

# The Edisto Beach Comber

TOWN OF EDISTO BEACH NEWSLETTER, EDISTO BEACH, SOUTH CAROLINA  
(843) 869-2505 December 2013 website: [www.townofedistobeach.com](http://www.townofedistobeach.com)

## MONTHLY MEETINGS

TIDE Committee	01/02	10:00 am
Council WkSess	01/07	10:00 am
Municipal Court	01/09	2:00 pm
Town Council	01/09	6:00 pm
PC WkSess	01/15	4:00 pm
Planning Comm	01/21	5:00 pm
ZBA Meeting	01/27	5:00 pm

## 2014 TOWN COUNCIL MEETING SCHEDULE

Unless otherwise posted, 2014 Town Council meetings will be held on the second Thursday of every month at 6:00 pm at Town Hall. You are encouraged to attend these meetings.

January 09	July 10
February 13	August 14
March 13	September 11
April 10	October 09
May 08	November 13
June 12	December 11

## STAY IN TOUCH!

Understand your Town. Know the issues. Follow the events and actions of Council. Get to know the background. **We all benefit!** The Town's monthly newsletter is **your** resource, and is **posted each month on our website at [www.townofedistobeach.com](http://www.townofedistobeach.com). *Edisto Beach Comber*** subscriptions expire December 31<sup>st</sup>. If you wish to receive a paper copy of the subscription, the cost is \$10.00 annually. Please send your check to Town of Edisto Beach, 2414 Murray Street, Edisto Beach, SC, 29438.

## INSURANCE ISSUES PUBLIC MEETING

There will be a public meeting January 13, 2014, at 10:00 am at Town Hall to provide residents information on Flood Insurance and South Carolina Wind and Hail Insurance and impacts from Biggert Waters.

## RENTAL/BUSINESS LICENSE

Calendar Year 2014 Rental/Business Licenses renewal applications have been mailed. Completed applications are due on or before March 15, 2014. A 10% penalty per month applies after March 15<sup>th</sup> so please renew your license before penalty.

If you have any questions call Sara Simpson, Business License Clerk, (843) 869-2505 ext 203.

## RENTING YOUR EDISTO BEACH VACATION HOME?

An annual rental business license is required if you receive rental income from your property. The license is required whether property is for rent by owner or if rented through a rental agency. Your agency does not automatically pay this fee for you, so please check with your agency or Town Hall to obtain an application. Applications are based on the calendar year and expire December 31 each year.

Also, the Town collects a Local Accommodations Tax Fee for short term rentals; contact Town Hall for details.

## EDISTO RECIPES



### **MARINATED BLACK-EYED PEA SALAD**

1 ea. yellow and red bell pepper, finely chopped  
½ onion, finely chopped  
2 jalapeno peppers, seeded, finely chopped  
4 (15 oz) cans black-eyed peas, rinsed & drained  
2 Tbsp chopped fresh parsley  
1 clove garlic minced  
½ c red wine vinegar  
2 Tbsp balsamic vinegar  
¼ cup olive oil  
½ tsp ground cumin  
1 tsp salt  
1 tsp ground pepper  
4 slices cooked bacon, crumbled

Mix the yellow and red peppers, onion, jalapeno peppers, black-eyed peas, parsley and garlic together in a large bowl.

Whisk the red wine vinegar and balsamic vinegar together in a small bowl, gradually adding the olive oil while whisking constantly to blend with the vinegars. Pour over vegetable mixture, stirring to coat evenly. Cover and refrigerate overnight and add bacon just before serving.

**MINUTES**  
**November 14, 2013**  
**REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING**  
**6:00 P.M.**

Present: Burley L. Lyons, Mayor, Larry "Babe" Hutto, Mayor Pro Tempore, Pete Anderson, Tommy Mann and Jane S. Darby, Council Members; *Quorum of Council Present.*

Mayor Lyons welcomed guests and thanked all who served the Town of Edisto Beach.

Council Session opened with a word of prayer by Mayor Lyons who also led those present in the *Pledge of Allegiance.*

**Approval of Minutes**

Councilman Mann moved to approve the Regular Council Meeting Minutes of October 10, 2013. Councilman Hutto seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

**New Business**

**A. Swearing in of new Council Members:** Town Attorney Bert Duffie swore in Susan Hornsby and Patti Smyer, new Town Council members. Mayor Lyons welcomed the new members and thanked outgoing members Babe Hutto and Tommy Mann for their service to the Town of Edisto Beach.

**B. Nomination of Mayor Pro Tempore:** Jane Darby was elected by ballot by the Town Council to serve as Mayor Pro Tempore.

**C. Fiscal Year 2012-2013 Audit:** Eve McCoy, CPA, LLC, presented her findings to Council. She outlined two changes made by the Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) that were implemented this year. They included new wording and some new accounting, neither of which had significant impacts on the Town's financial statements. There were no other accounting policies adopted and the application of

existing policies was not significantly changed during the year ending June 30, 2013. In the 2015 fiscal year there will be a change having a major impact on the financial statement of the Town. This statement requires municipalities to record unfunded liability with the South Carolina Retirement System for employees. Ms. McCoy commended the Town on the internal control system of checks and balances.

**D. Second Amendment to Alltel Lease Agreement:** Councilwoman Darby moved to approve the second amendment to the Alltel Lease Agreement so that Alltel can put 4G towers on the existing water tower. Councilman Anderson seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

**E. Christmas Parade Special Event Application:** The 23<sup>rd</sup> Annual Christmas Parade will be held on December 14, 2013 from 2:00 – 3:30.

**F. 2014 Public Meetings and Holiday Schedule:** Councilwoman Smyer moved to accept the 2014 public meetings and holiday schedule. Councilwoman Darby seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

**G. Resolution 2013-R15 Opposing the Biggert-Waters Act:** Mayor Lyons expressed his opposition to the Biggert-Waters Act, which would drastically increase the amount paid for flood insurance. Councilman Anderson told those in attendance that a letter writing campaign against the Biggert-Waters Act would be a good idea. Councilwoman Hornsby moved to approve the Resolution, seconded by Councilwoman Darby. The motion passed unanimously.

**Proclamations and Presentations**

**A. Pancreatic Cancer Awareness Month:** Mayor Lyons read part of the Proclamation declaring November Pancreatic Cancer Awareness Month: Pancreatic Cancer is one of the deadliest cancers and is the 4<sup>th</sup> leading cause of cancer death in the U.S. Seventy-three percent of pancreatic cancer patients die within the first year of diagnosis and 94% die within the first 5 years. Edisto Beach supports the Pancreatic Cancer Action Network and encourages increased awareness about pancreatic cancer and early detection. Councilwoman Darby moved to approve the Proclamation declaring November Pancreatic Cancer Awareness Month. Councilman Anderson seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

**B. Starfish Award:** Mayor Lyons presented a Starfish Award to Robert Griffin, Firefighter. Mr. Griffin took initiative to acquire a contractor to perform and complete hose testing for the Edisto Beach Fire Department.

### Old Business

**A. Capital Project Sales Tax Program:**

Mayor Lyons told those in attendance that Alliance Consulting Engineers had made a presentation at the work session on Tuesday, November 12, 2013. The Town of Edisto Beach is being tasked with identifying projects to be submitted to the Capital Project Sales Tax Commission for consideration and inclusion in the November 2014 referendum. Submissions are due by January 30, 2014. Alliance Consulting Engineers, Inc. has been tasked with coordinating workshops throughout Colleton County to determine eligible projects and with assisting municipalities with project development for submission. Possible projects include beach renourishment, beach access repair, etc. These projects are contingent on whether or not the referendum passes. Mayor Lyons encouraged Council to submit projects if they had any ideas that might be suitable. Councilman Anderson suggested the Mayor introduce Bill Houston, who has been appointed to the Capital Project Sales Tax Committee, and resides in Edisto Beach. Administrator Hill asked Council to begin looking at the proposed projects and prioritize them since Alliance needs to develop worksheets on the projects and there is a rather tight deadline.

### Committees

**A. Municipal Elections Commission:** Jill Deardorff has applied for the opening on the MEC. Councilwoman Darby moved to approve her application to the Municipal Elections Commission. Councilman Anderson seconded the motion, which was approved unanimously.

**B. Beachfront Management Committee and Water and Sewer Committee:**

David Lybrand has tendered his resignation from both Committees. Bill Houston has resigned from the Water and Sewer Committee. Councilman Anderson moved to allow the Town Administrator to advertise for these openings. Councilwoman Darby seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

### Planning Commission

**A. 3747 Docksites Road Property Line Abandonment – Mrs. Cathy Price:**

Mayor Lyons presented a made application to the Planning Commission to abandon the existing lot line between Lot 42 and Lot 43 at 3747 Docksites Road and 3748 Docksites Road. Section 71-44 of the Town's Code requires Planning Commission review and Town Council approval. This item was approved unanimously by the Planning Commission. Councilman Anderson moved to accept the recommendation of the Planning Commission and approve the lot line abandonment. Councilwoman Darby seconded the motion, which was approved unanimously.

**B. First Reading of Ordinance 2013-13 to Adopt the PUD Zoning Map of the Town of Edisto Beach, as revised and amended.**

Section 86-33(3) of the Town's Code requires Planning Commission review and recommendation and a public hearing and action by Town Council. This was approved unanimously by the Planning Commission. Councilwoman Darby moved to approve the First Reading of Ordinance 2013-13 to Adopt the PUD Zoning Map of the Town of Edisto Beach as revised and amended. Councilman Anderson seconded the motion, which was approved unanimously.

**C. First Reading of Ordinance 2013-14 to Re-Zone Three Lots, Designated as Lot 7, Block UU, Lot 7 Block YY, and Lot 8 Block YY from R-1 Zoning District to PB Zoning District; to Authorize Amendment to the Official Zoning Map.**

Section 86-33(3) of the Town's Code requires Planning Commission review and recommendation and a public hearing and action by Town Council. This was approved unanimously by the Planning Commission. Councilwoman Darby moved to approve the first reading of ordinance 2013-14, but the motion died from lack of a second.

### Accommodations Tax Advisory Board

**A. Town of Edisto Beach – Bay Creek Park Restrooms:**

On August 2, 2012, the ATAX Board and Town Council approved \$85,000 for the construction of restrooms at Bay Creek Park. The project was bid and the bids ranged from \$79,900 to \$206,000. When negotiations failed with the lowest bidder, the Town negotiated costs with the second lowest bidder (Terry Hoff Construction). In order to meet FEMA requirements for floodproofing, the negotiated costs are \$96,568 for wet floodproofing (requires Council issue a variance) or \$120,593 for dry floodproofing. On August 1, 2013, the Town requested an additional \$50,000 from the ATAX Board for the construction of the restrooms. The

ATAX Board asked the Town to submit additional information on modular and mobile restroom costs. The Town submitted this additional information and associated costs as requested. Modular units could not be floodproofed and were eliminated from consideration. Mobile units ranged in cost from \$22,000 to \$85,000 depending on restroom configuration and amenities. One obstacle regarding mobile units was connection to the sewer system. This required a pump system. Otherwise, sewer gases would backup into the facility. The Omega line of restrooms has this capability and the prices range from \$56,000 to \$85,000 depending on configuration. After discussion by the ATAX Board, they approved an additional \$12,000 for construction of the restrooms. (If Council approves funding of \$12,000 for construction of restrooms with wet floodproofing, request Council allow a variance to provide for this type of construction Code 14-181c). Councilwoman Darby moved to approve \$12,000 in ATAX funds for the construction of the restrooms at Bay Creek Park subject to approval of a variance to allow wet proofing at a subsequent Council meeting. Councilwoman Smyer seconded the motion. Councilwoman Hornsby noted that as someone who had spent a lot of time at Bay Creek Park recently, for the park to move forward and being used in the way the Town wanted, the restrooms are a necessity. Town Attorney Duffie suggested the variance be a separate item on a future agenda for Council to vote on. Mayor Lyons called for a vote and the motion passed unanimously.

**B. Edisto Beach Fire Department – Beach Wheel Chair Replacement - \$6,500:** Mayor Lyons praised the Edisto Beach Fire Department on the success of the beach wheel chair program. Councilman Anderson moved to approve the recommendation of the ATAX Board to approve \$6,500 for beach wheel chair replacement. Councilwoman Hornsby seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

**C. Lowcountry & Resort Island Tourism Commission – promotion of Edisto Beach and the Lowcountry - \$18,900:** Mrs. Peach Morrison, Executive Director of the Commission presented material to the ATAX Board. The ATAX Board approved \$9,450 or 50% of the requested project costs. Councilwoman Hornsby moved to accept the ATAX Board recommendation of approving \$9,450 in funds. Councilman Anderson seconded the motion. Councilwoman Smyer told those in attendance that in the previous year, Council had approved \$14,000 in ATAX funds for the Lowcountry & Resort Island

Tourism Commission. She reported that she had been to the Visitors’ Center off I-95 recently and in three out of the four rooms there was ample information about Edisto. Mayor Lyons called for a vote and the motion was defeated 1 – 4. Councilwoman Smyer made a motion to approve \$14,000 for the Lowcountry & Resort Island Tourism Commission for the promotion of Edisto Beach and the Lowcountry. Councilman Anderson seconded the motion, which passed 4 – 1 with Councilwoman Hornsby opposed.

**D. Town of Edisto Beach – Bay Creek Park Electrical Upgrades - \$80,000:** Gel Engineering performed an analysis and evaluated the necessary upgrades to handle the electrical needs for events at Bay Creek Park as requested by Town Council. The estimated cost is \$80,000. The ATAX Board approved \$60,000 of the request and recommended Council provide the funding for the remainder of the costs. The vote was 5 – 1 with Member Morrow opposed. A second motion was approved by the ATAX Board that requested Council consider increasing rental rates of the park. This motion was unanimously approved. Councilman Anderson moved to approve the \$80,000 in ATAX funds for the electrical upgrades to Bay Creek Park. Councilwoman Darby seconded the motion. Councilwoman Darby mentioned that the ATAX Board may have been operating under a misconception on how much funding was available in the ATAX account. The updated balance was not as dire as the Board may have thought. Mayor Lyons called for a vote and the motion passed unanimously.

**E. Edisto United (FKA Learning through Loggerheads, Edisto Elves and Edisto Eats) 4<sup>th</sup> Annual Ultimate Chef Competition and Edisto Eats Food Festival - \$4,550:** The nonprofit organization Edisto United requests \$4,550 for the 4<sup>th</sup> Annual Ultimate Chef and Edisto Eats Food Festival. Two preliminary cookoff events will be held February 11 and February 25. The final cookoff and festival will be held March 15 in the McConkey’s Jungle Shack parking lot. This request was unanimously approved by the ATAX Board. Councilman Anderson moved to approve the ATAX Board’s recommendation. Councilwoman Darby seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

## **Departmental Reports and Committee Updates**

Administration

The finance report was presented by Iris Hill, Town Administrator, for the month of October, 2013.

	Received	Spent
General Fund	32.71%	32.65%
Water Fund	24.57%	36.08%
Wastewater Fund	23.26%	28.93%

Administrator Hill thanked Maxine Burton, Financial and Budget Analyst for the Town of Edisto Beach, and the department heads for their work on the audit.

#### Building Department

The Building Department report was given by Patrick Brown for the month ending October 31, 2013. Mr. Brown thanked Council for approving the ATAX funds for the Bay Creek Park electrical upgrades and the restrooms.

	Oct - 12	Oct - 13	YTD
Business/Rental License Fees	\$2,561	\$1,388	\$5647
New Construction Permits	1	2	4
Other Permits	29	32	116
Permit Fees	\$5,408	\$6,723	\$17,642
Inspections	82	59	129
Bay Creek Park		\$1,405	\$5,640

#### Fire Department

Chief Denney Conley gave the report for the month ending October 31, 2013.

Calls	Oct-12	Oct-13	YTD
Medical	15	16	130
Fire-related	3	3	23
Public Assistance	15	19	222
Beach Wheel Chairs	11	7	72

New pavers are being installed around the Fire Department. The work on the Chief's office has been completed (windows, new paint, new flooring) and the inside of the station has been painted.

#### Police Department

The Police Department report was presented by Chief Bill Coffey for the month of October 2013.

	Oct-12	Oct-13	YTD
Citations	13	46	166
Speeding	8	36	138
Warnings	39	108	335
Alarm Calls	22	21	66
Calls for 2 or More Officers	9	16	56
Miles Patrolled	5,142	7,638	32,620
Assaults	0	0	4
Larcenies	1	3	32
Burglaries	0	0	2
Incidents & Calls for Service	45	79	486
Golf Cart Violations	1	0	2
Domestic Violence Calls	0	0	0
Property Checks	1074	1,902	6,777
Open Container	-	-	-
D.U.I.	-	-	-
CDV Arrest	-	-	-
Disorderly Conduct	2	4	6
Animal Control Call	-	2	8

Chief Coffey reported that the cameras were up and working.

#### Utilities Department

Bob Doub, Utilities Director, gave the report for October 2013.

	Oct -12	Oct -13	YTD
Pumped MG Water Treated	18.81	16.86	96.23
Wastewater	3.60	4.59	22.14
Water Line Repairs Work Order	2	4	14
Repairs	117	62	429

Mr. Doub reported that his department has been maintaining vehicles and equipment, lift stations and wells, as well as assisting with Trick-Or-Treat at the Creek set-up.

#### Public Works Department

Public Works Director Bob Doub gave the report for October 2013.

	Oct -12	Oct -13	YTD
Mowed Acres	22.10	12.28	332
Cleaned	6,178ft	5,859ft	20,260ft

Ditches			
Roll	Carts		
Delivered		10	5
			41

The Public Works Department also cut and cleaned palm trees and shrubs at every beach access. They replaced broken boards at walk-overs and cut shrubs around the Marina parking area.

There was no Chamber of Commerce report this month.

**Public Comment Period**

Amy Lima - Ms. Lima, owner of property across from the lots that are proposed for rezoning, thanked Council for not moving forward with the rezoning.

Bob Doub - Mr. Doub clarified for those in attendance the reasoning behind the proposed rezoning: to have space for his department to store gravel, rocks, sand and beach fencing supplies that are used for services for the Town and its residents.

**Adjournment**

Councilman Anderson moved to go into Executive Session to be briefed by the Town Attorney on a legal matter. Councilwoman Hornsby seconded the motion, which was passed unanimously.

Councilwoman Darby moved to exit Executive Session, seconded by Councilman Anderson. The motion was passed unanimously.

**Edisto Chamber of Commerce Special Event Application** - Councilwoman Hornsby moved to approve the Christmas Parade application from the Edisto Chamber of Commerce. Councilwoman Darby seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Councilwoman Darby moved to adjourn the meeting. Councilman Anderson seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

*The media/public was duly notified of the date, time and location of the meeting on Friday, November 8, 2013.*