and two members to serve as alternates.

I have attached the nomination form on which you can designate your representatives. Please email the completed form to Vanessa.McKeehan@h-gac.com. If more information concerning General Assembly and Board of Directors membership would be useful, please contact me at 713-993-4514 or Rick Guerrero at 713-993-4598.

A dinner meeting of General Law city representatives is scheduled for Thursday, November 7, 2024 starting at 6:00 p.m.. It will be at the The Royal Sonesta, 2222 W Loop S, Houston, TX 77027. Your city's designees are highly encouraged to attend and help elect the 2025 General Law Cities' representatives to the H-GAC Board of Directors.

Thank you for your continuing participation and support for the Houston-Galveston Area Council. We look forward to working with you in the coming year.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'CW', is positioned above a horizontal blue line. Below the line, the text 'Charles Wemple (Oct 1, 2024 05:35 CDT)' is printed in a small, light blue font.

Chuck Wemple

**DESIGNATION OF REPRESENTATIVE AND ALTERNATE
HOUSTON-GALVESTON AREA COUNCIL
2025 GENERAL ASSEMBLY**

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Mayor and City Council of _____, Texas that _____ be, and is hereby designated as its Representative to the **GENERAL ASSEMBLY** of the Houston-Galveston Area Council for the year 2025.

FURTHER, that the Official Alternate authorized to serve as the voting representative should the hereinabove named representative become ineligible, or should he/she resign, is _____.

THAT the Executive Director of the Houston-Galveston Area Council be notified of the designation of the hereinabove named representative and alternate.

PASSED AND ADOPTED, this ____ day of _____, 2024.

APPROVED:

Mayor

ATTEST:

Village of Surfside Beach City Council

This presentation addresses concerns about underreporting of the 4% local Hotel Occupancy Tax (HOT) by short-term rental (STR) companies and individuals in Surfside Beach, TX. It highlights the necessity of verifying accurate reporting and proposes an action plan.

Necessity of Accurate HOT Audits

- **Financial Impact:** Unreported HOT represents lost revenue for essential village services. Accurate reporting ensures proper funding for these priorities.
- **Fairness:** Underreporting creates an unfair advantage for non-compliant STRs compared to those who comply. Verification ensures a level playing field and protects responsible businesses.
- **Transparency and Public Trust:** Accurate reporting fosters public trust in local governance and demonstrates transparency in revenue management.

Suggested Course of Action

- **Collaboration with Stakeholders:** Partner with local rental companies and homeowners to promote self-reporting.
- **Collaborate with the State Comptroller:** Establish a data sharing agreement with the State Comptroller allowing access to detailed short-term rental reports, including house-by-house data.
- **Targeted Audits:** Conduct risk-based audits on entities with significant discrepancies, focusing on high-volume short-term rentals and repeat offenders.

In closing

- By implementing this action plan, Surfside Beach can ensure accurate HOT reporting, protect its financial resources, and promote a fair and transparent local government.
- The Village may have good reporting from most of the small local businesses. Even this could be verified with house-by-house review of figures reported to the Comptroller against those reported to MuniRev . The STR market has blown up over the past 10 years and we need to catch up with the other local markets in Texas that have agreements with the online STRs.
- Disadvantage of inaction: Unremitted taxes will negatively impact the village's budget and services and sow distrust in local governance.