

MINUTES  
March 12, 2015  
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING  
6:00 P.M.

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

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

Mayor Pro Tem Darby welcomed guests and thanked all who served the Town of Edisto Beach.

Council Session opened with the *Pledge of Allegiance* and a word of prayer by Councilman Anderson.

**Approval of Minutes**

Councilman Anderson moved to approve the Regular Council Meeting minutes of February 12, 2015. Councilwoman Smyer seconded the motion, which was approved unanimously.

Councilwoman Smyer moved to approve the minutes of the Town Council Annual Goal Setting Retreat. Councilman Anderson seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved.

**Proclamations and Presentations**

**A. Starfish Awards** – Town Council recognized the following Town employees for their contribution in making the Trick-or-Treat at the Creek event a success: Nancy Fitzgerald, Patrick Brown, Denney Conley, Del Dennis, Robbie Griffin, Quinn McCollum, Patrick Zemp, Shirley Simmons, Iris Hill, Deborah Hargis, Maxine Burton, Betty Heaton, Kelly Burris, Bob Doub, Bill Coffey, Walter Hutchinson, Alfred Meggett, and Julian Meggett, Jr. Council members also received Starfish Awards for their participation.

**B. Beautification Award** – Cathy Price, Chairman of the TIDE Committee, presented an award to the Town for the new Christmas decorations. Accepting on behalf of the Town were Bob Doub and Iris Hill.

**Old Business**

**A. Second Reading of Ordinance 2015-03 to Terminate the Temporary Moratorium on the Issuance and Approval of Building Permits and Record Plats for the Big Bay Creek and Scott Creek Property Owners sewer line project in the Town of Edisto Beach for (1) new or additional connections for properties situated inside the municipal boundaries to the Town Sewer system through the Big Bay Creek and Scott Creek Property Owners sewer line project and (2) additions to existing structures that access the Town Sewer System through the Big Bay Creek and Scott Creek Property Owners sewer line project if additional sewer**

**capacity would be required for the addition** – AECOM reviewed the situation and has recommended solutions to the issue: 1) locate the air release valve on the 6” force main at the high point over the ridge and either replace or service, 2) service and/or replace impellers in A and B, 3) re-evaluate the data after completing 1 and 2. The Utilities Department is in the process of locating the air release valve and has ordered new impellers for A and B at a cost of \$6,000 to be funded from Sewer R&R. After the impellers are installed and the air release valve is serviced or replaced the system will be re-evaluated. Councilwoman Hornsby moved to approve the second reading of Ordinance 2015-03. Councilman Anderson seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

**B. Agreement between the Town of Edisto Beach and the Army Corps of Engineers for the Preliminary Engineering Design for Beach Stabilization** – Modification of the standardized agreement with the Army Corps of Engineers is estimated to take 6 – 9 months to allow in-kind work. This would delay the Town’s beach nourishment project. In light of this information, Councilman Anderson moved to temporarily discontinue contract negotiations with the Army Corps of Engineers and move forward with application and permitting through Coastal Science and Engineering. Councilwoman Hornsby seconded the motion. Councilwoman Hornsby clarified that the Town would be able to continue working with the Corps and anything that has been done with the project with CSE would be deducted from the cost of the Corps project. Mayor Pro Tem Darby called for the vote and the motion passed unanimously.

### **New Business**

**A. Causeway Bridge** – During the discussion of the causeway beautification project from the Image and Design of Edisto Committee, Councilman Anderson asked about progress to replace the earthen causeway with a bridge. The concern is that if a hurricane destroys the causeway, residents will be stranded on Edisto Beach. Mayor Pro Tem Darby stated that research had been done and a design could not be found. The Scott Creek Committee has been working with a NOAA application to look at the flow of Scott Creek, which would naturally lend itself to the construction of a bridge.

**B. Ordinance No. 2015-04 to Amend the FY2014-15 Budget** – Councilwoman Smyer moved to approve the first reading of Ordinance 2015-04 to amend the FY2014-15 budget, seconded by Councilwoman Hornsby. Adjustments made in February resulted in an increase in the total budget, which requires an amendment by Ordinance. Mayor Pro Tem Darby called for a vote and the motion passed unanimously.

**C. Edisto Beach Groin Repair** – Groin #1 has voids where the sand is escaping the cell. Councilman Anderson moved to approve the emergency repair of Groin #1 at a cost not to exceed \$20,000 to be paid from the Local Accommodation Fund pending approval by the Department of Health and Environmental Control. Councilwoman Smyer seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

**D. FY2015-16 Council Goals and Objectives** – Councilwoman Hornsby moved to approve the goals and objectives for the fiscal year 2015-2016. Councilman Anderson seconded the motion, which was approved unanimously.

**E. Special Event Application – Marina at Edisto Billfishing Tournament** – Milton Investments doing business as The Marina at Edisto Beach requests the use of Bay Creek Park for a billfish tournament July 22 – 25. Councilman Anderson moved that the Town of Edisto Beach sponsor the Marina at Edisto Billfishing Tournament with a monetary sponsorship of \$2,000 to be paid from the Alcohol Permitting Fund and waive the fee for Bay Creek Park. Councilwoman Hornsby seconded the motion. The Department of Natural Resources has chosen not to have The Governor’s Cup at Edisto this year. The Billfishing Tournament will be held the same weekend the Governor’s Cup is usually held. Mayor Pro Tem Darby called for the vote and the motion passed 3 – 0 with Mayor Pro Tem Darby recusing herself due to a conflict of interest.

**F. Work Authorization No. 4 with American Engineering** – Councilwoman Smyer moved to approve Work Authorization No. 4 with American Engineering for construction services of the Jungle Shores Waterline Extension project at a cost not to exceed \$14,000. Councilman Anderson seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

**G. Curbside Recycling** – Councilwoman Hornsby reported that the Garbage Committee has been working for months trying to solve the issues of curbside recycling and roll-back service for garbage cans. Councilwoman Hornsby moved that the Town defer the decision on curbside recycling until the garbage contract is re-bid. Councilwoman Smyer seconded the motion, which was approved unanimously.

**H. Award of Bid 2015-01 Garbage Container Roll-Back Service** – The lowest qualified bidder withdrew his bid and Council has not had an opportunity to go over information from the next lowest bidder. Councilwoman Hornsby moved that the Town defer the decision on roll-back services until the garbage contract is re-bid. Councilwoman Smyer seconded the motion, which was approved unanimously.

**I. Ordinance No. 2015-07 to Amend Section 66-78(b), 66-78(c), 66-78(d) and Section 66-9 of the Town’s Code Related to Solid Waste Management** – Councilwoman Hornsby moved to defer items H and I until the April, 2015 meeting. Councilwoman Smyer seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved.

**J. Resolution No. 2015-R05 Opposing Executive Order 11988** – Councilwoman Smyer moved to approve Resolution No. 2015-R05, which reads, in part, “Whereas, on January 30, 2015, the President issued Executive Order 11988 establishing a federal flood risk management standard and process for further soliciting and considering stakeholder input, and...the executive order shifts focus from flood protection to risk management and these impacts would discourage buying and selling in floodplain areas because it would require building to 500 year standards

rather than 100 year flood standards, and...this Executive Order would result in accessibility issues on Edisto Beach.” Councilman Anderson seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

**K. Resolution No. 2015-R06 Opposing House Bill 3378 to Amend Section 48-39-130 of the SC Code of Laws** – Proposed legislation House Bill 3378 prohibits construction of new groins, which may impact our 2016 beach nourishment and groin lengthening project. Councilwoman Hornsby moved to approve Resolution No. 2015-R06 Opposing House Bill 3378 to Amend Section 48-39-130 of the SC Code of Laws. The motion was seconded by Councilwoman Smyer. Councilwoman Smyer stated that House Bill 3378 would impact the Town receiving permission to lengthen groins in order to hold the sand that we will renourish the beach with and hinder the entire project. Mayor Pro Tem Darby called for a vote and the motion passed unanimously.

**L. Waterfront Lift Station Repair** – Councilman Anderson moved to approve spending \$6,000 from the sewer R&R to repair the Waterfront lift station. Councilwoman Smyer seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

**M. State Revolving Fund for the Edisto Beach Water System Improvement Project** – The method of procurement recommended by the Water and Sewer Committee and approved by Town Council provides that a firm be chosen for award based on qualifications. The Department of Health and Environmental Control (DHEC) State Revolving Fund does not allow award based on qualifications only and they require two firms and submit proposals. Based on these stipulations and the additional costs involved with meeting the requirements of the SRF, the Water and Sewer Committee recommends Council move forward with the project and seek alternative methods of funding. Councilwoman Smyer moved to approve Council not pursuing the State Revolving Fund funding. Councilman Anderson seconded the motion. Councilwoman Smyer stated that the Water and Sewer Committee has recommended the Town look at a possible water system through a design/build project and the State Revolving Fund prefers a standard design/bid/build project. With the design/build, the Town would come up with one firm after the selection process is done while the State Revolving Fund prefers two firms. Council has stated before that they would like to see the project done incrementally and the State Revolving Fund prefers a non-incremental approach. For those reasons, Councilwoman Smyer stated, the State Revolving Fund does not appear to be a good fit for the Town. Councilman Anderson asked if this would save or cost the Town money. Administrator Hill stated that she had spoken to several consultants and contractors that have worked with the State Revolving Fund. Since they go through DHEC, they have additional requirements that tend to cost between \$100,000 -\$150,000 more. Mayor Pro Tem Darby called for a vote, and the motion passed unanimously.

**N. Special Event Application – 5<sup>th</sup> Annual Edisto Eats Festival and Ultimate Chef Competition** – Edisto United has submitted an application for the 5<sup>th</sup> Annual Edisto Eats

Festival and Ultimate Chef Competition to be held on March 28, 2015 from 12:00 – 5:00 p.m. in the parking lot of McConkey’s Jungle Shack. Councilman Anderson moved to approve the application, seconded by Councilwoman Hornsby. The motion carried 3 – 0, with Councilwoman Smyer recusing herself due to conflict of interest.

**Committee Vacancies**

**A. Construction Board of Adjustments and Appeals** – There are two vacancies on the Construction Board of Appeals. An application has been received from Jim Johnson. Current members of the Construction Board of Appeals are: Bob Sandifer, David Salter and Tom Yeargin. Councilwoman Smyer moved to accept the application, seconded by Councilman Anderson and approved unanimously.

**B. TIDE Committee** – Chairperson Cathy Price’s term expires in April and she does not wish to serve another term. Councilman Anderson moved to approve advertising the vacancy. Councilwoman Smyer seconded the motion, which was approved unanimously.

**Planning Commission**

**A. Edisto Watersports & Tackle, Inc.** – Per Section 86-140(h) of the Town’s Code, applicant 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-2 shall be reviewed by the Planning Commission and approved by Town Council. Dillard Young with Edisto Watersports & Tackle made application with the Building Department to expand his business to now include the upstairs area above their current location, previously rented by The Thirsty Fish. Councilman Anderson moved to approve the application from Edisto Watersports & Tackle, Inc., seconded by Councilwoman Smyer. The motion was unanimously approved.

**Departmental Reports**

**Administration**

Town Administrator Hill thanked Mr. Jim Johnson for applying to be on the Construction Board of Appeals and asked those interested in the remaining vacancy to apply. Administrator Hill gave the financial report for February 2015.

	Received	Spent
General Fund	72.19%	64.99%
Water Fund	74.56%	68.09%
Wastewater Fund	83.18%	65.03%

**Building**

Nancy Fitzgerald, Code Enforcement Officer, gave the report for February 2015.

	February -14	February - 15	YTD
Business/Rental License Fees	\$97,620.48	\$52,440.18	\$82,129.71
New Construction Permits	1	1	8
Other Permits	36	17	188
Permit Fees	\$7,005.00	\$3,452.00	\$31,829.62
Inspections	42	53	340
Bay Creek Park	\$355.00	\$20.00	\$9,755.00

Fire

Fire Chief Denney Conley gave the report for February 2015. Chief Conley thanked the Colleton County and Charleston County mutual aid departments for assisting with a structure fire on the beach, along with the Edisto Beach Police Department and the Edisto Beach Volunteer Fire Department. Chief Conley invited all in attendance to come out and see the new fire truck after the meeting.

Calls	February - 14	February - 15	YTD
Medical	4	7	209
Fire-related	6	16	59
Public Assistance/Miscellaneous	35	30	393
Beach Wheel Chairs	1	4	83

Police Department

Police Chief Bill Coffey gave the report for February 2015.

	February - 14	February - 15	YTD
Citations	8	13	177
Speeding	7	10	108
Warnings	50	28	644
Alarm Calls	22	6	99
Calls for 2 or More Officers	3	3	66
Miles Patrolled	8,897	8,113	67,459
Assaults	0	0	7
Larcenies	1	1	36
Burglaries	1	1	3
Incidents & Calls for Service	87	64	942
Golf Cart Violations	1	0	5
Domestic Violence Calls	0	0	0

Property Checks	2,371	1,563	13,300
Open Container	0	0	1
D.U.I.	0	0	0
CDV Arrest	0	0	0
Disorderly Conduct	0	1	8
Animal Control Call	1	0	16

Mayor Pro Tem Darby welcomed Chief Coffey back after his recent surgery.

Utilities

Bob Doub, Utilities Director, gave the report for February 2015.

	February - 14	February - 15	YTD
Pumped MG Water	7.41	6.75	132.26
Treated MG Wastewater	2.12	2.36	37.07
Water Line Repairs	7	1	25
Work Orders	100	118	1,047

Mr. Doub reported that the four impellers at lift stations A and B have been replaced. The Utilities Department is currently looking at the data from the hour meter readings on those stations to see if that has helped reduce the hour run times. All pump stations have been pumped of sand, grit and trash, and cleaned. On February 18, the department had the Wastewater Lab Recertification and Evaluation by DHEC, and is waiting on the results.

Public Works

Public Works Director Bob Doub gave the report for February 2015.

	February - 14	February - 15	YTD
Mowed Acres	0	0	332
Cleaned Ditches	6,382ft	13,274ft	64,497ft
Roll Carts Delivered	6	6	63

The Public Works department replaced signs on Jungle Road and has been busy trimming tree limbs and shrubs and side streets and intersections for better visibility.

Mr. Doub told those in attendance that the week of March 8 – 14 is National Ground Water Awareness Week. Eighty-seven million Americans are on community water systems that use ground water, including Edisto Beach. Forty-four point five million Americans supply their own water through water wells. As much as 90% of the rural population would have no reliable water source if it weren't for private household water wells. Irrigation uses an estimated 53.5 billion

gallons of ground water a day, supplying water to some of the most productive agricultural lands. Livestock and agriculture use .5 billion gallons of ground water per day. Groundwater can be protected and conserved by: disposing of hazardous substances appropriately, not pouring hazardous substances down the drain, toilet, on the ground, not pouring water down the drain when there may be an additional use for it (watering plants, etc.), repairing dripping faucets (one drop per second wastes 2,700 gallons of water a year), using water efficient appliances and using drought-resistant plants outdoors.

Mr. Doub explained that the air release valve has not yet been located. Mr. Doub has reviewed blueprints, one set that shows an air release valve, and one that does not show the valve. Mr. Doub has been in touch with a company that uses ground penetrating radar that will come to Edisto to help locate the valve. Another option, suggested by Mike Beckman of AECOM, is installing air release valves on the header lines at lift stations A & B.

#### Chamber of Commerce

The report was given by Dan Carter, Chamber Director.

- From March through May, the Edisto Island Museum will have an art exhibit with the Edisto and Beyond Tour
- On Friday, March 13<sup>th</sup>, McConkey's will host a pasta dinner in anticipation of the Road Race
- On Saturday, March 14<sup>th</sup> at 8:30 a.m., there will be a 5K race and 1 mile fun run. There are currently 91 registrants. Registration will be open through the morning of March 14<sup>th</sup>.
- On Saturday, March 14<sup>th</sup>, Roxbury Park will host an Oyster Roast and Chili Cook-off as a fundraiser.
- Ducks Unlimited will have their yearly banquet on March 14, 2015 at Bay Creek Park.
- The play *Hallelujah Girls* will be on March 20, 21 and 22 at the Civic Center.
- FRESpace will meet on March 21, and will include a river cruise and kayaking.
- The Great American Clean-up will be held March 28<sup>th</sup>
- A blood drive will be held on March 24<sup>th</sup> at the Edisto Beach Baptist Church.
- The 5<sup>th</sup> Annual Ultimate Chef Competition will be March 28<sup>th</sup> at McConkey's
- On March 31<sup>st</sup>, The Edisto Island Museum will host the first of a lecture series, *The Cultivation and Market Preparation of Carolina Rice* at the First Missionary Baptist Church.
- The Art Guild Show and Sale will be April 4, 2015 in the Edistonian parking lot.
- The Easter Sunrise Service will be held on Sunday, April 5<sup>th</sup>.

Ida Tipton updated Council on the Keep America Beautiful progress. The Great American Cleanup will begin at 9:00 a.m. on March 28, 2015 at the Community Center.



Mayor Pro Tem Darby told those in attendance that the Edisto Belles have contributed \$500 to the Susan G. Komen Foundation in memory of Mayor Burley L. Lyons.

**Public Comment**

Robert Sandifer – Mr. Sandifer announced that the Edisto Beach Property Owners Association will sponsor two upcoming forums in anticipation of the special election for Mayor of Edisto Beach on March 31 and October 6 at 7:00 p.m. at the Lions Club. Please submit questions in writing at the forum to be categorized, and the moderator, Mary Ann Burke, will ask representative questions from areas of interest.

David Cannon – Mr. Cannon thanked Chief Conley and the Edisto Beach Fire Department, the Edisto Beach Police Department and Edisto Beach Volunteer Fire Department for their quick action in responding to a fire at his residence.


Bob Doub – Mr. Doub told those in attendance that because of the water line expansion on Point Street, the fire at the Cannon's residence was able to be controlled quickly. If not for the expansion, 1,000 feet of hose would have been stretched across Palmetto Boulevard. He thanked the Council and Mayor Pro Tem Darby for approving the expansion of the Jungle Shores waterline, which, in case of a house fire on Jungle Shores, will keep hose from being stretched across Jungle Road.

**Adjournment**

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

*The media/public was duly notified of the date, time and location of the meeting on Friday, March 6, 2015.*

APPROVED BY TOWN COUNCIL

  
Deborah Hargis, Municipal Clerk  
April 9, 2015