

MINUTES
February 20, 2014
EDISTO BEACH TOWN COUNCIL
YEARLY GOAL SETTING RETREAT
9:00 A.M.

Town of Edisto Beach
Town Hall
2414 Murray Street
Edisto Beach, SC 29438

Present: Burley L. Lyons, Mayor, Jane S. Darby, Mayor Pro Tempore, Pete Anderson, Susan Hornsby and Patti Smyer, Council Members; *Quorum of Council Present.*

Mayor Lyons opened the meeting with a word of prayer.

Council began by reviewing the goals of the previous three years. Mayor Lyons expressed his appreciation to Council for meeting and exceeding so many of the past goals.

Patrick Brown updated Council on the Zoning Ordinance rewrite, which is in its final stages. A public hearing will be held prior to presenting the final rewrite to Council. Mr. Brown and his department are answering requests from homeowners on the Biggert Waters Act. Administrator Hill notified Council of the weekly conference call with the Coastal Coalition for Flood Insurance on Fridays at 10:30. Mr. Brown asked for Council direction in the Building Permit application process for commercial districts. There will be a meeting with GEL on February 21, 2014 to go over the stage project. The preliminary electrical drawings are done for the upgrades to the Park.

Police Chief Bill Coffey addressed Council concerning the Standard Operating Guidelines for the Police Department. The ones provided to Council are those with the most liability to the Town. They are being re-written to satisfy national requirements. The EBPD will be applying for accreditation later this year. Chief Coffey asked for Council direction concerning police vehicles. He explained the need for a vehicle with more room due to the amount of equipment necessary for police officers. Chief Coffey invited Council to the parking lot to look at an SUV used by Colleton County. Police vehicles would be replaced according to the depreciation schedule already in place. Chief Coffey asked for Council direction concerning Bicycle Patrol on the beach. Now that the Police Department is fully staffed and one officer is already trained, a bicycle patrol officer would offer more accessibility to the public. The cost would be minimal to outfit a patrol vehicle with a bike rack and to purchase a suitable bicycle. Chief Coffey updated Council on the beach patrol, providing a handout outlining their activity. The beach patrol will continue to put out/take up life rings, but to minimize ATVs being on the beach, they

will do so from the street. They will also use beach accesses that are wide enough to accommodate the ATVs.

Chief Coffey and Fire Chief Denney Conley gave a joint presentation asking for direction from Council on a new Public Safety Facility. There are three lots on Jungle Road that could be used, and an appraisal for those lots was approved in the six month budget adjustment. The lots near the convenience station are also a possibility.

Chief Coffey and Chief Conley asked for Council's direction on a Marine Rapid Response Team. Research has been done and a Zodiac-type boat is a good option to perform rescues within 300 feet from the shore.

Chief Conley is in the process of rewriting and editing the Standard Operating Guidelines for his department. He would like Council's direction on moving an employee from part time to full time and in the possibility of promoting or hiring an engineer. Chief Conley would like to cross train town employees as fire fighters, in part to improve the Town's ISO rating, which would benefit town property owners.

Town Administrator Iris Hill presented information from the Water and Sewer Department and the Public Works Department. Mr. Doub would address more issues later. She asked Council for direction concerning a five percent increase in water and sewer rates. The Town is currently meeting its bond covenant but is not putting money into the renewal and replacement fund. In order to enact a rate increase, there has to be a revision of the ordinance. Administrator Hill updated Council on the current garbage services and asked them if they would like to issue a Request For Proposal for a new provider. Administrator Hill informed Council that if there is a complaint to Town Hall about garbage, Betty Heaton contacts Republic and lets them know immediately. Council suggested notifying lawn service contractors when they are allowed to leave debris on the roadside for pickup. Administrator Hill and several Council members suggested looking again at curbside recycling. The Water and Sewer Committee will meet with Utilities Director Bob Doub and prioritize a list of improvements to the water distribution system for Council consideration. Councilwoman Darby voiced concern over the progress of the sidewalk project. Administrator Hill explained that there are two contractors working on the project, one for the driveways, ramps and curbs, and another for the sidewalks.

Councilwoman Darby asked Administrator Hill if any department heads had indicated a need for additional personnel for the upcoming year. Patrick Brown addressed Council, stating that if his current workload stays the same, additional personnel would be needed in the Building Department, possibly part time. Mr. Brown suggested someone who could be cross-trained in business licensing, inspections and managing the market/Bay Creek Park.

Administrator Hill said she spoke with Ray Stevens, Regional Manager of the State Park, who expressed interest in joining forces with the Town for a 2016 beach nourishment project. The Capital Project Sales Tax Commission Committee has met and is asking every entity to give a presentation to the Committee about their submitted project. Administrator Hill is working on the presentation. Administrator Hill asked for Council's direction as to what to tell Coastal Science Engineering (CSE) concerning groin lengthening. Administrator Hill suggested setting up a meeting with CSE, the Beachfront Management Committee and Council.

Councilwoman Smyer asked to address the EBPOA Requests. She asked about the placement of the stage at Bay Creek Park. Patrick Brown explained the intent to place the stage over the retention pond area. There was a discussion of the trash pickup along Highway 174. Councilwoman Darby and Councilwoman Smyer are to speak to Damita Jeter of the TERC Board and get clarification.

Councilwoman Smyer said that she had been made aware that the "ten foot barrier" was not being adhered to regarding the smoking ordinance. There are some restaurants that have no signage and put their cigarette receptacles too close to the entrance to the establishment. Administrator Hill said she would make the police aware of this so they could look into it.

If there are any complaints about Comcast, please send the names and numbers of the residents to Administrator Hill. Comcast is required to keep a list of complaints.

The Edisto Chamber is not backing the Music and Shagfest this year. Councilwoman Darby moved to have a representative of Council to speak at the next Chamber Board meeting. Councilwoman Hornsby seconded the motion, which carried unanimously. Councilwoman Darby volunteered to meet with the Chamber.

Administrator Hill informed Council that there were no grants available currently to fund the Scott Creek Project, but she is still looking. The NOAA grant probably would come up again and Administrator Hill is keeping our application up-to-date so that it can be resubmitted.

Councilman Anderson suggested the Town form a better partnership with the Golf Course.

Council then suggested and prioritized goals for the 2014 year as follows, to be approved at the March Council meeting:

- | | |
|--|----------------------|
| 1. Beach Renourishment | Mayor Lyons |
| 2. Quality/Quantity of Water. Sewer issues | Councilwoman Smyer |
| 3. Flood Insurance | Mayor Lyons |
| 4. Government Restructuring/personnel/staff salary | Councilwoman Darby |
| 5. Beautification/quality of life/garbage | Councilwoman Hornsby |

6. Continue to increase involvement with county
State and federal government

Councilman Anderson

Councilwoman Hornsby moved to adjourn the retreat. Councilwoman Darby seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

APPROVED BY TOWN COUNCIL

Deborah Hargis, Municipal Clerk
March 13, 2014