Borough of Surf City

Governing Body Meeting Minutes

Mayor F. Hodgson called the meeting to order and read the following statement: "In compliance with the Open Public Meetings Act of the State of New Jersey, pursuant to P.L. 2025, c. 72, adequate notice of this meeting of the Borough Council has been provided on the Borough website and to two online newspapers."

The roll call reflected the following members present: Councilman Joe DeBenedetto, Councilman Peter M. Hartney, Councilman William D. Hodgson, Councilman Lee Lieber, Councilman Gerry P. Little, Councilwoman Jacqueline L. Siciliano, and Mayor Francis R. Hodgson.

Also in attendance were Borough Superintendent Art Yahn, Water/Sewer Superintendent Ryan Brady, Police Chief Jack Casella, and Chief Financial Officer Michael Gross.

All present joined Mayor F. Hodgson in a Salute to the Flag.

Council President Wm. Hodgson moved to approve the minutes from the August 12, 2026, regular meeting. Councilman Little seconded the motion. The roll call reflected the following votes in favor of approval: Mr. DeBenedetto, Mr. Hartney, Mr. Wm. Hodgson, Mr. Lieber, Mr. Little, and Mrs. Siciliano.

The Council considered and approved Resolutions 2026-139 through 2026-144, as attached.

Mayor F. Hodgson read the July 2026 Municipal Court and Finance reports.

Councilman Lieber presented the August 2026 Statistical Report, highlighting motor vehicle summonses, local ordinance summonses, and warnings. He reminded residents that the Borough's Trunk or Treat event will be held on October 24, 2026.

Councilman DeBenedetto provided the final Beach Patrol report for the 2026 season, including staffing statistics. He reported on the bay beach reconfiguration. The boat ramp generated $18,255 in revenue. He reported one incident involving a software glitch, which was corrected. Public Works will be installing a stainless steel, marine-grade shower.

Council President Wm. Hodgson provided the August 2026 Sanitary Landfill Analysis.

Councilwoman Siciliano reported on recent Department of Public Works activities, including filling potholes and clearing outfalls and catch basins. She also took a moment to remember those who lost their lives on September 11, 2001, and to honor the first responders and others affected by the tragedy.

Councilman Hartney reported that 217 visitors attended the Tuesday at the Bay sessions during the 2026 season. He also provided the seasonal beach badge sales report.

Councilman Little provided the August 2026 Water and Sewer Report. He also spoke about the tragedy of September 11, 2001, noting that it changed all of our lives.

Kelly Tallman requested a memorial bench for her grandfather and daughter at 23rd or 24th Street and the Bay. Councilman Hartney moved to approve the request, and Council President Wm. Hodgson seconded the motion. The roll call reflected the following votes in favor of approval: Mr. DeBenedetto, Mr. Hartney, Mr. Wm. Hodgson, Mr. Lieber, Mr. Little, and Mrs. Siciliano.

Greg O'Connell, Association of Surf Angling Clubs, requested permission to use the beach for a one-day fishing tournament on Saturday, October 11, 2026. Councilman Hartney moved to approve the request, and Council President Wm. Hodgson seconded the motion. The roll call showed the following votes in favor: Mr. DeBenedetto, Mr. Hartney, Mr. Wm. Hodgson, Mr. Lieber, Mr. Little, and Mrs. Siciliano.

Ron Fiore, Surf City Taxpayers Association, requested permission to host four concerts during the summer of 2027 from 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m., sponsored by local businesses. The request also asked Surf City Volunteer Fire Company for permission to provide an EMS presence and to sell T-shirts and food donated by local businesses. The Association requested that the Borough provide police/security, additional garbage cans, and additional portable restrooms for each concert. Council President W. Hodgson moved to refer the request to the Property Committee for further review. Councilman Hartney seconded the motion. The roll call reflected the following votes in favor of approval of the committee review: Mr. DeBenedetto, Mr. Hartney, Mr. Wm. Hodgson, Mr. Lieber, Mr. Little, and Mrs. Siciliano.

Councilwoman Siciliano moved to pay the bills. Councilman Hartney seconded the motion. The bills were approved for payment. The roll call reflected the following votes in favor of approval: Mr. DeBenedetto, Mr. Hartney, Mr. Wm. Hodgson, Mr. Lieber, Mr. Little, and Mrs. Siciliano.

Mayor F. Hodgson asked if anyone had comments or questions.

Ron Fiore inquired about several fire hydrants currently under repair.

Councilman Hartney moved to adjourn the meeting. Councilwoman Siciliano seconded the motion. The roll call reflected the following votes in favor of adjourning: Mr. DeBenedetto, Mr. Hartney, Mr. Wm. Hodgson, Mr. Lieber, Mr. Little, and Mrs. Siciliano.

Respectfully submitted,

CHannemann

Christine Hannemann, RMC/CMR/QPA
Borough Clerk/Administrator

RESOLUTION 2026-139

RESOLUTION BY THE BOROUGH OF SURF CITY, COUNTY OF OCEAN, ADOPTING THE REVISED 2026 CASH MANAGEMENT PLAN.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Borough Council of the Borough of Surf City that the Cash Management Plan of the Borough of Surf City be and is hereby adopted for the year 2026.

CERTIFICATION

I, CHRISTINE HANNEMANN, Municipal Clerk of the Borough of Surf City, do hereby certify the foregoing to be a true and exact copy of a resolution duly adopted by the Governing Body at a meeting held on September 9, 2026.

CHannemann

CHRISTINE HANNEMANN, RMC/CMR/QPA

Municipal Clerk/Administrator

	Approved	Denied	Carried				
Method	Roll Call						
Council Member	Moved	Second	Ayes	Nays	Abstain	Absent	Note
DeBenedetto			✓				
Hartney			✓				
Wm. Hodgson	✓		✓				
Lieber			✓				
Little			✓				
Siciliano		✓	✓				

RESOLUTION NO. 2026-140

RESOLUTION OF THE BOROUGH OF SURF CITY, COUNTY OF OCEAN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY ADOPTING AN AFFIRMATIVE MARKETING PLAN

WHEREAS, the Borough of Surf City has sought and continues to seek compliance certification through the declaratory judgment process envisioned by the 2024 amendments to the Fair Housing Act, culminating most recently in a consent order with Fair Share Housing Center as part of ; and

WHEREAS, such consent order expressly identifies certain next steps to be taken by the Borough in order to secure such certification, including but not limited to the adoption of an affirmative marketing plan by the Borough; and

WHEREAS, consistent with the Borough's obligations pursuant to the Uniform Housing Affordability Controls, N.J.A.C. 5:80-26.1 et seq., as amended to date, the Borough is required to adopt an Affirmative Marketing Plan to ensure that all affordable housing units created are affirmatively marketed to very low-, low- and moderate-income households, particularly those living or working within Mercer, Monmouth, and Ocean counties; and

WHEREAS, the Borough has directed its professionals to prepare an affirmative marketing plan in conformance with the obligations of the Uniform Housing Affordability Controls, and same has been prepared by Frank J. Little, Jr., PE, PP, CME, dated September 1, 2026, and is annexed hereto as Exhibit "A"; and

WHEREAS, the Borough wishes to enact and adopt the proposed plan, in furtherance of its duties and obligations under the Fair Housing Act and the Uniform Housing Affordability Controls.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Surf City, County of Ocean, State of New Jersey as follows:

1. All of the foregoing "whereas" clauses are incorporated by reference, as if set forth more fully herein.
2. The affirmative marketing plan dated September 1, 2026, and prepared by Frank J. Little, Jr., PE, PP, CME, and annexed hereto as Exhibit "A" is hereby adopted by the Borough of Surf City.
3. The resolution shall be effective immediately.

CERTIFICATION

I, Christine Hannemann, Municipal Clerk of the Borough of Surf City, do hereby certify that the foregoing resolution was duly adopted by the Mayor and Council at a regular meeting held on September 9, 2026.

CHannema

Christine Hannemann, RMC, CMR, QPA
Borough Clerk/Administrator
Borough of Surf City

Exh. A – Affirmative Marketing Plan, dated Sept. 1, 2026

			Approved	Denied	Carried		
Method			Roll Call				
Council Member	Moved	Second	Ayes	Nays	Abstain	Absent	Note
DeBenedetto			✓				
Hartney			✓				
Wm. Hodgson	✓		✓				
Lieber			✓				
Little			✓				
Siciliano		✓	✓				

RESOLUTION NO. 2026-142

BOROUGH OF SURF CITY, COUNTY OF OCEAN AUTHORIZING PERSONNEL APPOINTMENTS & ACTIONS.

PUBLIC WORKS

BE FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the following individuals be appointed part-time with no benefits to the laborer position, effective at the corresponding rates through December 31, 2026.

Derek R. Giordano at $18.00 per hour.
Jared Russo at $18.50 per hour.
Michael Mosher at $18.50 per hour.
Keith Sprague at $18.50 per hour.
Caden Elicer Thau at $18.00 per hour
Blake Lee Steuer at $18.00 per hour.
Isaiah Olivo at $18.50 per hour.
Ivory Moore at $18.50 per hour.
Clayton Steichen at $18.50 per hour.
Elijah Olivo at $18.00 per hour.
Robert Haman at $18.75 per hour.
Michael Parmigiano at $18.00 per hour.

WATER & SEWER

BE FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the following individuals be appointed part-time with no benefits to the laborer position, effective at the corresponding rates through December 31, 2026.

Jose Sharpe at $18.00 per hour
Isiash Cartes at $18.00 per hour.

BEACH PATROL

BE FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the following individuals be appointed part-time with no benefits to the lifeguard position, effective at the corresponding rates.

Daniel Finelli at $17.80 per hour, effective August 7, 2026, through September 13, 2026.
Kieran Hyland at $18.00 per hour for post/preseason work through October 31, 2026.

FINANCE DEPARTMENT

BE FURTHER RESOLVED THAT Ed Seeger, Certified Tax Assessor, be appointed part-time with no benefits as the Tax Assessor at a rate of $28,000 per year from October 1, 2026 through the end of the term to June 30, 2027.

CERTIFICATION

I, CHRISTINE HANNEMANN, Municipal Clerk of the Borough of Surf City, do hereby certify the foregoing to be a true and exact copy of a resolution duly adopted by the Governing Body at a meeting held on September 9, 2026.

CHannemann

CHRISTINE HANNEMANN, RMC/CMR/QPA

Municipal Clerk/Administrator

RESOLUTION NO. 2026-142

BOROUGH OF SURF CITY, COUNTY OF OCEAN AUTHORIZING PERSONNEL APPOINTMENTS & ACTIONS.

			Approved	Denied	Carried		
Method	Roll Call						
Council Member	Moved	Second	Ayes	Nays	Abstain	Absent	Note
DeBenedetto			✓				
Hartney			✓				
Wm. Hodgson	✓		✓				
Lieber			✓				
Little			✓				
Siciliano		✓	✓				

RESOLUTION 2026-143

RESOLUTION BY THE BOROUGH OF SURF CITY, COUNTY OF OCEAN, ACKNOWLEDGING DISABILITY LEAVE FOR A BOROUGH EMPLOYEE.

WHEREAS, Kenneth Wilson, an employee of the Borough of Surf City, is currently unable to perform the duties of their position due to a medical disability; and

WHEREAS, the Borough provides disability insurance coverage for eligible employees, and Kenneth Wilson is receiving benefits pursuant to the Borough's disability insurance program; and

WHEREAS, the Borough desires to formally acknowledge the employee's absence and establish the employee's status as being on disability leave, effective July 13, 2026; and

WHEREAS, the employee's disability leave shall be administered in accordance with applicable Federal and State law, the Borough's personnel policies, applicable collective bargaining agreements, and the terms and conditions of the Borough's disability insurance program, as applicable;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Borough Council of the Borough of Surf City, County of Ocean, State of New Jersey, that the absence of Kenneth Wilson is hereby acknowledged and designated as **Disability Leave**, effective July 13, 2026.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the appropriate Borough officials are hereby authorized and directed to take any and all necessary administrative actions to implement this Resolution and maintain the employee's leave status in accordance with applicable law, Borough policy, and the requirements of the Borough-provided disability insurance program.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT nothing contained herein shall be construed as a waiver of any rights or obligations of the Borough or the employee under applicable law, policy, collective bargaining agreement, or the Borough's disability insurance program.

CERTIFICATION

I, CHRISTINE HANNEMANN, Municipal Clerk of the Borough of Surf City, do hereby certify the foregoing to be a true and exact copy of a resolution duly adopted by the Governing Body at a meeting held on September 9, 2026.

CHannemann

CHRISTINE HANNEMANN, RMC/CMR/QPA

Municipal Clerk/Administrator

RESOLUTION 2026-143

RESOLUTION BY THE BOROUGH OF SURF CITY, COUNTY OF OCEAN, ACKNOWLEDGING DISABILITY LEAVE FOR A BOROUGH EMPLOYEE.

	Approved	Denied	Carried				
Method	Roll Call						
Council Member	Moved	Second	Ayes	Nays	Abstain	Absent	Note
DeBenedetto			✓				
Hartney			✓				
Wm. Hodgson	✓		✓				
Lieber			✓				
Little			✓				
Siciliano		✓	✓				

RESOLUTION 2026-144

RESOLUTION BY THE BOROUGH OF SURF CITY, COUNTY OF OCEAN, AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO SEND HIS 2026 FALL LETTER.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that Mayor Hodgson is authorized to send his 2026 Fall letter to the Borough taxpayers.

CERTIFICATION

I, CHRISTINE HANNEMANN, Municipal Clerk of the Borough of Surf City, do hereby certify the foregoing to be a true and exact copy of a resolution duly adopted by the Governing Body at a meeting held on September 9, 2026.

CHannemann

CHRISTINE HANNEMANN, RMC/CMR/QPA

Municipal Clerk/Administrator

	Approved	Denied	Carried				
Method	Roll Call						
Council Member	Moved	Second	Ayes	Nays	Abstain	Absent	Note
DeBenedetto			✓				
Hartney			✓				
Wm. Hodgson	✓		✓				
Lieber			✓				
Little			✓				
Siciliano		✓	✓				