

**WATER AND SEWER COMMITTEE MEETING
TOWN OF EDISTO BEACH**

June 21, 2022

10:00 A.M.

MINUTES

Present: David Ballard, John David Griffith, Lou Rasmussen, and Bill Reeside (*via conference call*), Committee members.

Absent: Chairman Jody Kleckley (*excused*)

Present Ex-Officio: Town Administrator Iris Hill

Other Staff Present: Assistant Town Administrator Mark Aakhus, Utilities Director Patrick Zemp, and Municipal Clerk Dee Stalvey

Call to Order

In Chairman Kleckley's absence, Mr. Griffith called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.

Approval of Minutes from May 17, 2022

Mr. Rasmussen made a motion to approve the minutes of May 17, 2022, with a correction under Old Business from "service motor" to "service factor." The motion was seconded by Mr. Reeside and unanimously approved.

Old Business

- Update on Moratorium
 - Town Administrator Hill noted upgrades to Pump Station B are out for bid, and the bids are due tomorrow, June 22, at 2 p.m. She also noted Town Council approved American Engineering to apply for grant funding through RIA for Station A, automatic reading meters, and the force main. American Engineering is handling the bid process, so Ms. Hill does not know how many interested bidders we may have.
 - Regarding the competitive grants, Iris noted that \$900,000,000 has been sent to RIA for competitive grants. They are aware we will be applying for a grant. Maximum grant amount is \$10 million. This next round we will ask for the force main, which will completely resolve the issues for Pump Stations A & B. This might be a three-month process.
- Update of Capital Improvements: Mr. Zemp reported on the following:
 - Automatic reading meters
 - The estimate for three manhole rehabs in Wyndham is significantly lower than anticipated at a cost of \$14,000. Town Administrator Hill asked Mr. Zemp to obtain two more quotes.
 - Still awaiting quote for the control panel.
 - Still awaiting quote for manhole covers on Scott Creek; this needs to be bid.

New Business

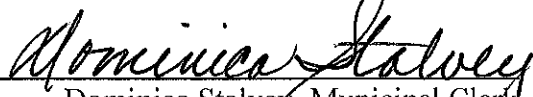
- Develop a process for sewer tap approvals
 - Town Administrator Hill asked the Committee to provide guidance on the process for sewer tap approvals, so we don't end up in the same situation we currently find

- ourselves. Mr. Zemp explained the cumulative effect in the way the lift stations are tied together. We are trying not to repeat what has been done in the past.
- Discussion ensued regarding sewer taps and sewer certificates. Data is being collected and collated.
 - Discussion held on how Lift Station B will help this situation. Town Administrator Hill noted there are safety issues with Lift B as well so this is a primary concern, and we will not have additional capacity until we get Lift Station A repaired. The true fix to this situation is the force main; it is the key factor and the limiting factor. American Engineering informed us we would get approximately 70-80 taps in Phase I; Phase II would increase this number to 210 in total. Town Administrator Hill will send the report to the Committee.
 - Ms. Hill noted we need to devise a process and consider all the different situations which could arise.
 - The Committee members agreed environmental impacts should be at the top of the list when making decisions regarding the process to be used, particularly, septic systems which have the potential for environmental impact if they fail. Mr. Zemp noted the area of Jungle Shores and the lagoons are more likely to fail first; these areas do not necessarily have the infrastructure to tie into the sewer.
 - The Town has ~2600 water taps and ~1000 sewer taps.
 - Town Administrator Hill noted people don't know how to take care of their septic tanks. There probably needs to be an educational component.
 - Mr. Ballard volunteered to work on a flow chart for the sewer tap approval process, and this topic will continue to be discussed at future meetings.
 - Mr. Zemp shared the Consumer Confidence Report. In a few weeks, this report will be posted on our website, posted in the Press & Standard, and posted on the bulletin board at Town Hall. The Level 1 assessment for total coliform from 2016 is noted as a violation in this period due to DHEC's failure to do sampling, but this has since been resolved.
 - Mr. Zemp will look into the plastic (PFOAPFOS) statistics for Edisto Beach.
 - Mr. Zemp shared the 2021 Water Quality Report and noted all is well, and we are in the top 10%. The violation noted on the report was pre-reverse osmosis treatment plant.
 - Do we have a report on sewage leakage in the ocean or in the creeks? Any testing or evidence? Ms. Hill noted DNR and DHEC are conducting water quality testing in the areas around Ace Basin, Scott Creek, etc. DNR and DHEC does the testing.

Adjournment

There being no further business to discuss, Mr. Ballard made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 10:56 a.m., and the motion was unanimously approved.

APPROVED BY THE WATER AND SEWER COMMITTEE



Dominica Stalvey, Municipal Clerk

July 19, 2022