

The Edisto Beach Comber

TOWN OF EDISTO BEACH NEWSLETTER, EDISTO BEACH, SOUTH CAROLINA (843) 869-2505

February 2014 – website: www.townofedistobeach.com

MONTHLY MEETINGS

TIDE Committee	03/05	10:00 am
Council WkSess	03/11	10:00 am
Municipal Court	03/13	2:00 pm
Town Council	03/13	6:00 pm
ZBA Meeting	03/17	5:00 pm
PC WkSess	03/19	4:00 pm
Planning Comm	03/25	5:00 pm

FROM THE EDISTO BEACH POLICE DEPARTMENT

Planning to leave town? The Edisto Beach Police Department offers house checks to property owners and residents of Edisto Beach; just call the Police Department if you would like us to make periodic checks of your house. We can place your home on our house check list for up to 30 days. The only thing we ask is that if you return home early or will have an extended absence for any reason, give us a call and keep us informed. Before you leave we recommend that you make every effort to safeguard against potential losses by securing high value property, installing and maintaining proper locking devices, alarms, etc. Have a safe and enjoyable time away!

UTILITY BILLS ARE DUE!

The Utility Department recently converted from envelope invoices to postcards and emails to reduce costs. During this conversion, our software contractor made an error when programming the utility billing system which resulted in bills being sent to the wrong addresses. We apologize for the inconvenience many of you have experienced with this billing cycle. As a result, we have waived late fees and are calling customers who have outstanding balances to ensure they received the invoice. We appreciate your patience as we work through this conversion. If you have any questions or need further help, please contact Kelly Burris at (843) 869-2505, ext. 201.

EDISTO RECIPES

Irish Pound Cake

- 1 cup butter, softened
- 1 8 oz pkg cream cheese, softened
- 6 large eggs at room temperature
- 2 cups sugar
- 2 Tbsp all-purpose flour
- 2 cups self-rising flour
- 1/8 tsp ground mace (or nutmeg)
- 1 tsp vanilla extract
- 1 jigger (1.5 ounce) Irish whiskey

DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME BEGINS March 9th

Don't forget to turn your clocks forward one hour on Saturday night, March 8th as Daylight Savings Time begins Sunday, March 9th at 2:00 a.m.

FROM THE BUILDING DEPARTMENT

Just a reminder to all property owners and contractors, come by Town Hall **before** proceeding with work on your home or lot to see if it is necessary to obtain a permit.

**Town of Edisto Beach
Business License Renewals
are due by
March 15th, 2014**

SPRING BEGINS



Celebrate the first day of Spring on Thursday, March 20th!



Preheat oven to 350°. Grease and flour a tube pan. Beat the butter and cream cheese with an electric mixer in a large bowl until light and fluffy. Beat in the sugar until well blended. Add the eggs one at a time, allowing each to blend into the butter mixture before adding the next. Beat in the 2 Tbsp flour with the last egg. Stir in the remaining 2 cups flour until just combined, then stir in the mace, vanilla, and whiskey. Pour into prepared tube pan and bake for approximately 1 hour or until toothpick inserted into center comes out clean. Cool in pan 10 minutes before removing to cool completely on wire rack. Enjoy!

BEACH COMBER TREASURES



BLACK-NECKED STILT

The Black-Necked Stilt is a locally abundant shorebird of American wetland and coastlines. Adults have long pink legs and a long thin black bill. They are white below and have black wings and backs. The tail is white with some grey banding. A continuous area of black extends from the back along the hind neck to the head. There, it forms a cap covering the entire head from the top to just below eye level, with the exception of the areas surrounding the bill and a small white spot above the eye. Downy young are light olive brown with lengthwise rows of black speckles on the upperparts and dull white elsewhere.

The Black-Necked Stilt forages by probing and gleaning primarily in mudflats and very shallow waters near shores where it seeks out a range of aquatic invertebrates. For feeding areas, they prefer coastal estuaries and surrounding wetland.

The North American populations of the Black-Necked Stilt have somewhat declined in the 20th century, mainly due to conversion of habitat for human use and pollution affecting both the birds directly as well as their food stocks. But altogether, the population is healthy and occurs over a large range.

HAPPY ST. PATRICK'S DAY
Monday, March 17th

HAVE A GOOD ST. PATTY'S DAY

The Edisto Art Guild Presents
The Edisto Players in
THE SECOND LADY

A Political Frolic by JACK SHARKEY



Edisto Beach Civic Center
 Friday, March 21 & Saturday, March 22,
 2014 7:30 pm

Sunday, March 23, 2014 3:00 pm

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Advance tickets available at
 Beachcombers Salon,
 The Edistonian & Edisto True Value at
 \$10.00 each.
 At the door, if available, \$12.00 each

MINUTES

January 9, 2014

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING

6:00 P.M.

Present: Burley L. Lyons, Mayor, Jane S. Darby, Mayor Pro Tempore, Pete Anderson and Patti Smyer, Council Members; Susan Hornsby, Council Member, was absent due to a family emergency; *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 Councilwoman Darby, who also led those present in the *Pledge of Allegiance*.

Approval of Minutes

Councilwoman Darby moved to approve the Public Hearing minutes of December 12, 2013. Councilman Anderson seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved.

Councilwoman Smyer moved to approve the Regular Meeting Minutes of December 12, 2013. Councilwoman Darby seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Proclamations and Presentations

A. Starfish Award - Mayor Lyons recognized Kelly Burris with a Starfish Award for decorating Town Hall for Christmas on her own time.

B. Colleton County Memorial Library - Carl Coffin and Joyce Chaplin presented information to Council on services offered by the Colleton County Library System. Mr. Coffin spoke about the SCLends program, a consortium consisting of seventeen counties from the state of South Carolina that share resources and the services it offers. A central catalog can be accessed with a library card, and items from the consortium can be reserved and sent to the Edisto Beach Library. The Colleton County Library is a member of the Jasmine Digital Library that allows the card holder access to over 4,800 digital titles, including children's books. Mrs. Chaplin spoke to Council about the Colleton County Library Cookbook and invites Edisto Beach residents to submit recipes for inclusion. The library is also tracing the history of the bookmobile to show its effectiveness. To learn more about the library, visit their website at colletonlibrary.org. Councilwoman Darby invited everyone to join the Friends of the Library.

Old Business

A. Capital Project Sales Tax Resolution - At the November 2013 meeting, Council was given a list of potential projects for consideration for the proposed Capital Project Sales Tax initiative. Alliance Engineering is working on the required project worksheets for submission by January 30, 2014. At the December 2013 meeting, Council unanimously approved to submit beach renourishment for consideration by the Capital Project Sales Tax Committee. This submission requires a resolution by Council. Councilwoman Darby moved to approve Resolution 2014-R02,

Capital Project Sales Tax Resolution – Beach Renourishment. Councilman Anderson seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

B. Update Army Corps of Engineers Feasibility Study

– The Army Corps of Engineers (ACOE) has suggested a change in the nourishment interval cycle. According to the "model" and the vertical team, our project manager has been instructed they must use sixteen (16) years as the nourishment interval as it provides the most benefit per cost. The model (Beach FX) being used is new and has not been proven. During the discussion regarding the interval cycle with the vertical team, the engineers on our project team recommended the vertical team consider using a combination of data from the model and what is typical for like projects on the Atlantic coast. This was not received favorably by the vertical team and their decision was to use the recommended interval cycle as indicated by the Beach FX model. Using this interval increases our benefit to cost ratio from 1:1 to 1:2, which means, from a budgetary standpoint, we would be higher on the list for receiving federal funds. This change was done after the close of the public comment period; therefore, the public was not given an opportunity to have their comments documented. Brett Walters, representing the Army Corps of Engineers, addressed the ACOE requesting that Council consider a non-federal sponsored self-certification of financial capability and provide a letter of intent in support of the selected plan. The ACOE sent a copy of the modified report to Council. Mr. Walters reminded Council that he had advocated caution when considering the reliability of the Beach FX model. That recommendation was overruled by the vertical team. Councilwoman Darby asked if Council could state in the letter of approval points of contention such as the sixteen year cycle. Mr. Walters stated he thought that would suffice. Mayor Lyons asked if the cost could be guaranteed by the ACOE. Mr. Walters stated the cost could not be guaranteed, but indicated the cost may be less than projected. Councilwoman Darby asked if any federal funds had been allocated for the project. Mr. Walters stated there were no federally allocated funds at this time, and there wouldn't be until Congress authorizes and appropriates money. Mayor Lyons asked what would happen if Council did not approve writing a letter of support for the project at tonight's meeting. Mr. Walters stated the project would not go forward without the support of the Town. Councilwoman Darby made a motion to go forward with the letter of support including reservations of Council. Councilman

Anderson seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

C. Bay Creek Park Update – Request Council consideration and approval for the Town Administrator to negotiate and the Mayor to sign the contract authorizing construction of the Bay Creek Park restrooms and authorize the Administrator to negotiate, award and the Mayor to execute the contract for the electrical upgrades for Bay Creek Park. Patrick Brown provided Council with an update on the progress of the two projects. Mr. Brown gave Council drawings of the exterior of the restrooms and stated the design is being finalized. The electrical design is in the process of being finalized. The drawings should be done within a week and the project would be bid. Councilwoman Darby moved to authorize the Mayor to sign the contract for authorization of the building of the restrooms and authorize the Administrator to negotiate and award and the Mayor to sign the contract for the electrical upgrades. Councilwoman Smyer seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

New Business

A. Request from Leland Vaughan – Mr. Leland Vaughan asked Council for special consideration regarding payment of the current water and sewer charges for the Plantation Golf Course. He would like to make equal monthly payments over the first six months of 2014. Town Attorney Duffie cautioned Council that since the Town has a specific Ordinance addressing the payment of utility fees, Council can only allow changes by adopting an additional Ordinance. The proposed agreement can be considered as the first reading of Ordinance 2014-03, with the second reading to be held at the February meeting. Councilwoman Darby asked Mr. Duffie if passing this Ordinance would change the Ordinance already in place. Mr. Duffie said that the Ordinance would not change the codified rules, but would suspend the codified rule as to this situation to allow the Town to enter into the agreement with Edisto Golf, LLC. It is not an Ordinance changing the section of the Town’s code, it is an Ordinance that would suspend the application of that section in order to allow for the payback agreement in question. Councilman Anderson moved to approve the first reading of Ordinance 2014-03 to Suspend Section 82-1(b) as it relates to Edisto Golf’s request for a short term repayment plan. Councilwoman Smyer seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Planning Commission

A. 104 Jungle Road, Bi-Lo, LLC – Interior Renovations. Bi-Lo, LLC made application with the Planning Commission for interior alterations of a retail grocery store including new finishes, fixtures and equipment, which is located in the C-3 district. The application has been reviewed by the building department and is in order, and was approved unanimously by the Planning Commission. Per Section 86-141(i) of the Town’s Code: *Application procedure:* each application for a building permit for new construction, remodeling, or a change in floor plan or for a change in use permit or a change in the parking requirements in an area zoned C-3 shall be reviewed by the Planning Commission and approved by Town Council. Review and approval of general maintenance, repair and upkeep of structural and mechanical elements shall not require review and approval by the Planning Commission and the Town Council respectively. Councilwoman Smyer moved to approve the application for interior alterations made by Bi-Lo, LLC. Councilman Anderson seconded the motion which was approved unanimously.

Departmental Reports and Committee Updates

Administration

Town Administrator Iris Hill presented the finance report for December 2013.

	Received	Spent
General Fund	40.06%	52.82%
Water Fund	61.33%	55.27%
Wastewater Fund	58.54%	44.91%

Administrator Hill reported that Jared Fralix of the Colleton Transportation Committee sent an email stating that any excess funds approved from “C” funds for drainage issues, along with excess grant money from the Sidewalk Enhancement projects can be used for the Myrtle Street extension paving. The Town needs to submit a request to the CTC asking that the excess funds be used for the Myrtle Street extension paving.

Building Department

Codes Administrator Patrick Brown gave the report for December 2013

	Dec -12	Dec- 13	YTD
Business/Rental License Fees	\$8,272	\$8,498	\$17,901
New Construction Permits	0	3	7
Other Permits	25	19	135
Permit Fees	\$2,420	\$7,366	\$29,573
Inspections	133	60	296
Bay Creek Park	0	0.00	\$5,800

Fire Department

Billy Callahan gave the Fire Department report for December 2013.

Calls	Dec - 12	Dec - 13	YTD
Medical	5	34	184
Fire-related	2	6	33
Public Assistance	12	22	263
Beach Wheel Chairs	1	3	75

The Fire Department is conducting a First Responders Course this month. Preventative maintenance has been performed on the ladder truck, the squad and the engine. Four sets of turnout gear have been purchased. A gift card was received from a grateful patron for the response of the Fire Department to an allergic reaction.

Police Department

The December 2013 report was given by Police Chief Bill Coffey.

	Dec-12	Dec- 13	YTD
Citations	14	27	258
Speeding	4	20	220
Warnings	30	74	506
Alarm Calls	16	19	112
Calls for 2 or More Officers	8	19	76
Miles Patrolled	7,020	7,705	48,656
Assaults	-	0	4
Larcenies	3	0	37
Burglaries	-	0	3
Incidents & Calls for Service	37	69	555
Golf Cart Violations	-	0	2
Domestic Violence Calls	-	0	0
Property Checks	1,861	2,385	12,021
Open Container	-	0	1
D.U.I.	-	-	-
CDV Arrest	-	-	-
Disorderly Conduct	2	0	6
Animal Control Call	-	1	12

Chief Coffey introduced Andy Harrison, the Town's newest graduate of the South Carolina Criminal Justice Academy and a Certified Class I Officer.

Utilities Department

Bob Doub, Utilities Director, gave the Utilities Department Report for December 2013.

	Dec -12	Dec -13	YTD
Pumped Water MG	10.22	8.82	117.84
Treated Wastewater MG	2.85	2.77	29.47
Water Line Repairs	2	2	20
Work Orders	108	60	597

The Utilities Department has been working on pumps at Lift Station B in the Gun Bluff area trying to alleviate bypass pumping. Replacement parts have been ordered. Utilities operators attended an eight hour asbestos training class and are now certified to work on asbestos pipe. Quinn McCollum took and passed his "D" level Biological Wastewater Exam. Two operators will be going to Water Distribution class this month and Wastewater class next month. Councilwoman Smyer asked Mr. Doub if the portable pumping station was still in use. Mr. Doub reported that it was.

Public Works Department

Bob Doub gave the report from the Public Works Department for the month of December 2013.

	Dec -12	Dec -13	YTD
Mowed Acres	0	0	332
Cleaned Ditches	5,799 ft	5,271 ft	36,942
Roll Carts Delivered	32	2	48

The Public Works Department has been busy helping with Christmas decorations and cleaning beach accesses, bike paths and parks.

Chamber of Commerce

The Chamber report was given by Dan Carter, Chamber Director.

- On January 10, 2014, Mr. Carter will be interviewed with Lowcountry Biz South Carolina, an online magazine (<http://lowcountrybizsc.com/>)
- Upstate Lake Living Magazine will be visiting to gather information for an upcoming story on the lowcountry.
- On March 15th, the Edisto Road Race will take place, along with the Edisto Eats Festival.
- The Edisto Art Guild will present the play "The Second Lady" March 20 – 23.

Public Comment Period

No one was signed in to speak.

Adjournment

Mayor Lyons reminded Council of the annual retreat on February 20, 2014 starting at 9:00 a.m. in Council Chambers. Mayor Lyons told those in attendance about the meeting on Monday, January 13, 2014 at 10:00 a.m. with the National Flood Insurance Program Coordinator, Maria Cox Lamm along with Mr. Smitty Harrison and Mr. Joseph McDonald from the SC Wind and Hail and SC Insurance Programs, respectively. Councilwoman Darby suggested that the Emergency Management team, along with the fire and police departments and the Administrator look at an emergency preparedness operation in case of any more freezing weather.

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

The media/public was duly notified of the date, time and location of the meeting on Friday, January 3, 2014.