

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

**July 19, 2022
10:00 a.m.**

MINUTES

Present: Chairman Jody Kleckley, David Ballard, John David Griffith, Lou Rasmussen, and Bill Reeside (*via conference call*).

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

Chairman Kleckley called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.

Approval of Minutes from June 21, 2022

Mr. Rasmussen made a motion to approve the minutes of June 21, 2022. The motion was seconded by Mr. Ballard and unanimously approved.

Old Business

1. Update on Moratorium
 - Town Administrator Hill noted the contract with AAA Utility will be signed today. Construction for the first phase will begin in December 2022. A \$247,500 match from the Town is needed.
 - The meeting with the SC Rural Infrastructure Authority (RIA) will be held on July 20th to discuss the next grant application process known as the SC Infrastructure Investment Plan (SCIIP). We will be applying for approximately \$10 million in SCIIP funds which requires a 15% local match.
2. Update on Capital Improvements
 - Town Administrator Hill had no update to share regarding capital improvements.
3. Develop a Process for Sewer Tap Approvals
 - Mr. Ballard provided a procedural flow diagram for the sewer tap approval process. All agreed Mr. Ballard's work provided a good starting point. Mr. Reeside and Mr. Griffith also shared information and questions prior to this meeting.
 - Mr. Ballard noted we may need to add homes rebuilds as part of this approval process since it impacts capacity. Discussion was held on this particular issue, and Mr. Patrick Brown, Building Code Administrator, noted when it comes to sewer and capacity, the building department only ensures the home location has a tap. Whatever DHEC has approved via the permit is the maximum allowed, i.e., if DHEC approved a four-bedroom house on the septic permit, which is all that is permissible.
 - Mr. Rasmussen noted we should stick to 90% capacity, not 100%, to be conservative

- Some discussion was held on engineered systems, and Ms. Hill noted she will have an individual speak to the group about engineered systems vs. traditional systems at a future meeting.
- Ms. Hill noted she is working to obtain the sewer tap information requested from the previous meeting, which would assist with the approval process design.
- Ms. Hill noted the final process approved by this Committee would need to be brought before Council for their review and approval, most likely in the form of an ordinance. A public hearing should be held prior to the Council's action on the process.

New Business

1. Plastic (PFOA/PFOS) Statistics
 - Mr. Zemp stated the Supreme Court ruled against the EPA as it concerns air quality, and the PFOS and PFOA numbers will present immense challenges for numerous water systems and upstream wastewater discharges nationally. Mr. Zemp shared an email he received from Charlie Gray, SC Rural Water Association, regarding this matter.
 - Mr. Zemp noted there are no limits specified at this point, so we are not sure what to test for and what the limits may be; tests are being developed, but no specific method yet. There are no definite answers on health risks.
 - Mr. Zemp noted next steps regarding this matter are being evaluated, and he will keep the Committee updated.


2. RFP 2022-06, Water and Wastewater Professional Engineering Services
 - Town Administrator Hill asked the Committee members to review and comment on the RFP. The Committee members discussed a few items in the RFP, particularly regarding the verbiage in the RFP about "failing septic systems," disclosure agreement, and any work warranty. Ms. Hill will provide additional information on the warranty matter.
 - Ms. Hill noted she will get the template for work authorization to the Committee.
 - Ms. Hill also requested two committee members volunteer to serve on the RFP selection committee. Mr. Rasmussen and Mr. Ballard both volunteered to do so.
 - Bid opening will be held on September 13, 2022, at 2:00 p.m., at Town Hall.

The August meeting will be cancelled; therefore, the next meeting will be held on September 20th at 10:00 a.m.

Adjournment

There being no further business to discuss, Mr. Rasmussen made a motion to adjourn. Mr. Ballard seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved.

APPROVED BY THE WATER AND SEWER COMMITTEE



 Dominica Stalvey, Municipal Clerk

September 20, 2022