

# The Edisto Beach Comber

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

March, 2013 – website: [www.townofedistobeach.com](http://www.townofedistobeach.com)

## MONTHLY MEETINGS

Tide Committee	04/03	10:00 am
Council WkSess	04/09	10:00 am
Municipal Court	04/11	2:00 pm
Town Council	04/11	6:00 pm
ZBA Meeting	04/15	5:00 pm
PC WkSess	04/17	4:00 pm
Plann Comm	04/23	5:00 pm

## EDISTO PRIDE & EDISTO ISLAND COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION



### **Great American Cleanup Day**

Saturday

April 13, 2013

9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon

Meet at Highway 174 Community Center

All volunteers who wish to help pick up litter along our scenic roadsides are welcome!

For information please contact:

[edistopride@aol.com](mailto:edistopride@aol.com) or

Ida Tipton 869-4422

## 2013 TOWN COUNCIL GOALS

At their annual retreat in February, Council decided on the following goals for 2013:

- Equitable State ATAX Legislation
- Staff Priorities
- General Budget/Special Finances
- Beach Management and Preservation
- Water Quality Improvement
- Governmental Relationships

## HOLIDAY CLOSING



In observance of Good Friday, Town Hall will be closed Friday, March 29<sup>th</sup>.

## GARBAGE PICK-UP

Twice weekly (Monday and Friday) garbage service will resume April 1<sup>st</sup>.



**Garbage containers must be placed at the curbside no later than 6:00 am on the morning of pick-up. Please remember to roll your cart back to your house after pick-up.**

Yard debris will continue to be picked up on Tuesday.

Yard debris is defined as material resulting from **normal and routine yard maintenance**. Normal and routine yard maintenance means mowing and raking, shrubbery prunings, pick-up of fallen limbs and fronds, and other activities related to the routine and ongoing maintenance of lawn and associated shrubbery. The term **does not** include tree cuttings or pruning. Yard debris shall be placed in neat piles at curbside adjacent to owner's property or at the property line nearest the street with the following limitations:

- a. Materials are not to be placed on an adjoining lot whether vacant or otherwise.
- b. Leaves, pine straw, pampas and grass clippings, small shrubbery clippings, etc., must be placed in sturdy bags or other suitable containers. Such loose material placed at the curb will not be collected.
- c. Brush, limbs, and shrubbery trimmings shall:
  1. Be no more than six inches in diameter.
  2. Be no more than five feet in length with all small limbs trimmed from larger limbs.
  3. Weigh no more than 30 pounds each.

## YARD DEBRIS

The remainder of large piles of yard debris that can't be picked up in a 15 minute timeframe can either be disposed at the Convenience Station by the owners or will be picked up at a later date.

## **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, if you rent your home you are required to have at least 2 garbage cans. The Town collects a Local Accommodations Tax Fee for short term rentals; contact Town Hall for details.



### **EASTER SUNRISE SERVICE**

The Non-Denominational Easter Sunrise Service will be held in the Pavilion Parking lot beginning at 6:30 am Easter morning, Sunday, March 31<sup>st</sup>.

## **EDISTO ISLAND SPRING ARTS & CRAFTS SHOW & SALE**

The Edisto Chamber of Commerce is sponsoring *The Edisto Art Guild Arts and Crafts Show and Sale*. For vendor information or applications call 869-3867.



Saturday, March 30<sup>th</sup>  
10:00 am to 4:00 pm  
The Edistonian General Store  
406 Highway 174

## **BEACH COMBER TREASURES**



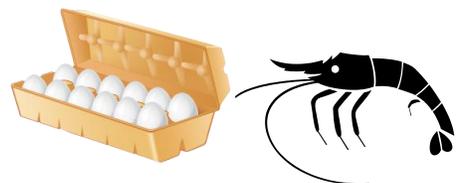
**LITTLE BLUE HERON**

The little blue heron is a small heron that stands about two feet tall and has a wingspan of about 40 inches. It has slate-blue feathers with a maroon neck and head. Its bill which curves slightly downward is gray with a black tip. Males and females look alike.

They breed from New England south to Florida and make their homes in freshwater swamps, lagoons, coastal thickets and islands. They eat fish, crustaceans, amphibians, insects and reptiles. Like other herons, they stand in shallow water and wait for its prey to go by, and then grab it with their pointed bill.

Look for this colorful small heron the next time you are on the beach.

## **EDISTO RECIPES**



### **Shrimp Deviled Eggs**

12 eggs	½ cup mayonnaise
2 tsp butter	1 tsp mustard
1 cup small salad shrimp	¼ cup pickle relish
1 green onion, chopped	1 dash hot sauce
1 pinch garlic powder	1 Tbsp fresh parsley

Boil eggs, slice in half and scoop out yolks into a bowl. Mash the yolks with a fork. Melt butter in a skillet and cook over medium heat the shrimp, green onion and garlic powder in until shrimp are done. Mince shrimp mixture and add to yolks with remaining ingredients (except parsley). Pipe or spoon into egg halves and garnish with chopped parsley. Chill for at least 30 minutes before serving.

**MINUTES**  
**FEBRUARY 14, 2013**  
**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 Councilman Anderson who also led those present in the *Pledge of Allegiance*.

**Approval of Minutes**

Councilman Mann moved to approve the Special Council Meeting Minutes of January 24, 2013. Councilman Hutto seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

**Proclamations and Presentations**

**A. Proclamation in recognition of Katie Smith** – Mayor Lyons read a portion of a proclamation in recognition of Katie Smith, daughter of Rick and Kathy Smith, for her achievements representing Team USA in the 2013 Special Olympic Winter Games.

**B. Starfish Awards**

**a. SCE&G** – Mayor Lyons presented a Starfish Award to SCE&G, accepted by John Newton and Tim Smith, in recognition of their support for the Town of Edisto Beach with their Christmas decoration efforts. Councilman Mann expressed thanks on behalf of the Town for the shields on light posts protecting our sea turtles during nesting season.

**b. Edisto Chamber of Commerce** – Mayor Lyons presented a Starfish Award to the Edisto Chamber, accepted by Board Chairman Bob Foster, for their efforts in promoting Edisto Beach during the off season.

**C. Lowcountry Leadership Charter School** –

Jodi Crosby gave an update on the Lowcountry Leadership Charter School. The new facility has been selected: the former St. Paul's Academy will be leased by the LLCS. The groundbreaking ceremony will take place in March, and renovations will be completed by the first day of school. Mrs. Mache Larkin has been selected as the principal and applications for teachers are being accepted. LLCS is still accepting late

applications for enrollment consideration and space availability changes constantly. There is a temporary office located in the back offices of the Greenhouse next to the Piggly Wiggly in Hollywood. Open House and other information is located on the LLCS website: [www.lowcountryleadershipcharterschool.org/](http://www.lowcountryleadershipcharterschool.org/).

**Old Business**

**A. Memorandum of First Amendment to Water Tower Attachment Communication site Agreement** – On November 8, 2012 Council approved the First Amendment to Water Tower Attachment Communication Site Agreement for Alltel to install additional antennae on the water tower. This memorandum modifies the property leased. Councilwoman Darby made a motion to approve this memorandum. The motion was seconded by Councilman Hutto, and it carried unanimously.

**B. Resolution 2013-R04 Ordering an Advisory Referendum Regarding the Issuance of Up to \$8,462,250 in Revenue Bonds By the Town of Edisto Beach to Fund Construction, Operation, and Maintenance of a Reverse Osmosis System** – At the January 24, 2013 special Council meeting with the Water and Sewer Committee, Council approved ordering an advisory referendum to provide voters an opportunity to decide whether to proceed with constructing a reverse osmosis facility with a corresponding debt of up to \$8,462,250 to be financed by revenue bonds. This debt would increase water rates. Councilman Mann made the motion to approve the Resolution 2013-R04. Councilman Hutto seconded the motion. Councilman Mann pointed out that the estimate is based on the engineering feasibility. The plan is to go forward with a design/build plan, which typically helps lower the cost. Councilwoman Darby asked if the date in the Resolution of June 25, 2013 is not met would Council have to pass the Resolution with a new date. Town Attorney Bert Duffie responded that an Amendment to the Resolution would be sufficient. Mayor Lyons called for a vote and the motion passed unanimously.

**C. Financial Participation Agreement and Contract Between the South Carolina Department of Transportation and Town of Edisto Beach** –

In January 2012, the Town of Edisto Beach was awarded a \$400,000 grant from the Department of Transportation to make the sidewalks from Baynard to Atlantic ADA compliant. An additional component of the project is drainage. The \$321,165 in matching

"C" funds has already been submitted to the Department of Transportation. Councilman Anderson made the motion to approve the Participation Agreement and approve the Mayor to execute same. Councilman Mann seconded the motion, which was approved unanimously.

**D. Army Corps of Engineers Locally Preferred Plan**

– The Beachfront Management Committee met on January 30, 2013 with Costal Science Engineering (CSE) and recommends Council approve a locally preferred plan based on the CSEW Assessment of the Groin Field and Conceptual plan for Groin Lengthening Report Scenario 1 (page 36). Although the estimated cost of Scenario 1 is \$10.9 million, this value would be significantly reduced because portions of the lengthening are included in the Corps recommendation which is cost shared. On September 29, 2006, the Town of Edisto Beach and the Army Corps of Engineers entered into an agreement for the Edisto Island Hurricane and Storm Damage Reduction Feasibility Study. The purpose of this study is to qualify for future (50 years) federal funding for beach nourishment. The Corps is required to recommend the National Economic Development (NED) plan. The local sponsor can opt to submit a locally preferred plan (LPP) where the local sponsor would fund project features with costs in addition to the NED plan. The Town would be responsible for 100% of the costs above what is recommended by the Corps. After re-examining the overall cost of the LPP, Administrator Hill said it would be between five and six million dollars, as opposed to the \$10.9 million. Councilwoman Darby made a motion to not submit a locally preferred plan. Councilman Hutto seconded the motion. Councilman Mann reiterated the fact that the Town had entered into the agreement with the federal government and has approximately one million dollars invested to date. Last year Council created the Beachfront Management Committee, which has done a lot of work in determining ways to keep the sand we have currently on the beach. Councilman Mann had questions about how the project would be funded, ultimately, and has talked with Colleton County Council about the project and asked them to begin setting aside funds with which to assist. Councilman Mann stated he would be disappointed to see the diligent work of the Beachfront Management Committee in putting together an alternative go to waste. He reminded Council that there is no cost in putting the locally preferred plan before the Corps. Councilman Anderson brought up the point that if Council did not put the LPP before the Corps then the town would not be eligible for the project in the future. Mayor Lyons called for a vote, and

the motion was defeated 2 - 3, with Councilman Anderson, Mayor Lyons and Councilman Mann opposed. Councilman Anderson made a motion to submit a locally preferred plan. Councilman Mann seconded the motion, which passed 3 - 2, with Councilwoman Darby and Councilman Hutto opposed.

**E. Second Reading of Ordinance 2013-01 to Amend Chapter 50 to Establish Beach Patrol Code Enforcement Officers**

– On October 11, 2012, Council requested the Town Attorney draft an ordinance that authorized beach patrol to enforce Town Ordinances. Councilman Mann made a motion to approve the second reading of Ordinance 2013-01. Councilman Hutto seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

**New Business/Apearances**

**A. Six Month Budget Adjustments** – Various budget adjustments have resulted in an overall decrease in general fund revenues from \$3,463,671 to \$3,428,233 with the largest adjustment resulting from a decrease in property taxes by \$85,818. Attention is called to two significant changes in general fund expenditures: 1) the purchase of property on Murray Street at a cost of \$97,674 and 2) a reduction in contingency funds by \$90,650 for an adjusted contingency line item of \$25,964. The Water and Sewer Funds also have minor adjustments, but do not result in any significant changes. A motion was made by Councilman Hutto to approve the six month budget adjustment. Councilman Anderson seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

**B. Public Relations – Utilities** – The Water and Sewer Committee requests Council approval to issue a request for proposals from public relations firms to assist the Town in developing public relations material to educate the public about the proposed Reverse Osmosis project at a cost not to exceed \$10,000. The recommended plan consists of 2 mailings, 2 public hearings and a website survey that would occur prior to the referendum. Councilman Mann made a motion to approve the request of the Water and Sewer Committee. Councilman Anderson seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

**C. Special Event Application for the Edisto Beach Road Race**

– The Edisto Beach Road Race is to be held March 16, 2013 from 8:00 – 11:00 am and is sponsored by the Edisto Chamber of Commerce. There will be road closures but they are within the Wyndham properties. Councilwoman Darby moved to approve the special events application.

Councilman Hutto seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

**D. Special Event Application for the Edisto Marina Governor's Cup and Billfishing Tournament** – The Edisto Marina Governor's Cup and Billfishing Tournament is to be held July 23 through July 27, 2013. Councilman Hutto made a motion to approve the special event application, but to deny the request for the waiver of park fees and deposits (\$1,960) for the use of Bay Creek Park for the event. Councilman Mann seconded the motion, which was approved unanimously, with Councilwoman Darby recusing herself due to a conflict of interest.

**E. Resolution 2013-R05 Opposing any Tax Increases as a Result of Colleton County Ordinance 13-O-02.** Colleton County will be proposing an ordinance to reorganize E-911 and Emergency Operations. Council opposes any changes that result in increased taxes to its residents. Councilwoman Darby moved to approve Resolution 2013-R02. Councilman Anderson seconded the motion which was approved unanimously.

#### **Planning Commission**

**A. 3730 Dock Site Road – Darrin Moore – Dockside Restaurant and Bar** – Mr. Darrin Moore has made an application for a change in the use permit regarding the upstairs portion of his business from restaurant to retail space. This item was unanimously approved by the Planning Commission. Councilman Mann moved to approve the application, seconded by Councilwoman Darby. Patrick Brown assured Council that the current seating chart and parking requirements were up to code. The motion was approved unanimously.

#### **Accommodation Tax Board**

**A. Town of Edisto Beach Fire Department – Polaris UTV (Utility Terrain Vehicle) 6-Wheel Beach Vehicle - \$15,500** – The Fire Department submitted a request for \$15,500 to the ATAX Board for the purchase of a Polaris UTV, which was approved unanimously by the ATAX Board. The current UTV, purchased by the Volunteer Fire Department and used to transport medical patients from the beachfront to an ambulance, has deteriorated. The cost to repair the vehicle exceeds its current value. Councilman Mann made a motion to table the approval of the application, due to the fact that Council had asked the Colleton County if they would partner with the Town of Edisto Beach.

Colleton County officials responded that it might be possible for the EBFD to get one the two ATVs they have on hand. Councilman Anderson seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

**B. Town of Edisto Beach Police Department – Beach Patrol 2013 - \$22,612** – The Police Department submitted a request for \$22,612 to the ATAX Board for the purchase of an additional ATV and salaries for Beach Patrol members. The ATAX Board unanimously approved the request. The current beach patrol ATV is on the depreciation schedule for the Town and is due to be replaced in 2014. Councilwoman Darby made the motion to approve the funding for the salaries of the Beach Patrol, but to table the purchase of the ATV until further information on the Colleton County ATV is known. After some discussion, Councilwoman Darby withdrew her motion. Councilman Mann made a motion that Council approve the ATAX application but ask that the Police Chief not execute a purchase until the questions are answered relative to the ATV Colleton County is considering giving to us. Councilwoman Darby seconded the motion, which passed unanimously. During the worksession, Chief Coffey informed Council the funds from the ATV depreciation would be used for other purposes.

**C. Town of Edisto Beach Police Department – Wireless Digital Camera Network - \$59,645** – The Police Department submitted a request for \$59,645 to the ATAX Board for the purchase of a wireless digital camera network to be used as a force multiplier. Although the police department is fully staffed (7 full-time patrol officers and 2 deputies), these cameras will be used to multiply the force to accommodate the safety of tourists and observe high traffic areas such as Bay Creek Park and the intersection of Jungle Road and Palmetto Boulevard. The application was unanimously approved by the ATAX Board. Councilman Mann moved the application be approved. Councilman Hutto seconded the motion. The motion was approved 4 – 1, with Councilwoman Darby opposed.

**D. SCDNR Harry Hampton, Governor's Cup - \$9,000** – An application was submitted for the SCDNR Harry Hampton Governor's Cup to be held July 23 – 27, 2013, in the amount of \$9,000. After discussion by the ATAX Board, the Board approved reduced funding in the amount of \$7,800, of which \$300 was designated for additional law enforcement for the event. Councilman Anderson moved that the application be approved as stated for \$7,800. Councilman Anderson asked if ATAX funds could be used to

rent Bay Creek Park, and Administrator Hill said that was correct. Councilman Anderson then withdrew his motion. Councilman Hutto moved to approve the \$7,800 in ATAX funds for the Governor's Cup, with the stipulation that \$300 of the \$7,800 designated for police and \$1,960 of the \$7,800 be used to rent the park. Councilman Anderson seconded the motion, which carried unanimously, with Councilwoman Darby recusing herself due to conflict of interest.

**E. Low Country Classic - \$10,000** - An application was submitted by the Low Country Classic, LLC for the golf tournament to be held April 5 - 6, 2013 in the amount of \$10,000. After discussion, the ATAX Board unanimously approved a reduced funding in the amount of \$7,000 contingent upon success in gaining non-profit status. Councilman Anderson moved to approve \$5,000 in ATAX funds be awarded to the Low Country Classic. 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 ending January 31, 2013.

	Received	Spent
General Fund	64.12%	59.30%
Water Fund	80.94%	56.65%
Wastewater Fund	65.50%	50.27%

Building Report

Patrick Brown, gave the Building Department Report for the month of January 2013.

	Jan-12	Jan-13	YTD
Business/Rental License Fees	\$33,611	\$17,572	\$37,118
New Construction Permits	1	0	7
Other Permits	28	30	192
Permit Fees	\$4,058	\$3,226	\$30,349
Inspections	81	70	591
Bay Creek Park	N/A	0	\$4,966

Mr. Brown told the Council that Rebecca Brown, Code Enforcement Officer was resigning effective February 15, 2013. Her services will be missed.

Fire Department

Chief Larry Waddle gave the report for the month of January 2013.

Calls	January-12	January-13	YTD
Medical	23	14	163
Fire-related	0	1	28
Public Assistance	11	10	277
Beach Wheel Chairs	2	2	79

Chief Waddle said that activity in January and February were less active than most other months, so the Department has been planning for future events. Chief Waddle reported that he and Del Dennis had been in school in Columbia (ICC Instruction for Fire Marshall Inspector 1).

Police Department

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

	Jan-12	Jan-13	YTD
Citations	4	17	159
Speeding	4	11	60
Golf Cart Violations	0	1	15
Property Checks	986	1,826	10,032
Calls for Service	46	58	567
Calls Requiring 2 Officers	2	3	53
Burglary	1	0	7
Larceny	0	0	26
Assaults	1	0	2
Alarms	16	7	83
Traffic Warnings	25	32	355
Patrolled Miles	7,497	4,072	59,793
Criminal Domestic Violence	0	0	0

Chief Coffey reported that the Department currently has two open positions. Councilman Anderson asked Chief Coffey if it would be beneficial to get a Colleton County Sheriff's officer to fill in on an as needed basis until vacancies were filled. Chief Coffey said he thought it would be difficult to justify, and that Colleton County is stretched as well. Chief Coffey stated the most challenging aspect of the hiring process is finding the best qualified person that is the best fit and can afford to come to Edisto to work based on the distance and cost of living. Councilman Mann asked if the agreement between the Town Police Department and the Wyndham Ocean Ridge Property Owner's Association was working well. Chief Coffey replied that it was going very well.

## Utilities Department

The Utilities Department report for the month of January 2013 was given by Bob Doub, the Utilities Director.

	Jan-12	Jan-13	YTD
Pumped MG Water	9.03 MG	8.82 MG	130.6 MG
Treated MG Wastewater	2.47 MG	2.669	26.06 MG
Water Line Repairs	100	4	550
Work Order Repairs	153	127	931

Mr. Doub reported that Bio-Nomics will be on site for another month doing the sludge dredging and removal at the wastewater treatment plant. The SC Rural Water Association has completed the preliminary GIS/GPS locating of all the Town's water valves, manholes, lift stations and fire hydrants and is under review by his Department. James F. Pederson and Company should start working on the Point Street waterline upgrades, installing a six-inch waterline with fire hydrants sometime the end of February or the first of March, pending contract signing and the pre-construction meeting.

## Public Works

This report was presented by the Utilities Director, Bob Doub for the month of January 2013.

	Jan-12	Jan-13	YTD
Mowed Acres	28	29	263
Cleaned Ditches (miles)	4	1	5.65
Roll Carts Delivered	35	36	150

Councilman Mann commented that there was no smell from the sewage dredging.

## Edisto Chamber of Commerce

Dan Carter, Chamber President, gave the January 2013 report. He thanked Council for the Starfish Award and gave credit to the Board of Directors for the Chamber.

- 5k Run and Edisto Eats Festival, March 15 and 16, 2013
- March 21 - 24 Art Guild play, *The Red Velvet Cake War*
- March 29, 30, Art Guild show and sale at the Edistonian

## **Public Comment Period**

No one was signed in to speak.

## **Executive Session**

Councilman Hutto moved to go into executive session. Councilman Mann seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

Councilwoman Darby moved to exit executive session. Councilman Mann seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

Councilwoman Darby moved to adjourn the meeting. Councilman Mann seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

Meeting adjourned at 7:28 p.m.

*The media/public was duly notified of the date, time and place of the Council Meeting on Friday, February 8, 2014.*