



**Town of Surfside**  
**Special Town Commission Meeting**  
**MINUTES**  
**December 13, 2022**  
**5:30 PM**  
Commission Chambers

**1. Opening**

**1.A Call to Order**

Mayor Danzinger called the meeting to order at 5:32 p.m.

**1.B Roll Call of Members**

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

Present: Mayor Shlomo Danzinger, Vice Mayor Jeffrey Rose, Commissioner Marianne Meisheid (arrived at 5:34 p.m.), Commissioner Fred Landsman and Commissioner Nelly Velasquez.

Absent: Town Manager Andrew Hyatt

Also Present: Assistant Town Manager Jason Greene, Town Attorney Lillian Arango and Town Attorney Tony Recio.

**1.C Pledge of Allegiance**

Chief Torres provided the pledge of allegiance.

**1.D Lobbyist Update - Town Manager Andrew Hyatt**

Jonathan Kilmer, Converge Public Strategies, Town Lobbyist provided the lobbyist update as it pertains to the legislative updates and appropriations. He also spoke regarding the Town's legislative priorities, policies and appropriations. He spoke regarding the increase in insurance rates, inflation, affordable housing, resiliency and hurricane response. He spoke regarding the upcoming meetings calendar that are coming up.

Commissioner Velasquez thanked him for the update and asked regarding if there is anything being provided for undergrounding and infrastructure.

Mr. Kilmer stated they do not have an answer for that today and understands that it is a priority, but they will update Town Staff and the Commission as soon as they

have update.

Vice Mayor Rose asked regarding if there are any grants for seawalls in order to help the residents and Town to raise the seawalls.

Mr. Kilmer stated that he will look to see if there is anything for seawalls. He also stated that at this upcoming session he will speak to the representatives and senators to look at working on adding something for seawalls. He also stated that they will be looking at setting policies for that as well.

Commissioner Meischeid also spoke regarding seawalls.

Commissioner Landsman would like more communication from the lobbyist as to what has taken place and approved.

Mayor Danzinger spoke regarding lighting, transportation and the projects approved by FDOT.

Commissioner Meischeid asked regarding emotional support dogs.

Mr. Kilmer addressed the comment made regarding the service dogs.

Commissioner Velasquez asked if that is the plan then they should come up with some form of credentials that the pet would need to have to show that they are service dogs. She stated that this is due to issues of people claiming that the pet is a service animal, and they are not.

Mr. Kilmer addressed the comments made and explained that they lobby for everything and build a coalition to address all those concerns.

## **2. Mayor, Commission and Staff Communication**

### **2.A Town Manager's Annual Evaluation - Andrew Hyatt, Town Manager**

For the Town Commission to evaluate and discuss.

A motion was made by Commissioner Meischeid to table the item, seconded by Vice Mayor Rose. The motion carried with a 5-0 vote.

### **2.B Appointments to the Charter Review Board - Lillian Arango, Town Attorney**

The administration recommends that each member of the Town Commission appoint one member to the Charter Review Board in accordance with Section 128 of the Town Charter, subject to ratification of each appointee by majority vote of the Commission.

Town Attorney Arango gave an overview of the Charter Review Board, as well as the Board members' duties and requirements.

Mayor Danzinger asked Town Attorney Arango to also discuss the other rule.

Town Attorney Arango stated that the Mayor and the Town Manager would act as ex officio members of the committee and are subject to sunshine laws.

Vice Mayor Rose asked if the meeting will be televised.

Town Attorney Arango stated that it is up to the Commission if they would like it to be televised and it will be treated like any other type of committee. She stated that she laid out a tentative schedule on page 6 of the item. She spoke regarding the requirements of starting the meeting within 45 days of the board's establishment.

Commissioner Velasquez asked when these items are brought to the referendum, and do they pick what they want or whatever the Committee wants.

Town Attorney Arango stated that it is the Commission's final decision as to what goes on the referendum.

Mayor Danzinger opened the floor to public comment.

The following individual from the public spoke:

George Kousoulas spoke regarding some of the applicants and provided his support.

Mayor Danzinger closed public comment.

Commissioner Landsman stated that he is glad that they received 10 applicants.

Town Clerk McCready advised that each member will have to sign an affidavit verifying that they are a registered voters in Town.

A motion was made by Commissioner Landsman to appoint Peter Zuckerman to the Charter Review Committee, seconded by Vice Mayor Rose. The motion carried by 5-0 vote.

A motion was made by Commissioner Meisheid to appoint Laurie Swedroe to the Charter Review Committee, seconded by Vice Mayor Rose. The motion carried by 5-0 vote.

A motion was made by Mayor Danzinger to appoint Ben Jacobson to the Charter Review Committee, seconded by Commissioner Landsman. The motion carried with a 5-0 vote.

A motion was made by Vice Mayor Rose to appoint Daniel Dietch to the Charter Review Committee, seconded by Commissioner Meisheid. The motion died with a 2-3 vote with Commissioner Velasquez, Commissioner Landsman and Mayor Danzinger voting in opposition.

Mayor Danzinger has respect for Mr. Dietch but would like to have a 5-0 vote for the appointments.

Vice Mayor Rose stated that he believes he would be a good person to be on the

Board. He requested for someone to reconsider their vote.

Commissioner Landsman respects Mr. Dietch and for his service to the Town as Mayor but would like people to come with fresh eyes and ideas.

Commissioner Meisheid also believes he brings great experience and would also have experience on things that would need to be corrected.

Commissioner Velasquez spoke regarding what former Mayor Dietch did in giving away Town property and they as a commission needed to make the change to not allow Town property to be given away.

Mayor Danzinger stated he is welcome to come as a resident and speak at the meetings.

A motion was made by Vice Mayor Rose to appoint Ruben Bravo to the Charter Review Committee, seconded by Commissioner Landsman. The motion carried with a 5-0 vote.

A motion was made by Commissioner Velasquez to appoint Clara Diaz-Leal to the Charter Review Committee. The motion died for lack of a second.

Vice Mayor Rose left the room and advised he had a conflict with an applicant, Ezequiel Singer and could not vote for his appointment.

A motion was made by Commissioner Velasquez to appoint Ezequiel Singer to the Charter Review Committee, seconded by Commissioner Meisheid. Commissioner Velasquez removed her motion.

A motion was made by Commissioner Velasquez to appoint Gerardo Vildostegui to the Charter Review Committee. The motion failed for lack of a second.

A motion was made by Commissioner Velasquez to appoint Ezequiel Singer to the Charter Review Committee, seconded by Commissioner Meisheid. The motion carried with 4-0 vote with Vice Mayor Rose abstained.

Mayor Danzinger appointed Commissioner Meisheid to be the liaison to the Committee and he will also be attending.

[Exhibit A.docx](#)

## **2.C Driveway Curb Cuts - Commissioner Landsman**

The Commission should consider the Planning and Zoning Board's recommendation.

Commissioner Landsman introduced the item and asked Town Planner Frankel to introduce the item.

Town Planner Frankel provided a summary of the item along with a presentation and current regulations.

A motion was made by Commissioner Landsman to move this item forward to come back to the Commission as an ordinance for first reading, seconded by Vice Mayor Rose.

Mayor Danzinger opened the floor to public comment.

The following individuals from the public spoke:

George Kousoulas spoke against this item.

Eliana Salzhauer spoke regarding the item and believes this is too much pavement.

Mayor Danzinger closed the floor to public comment.

Commissioner Landsman explained the item and stated that they are making a minor change.

Commissioner Meischeid stated that 25 feet is unnecessary and decreases the landscaping. She stated that 18 feet is good and for waterflow as well.

Vice Mayor Rose spoke regarding the pervious not changing and asked, through the Mayor, if Public Works Director Gomez could address the water flow and runoff as it pertains to the curb cut. He asked if he as the Director of Public Works is for it or against it.

Public Works Director Gomez responded to the questions regarding the water flow and runoff. He stated that it depends if it is going from an F cut to a valley cut and explained the difference.

Public Works Director Gomez stated that after 24 feet you will need to create a consistency. He stated that the intent is to create consistency.

Town Planner Frankel continued with the presentation.

Vice Mayor Rose stated that he prefers to keep cars off the street and is fine with corner lots having double curb cuts and if you meet the pervious requirement then it would be fine.

Commissioner Landsman stated that he recently increased his to 18 feet and his cars do fit. He stated that it would be safer getting cars off the streets.

Commissioner Velasquez totally agrees with this, and it is important to have more cars on peoples lots. She stated that this is very important for walkability.

Commissioner Meischeid asked, through the Mayor, for Public Works Director Gomez to address the stormwater runoff.

Public Works Director Gomez addressed the comment made by Commissioner Meischeid as it pertains to the stormwater runoff. He stated that when you go to 25

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feet and higher you have to determine how it will affect your permeable space.

Mayor Danzinger stated that the requirement is that the permeable space requirement be met.

Commissioner Landsman stated that they are not changing the permeable space requirement. He would recommend the change to be 24 feet, permeability does not change and must meet requirements.

Public Works Director Gomez stated that when you go beyond 24 feet that is when you will have a problem.

Commissioner Velasquez spoke regarding the 24 feet. She asked if you have one curb cut of 24 feet or two curb cuts of 12 feet each, isn't the same amount of water flowing into the street.

Mayor Danzinger addressed the comment made and explained the water flow.

Vice Mayor Rose spoke regarding cutting the curb for corner lots in order to fit an additional car.

Commissioner Landsman understands their thought and would prefer the corner lots to be a separate conversation.

Mayor Danzinger asked how this is taking cars off the street.

Commissioner Landsman stated that in his case, he is able to increase the space with the curb cut then more of the residents can make the investment and get a car off the street.

Further discussion took place among the increase in feet, the stormwater runoff, the water flow and curb cuts as well as requesting more research to be done during the first and second reading.

The motion carried with a 4-1 vote with Commissioner Meischeid voting in opposition.

[Exhibit A.DOCX](#)

## **2.D Discussion Regarding Planning and Zoning Board Jurisdiction and Scope of Project Review - Commissioner Landsman**

The Commission should consider expanding the Planning and Zoning Board's jurisdiction and its scope of review to require a full site plan review of new single family construction. Additions and remodels of existing homes could remain limited to design review. So as not to overburden single family construction, the site plan review

Mayor Danzinger passed the gavel and left the dais at 6:35 p.m.

Commissioner Landsman introduced the item. He would like to see what they can do

to empower the Planning and Zoning Board to change and modify things as well as the design and review guidelines.

Town Planner Frankel provided a presentation on the item and the design review guidelines.

Vice Mayor Rose opened the floor to public comment.

The following individual from the public spoke:  
George Kousoulas

Mayor Danzinger returned to the dais at 6:45 p.m.

The following individuals from the public spoke:  
Jeffrey Zomper  
David Forbes

Mayor Danzinger closed public comment.

Commissioner Velasquez suggested a joint meeting with the Planning and Zoning Board to give the Town Planner some of their ideas and believes these should still go to the Planning and Zoning Board.

Vice Mayor Rose stated that they can give recommendations and addressed the speakers comments.

Commissioner Landsman stated that he will go to the Planning and Zoning Board with more recommendations.

A motion was made by Commissioner Landsman to table the item to the following meeting at 7:00 p.m., seconded by Vice Mayor Rose. The motion carried with a 5-0 vote.

## **2.E Special Meetings - Vice-Mayor Rose**

For the commission to discuss the possibility of continuing the special meetings.

A motion was made by Vice Mayor Rose to move the item to the upcoming 7:00 p.m. meeting as item 9A under (Mayor, Commission and Staff Communications), seconded by Commissioner Meischeid. The motion carried with a 5-0 vote.

## **3. Adjournment**

There being no further business to discuss before the Commission, a motion was made by Vice Mayor Rose to adjourn the meeting at 6:58 p.m., seconded by Commissioner Landsman. The motion carried with a 5-0 vote.

Accepted this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2022.

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Shlomo Danzinger, Mayor

Attest:

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Sandra N. McCready, MPA, MMC  
Town Clerk