

MINUTES
TOWN OF EDISTO BEACH
AUGUST 11, 2022
REGULAR TOWN COUNCIL MEETING
6:00 p.m.

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

Present: Mayor Crawford Moore, Mayor Pro Tempore Jerome Kizer, Robert Renner, Jay Watts, Joey Bagwell, Council Members. *Quorum of Council Present.*

Call to Order

Mayor Crawford Moore called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

Pledge of Allegiance and Invocation

Mt. Kizer led those in attendance in the Pledge of Allegiance and gave the invocation.

Approval of Minutes

Regular Town Council Meeting Minutes, July 13, 2022: Mr. Kizer moved to approve the Regular Town Council Meeting Minutes of July 13, 2022. The motion was seconded by Mr. Watts and unanimously approved.

Proclamations and Presentations

Starfish Awards

The following individuals were recognized with the Starfish Award:

- Mark Aakhus, Assistant Town Administrator, was recognized for his diligent and excellent work in applying for and receiving a 2022 Achievement Award (population 1,000-5,000 category) from the Municipal Association of South Carolina for our first Master Recreation Plan. Mr. Aakhus led the effort to develop the Town's recreation master plan.
- Joseph Stalvey was recognized for his assistance to a visiting family while on beach patrol when a 16-year-old fainted on the beach. The family commended Mr. Stalvey for his quick response.
- Kristi Summers was recognized for her work as the South Carolina Department of National Resources permit holder for the Edisto Beach Loggerhead Turtle Project. She coordinates and oversees a team of approximately 40 volunteers. Her tireless commitment and leadership skills are invaluable to the team members as they protect nests and share data with SC DNR and national sea turtle preservation organizations.

Edisto Beach Local Achievement Award from Municipal Association of South Carolina

Ms. Ashley Kellahan, Municipal Association of South Carolina Field Services Manager, was present to congratulate Council and the Town Administration on the 2022 Local Achievement Award presented at the Municipal Association's Annual Meeting in July for the Town's first

Master Recreation Plan. Ms. Kellahan also showed a video featuring Edisto Beach and the Master Recreation Plan.

Introduction of New Edisto Beach Physician, Dr. Kim Rakes-Stephens

Mayor Moore introduced Dr. Kim Rakes-Stephens, who is planning to open her doctor's office here on Edisto Beach in the very near future.

Public Comment Period

Sue Keith, Colleton County Legislative Delegation representative, announced a legislative outreach meeting will be held on October 5, 2022, at 6:00 p.m., at the Edisto Beach Library.

Old Business

Ordinance No. 2021-13 Temporary Moratorium to be reviewed every 30 days until resolved. Mayor Moore noted the construction of Pump Station B has been awarded to AAA Utility and Construction LLC. Construction is scheduled to begin after the tourist, hurricane, and king tides season this December with completion scheduled for March 2023. American Engineering will be submitting a grant application to RIA for Pump Station "A," force main upgrades of Phase II and other lift station upgrades. American Engineering has met with the Executive Director of RIA this month to discuss the next steps in the grant cycle and application. The grant application deadline is September 12, 2022, and award timeframe is the first quarter of 2023. The maximum grant amount under this issuance is \$10,000,000 with a 15% local match.

Second Reading to Amend Ordinance 2022-18 Fiscal Year 2022-2023 Budget. The second reading to amend Ordinance 2022-18 Fiscal Year 2022-2023 Budget to rollforward the millage from 25.15 mills to 27.47 mills was presented to Council for its consideration and approval. Mr. Bagwell made a motion to approve amending Ordinance 2022-18 Fiscal Year 2022-2023 Budget to rollforward the millage to 27.47 mills. This motion was seconded by Mr. Kizer and unanimously approved.

New Business

Independent Accountants' Report on Applying Agreed-Upon Procedures for Year Ended June 30, 2021, Town of Edisto Beach Municipal Court. Council was asked to consider for its approval the Independent Accountants' Report on Applying Agreed-Upon Procedures for the Year Ended June 30, 2021, for the Town of Edisto Beach Municipal Court. Mr. Renner made a motion to approve the Independent Accountants' Report on applying agreed-upon procedures for year ended June 30, 2021. This motion was seconded by Mr. Watts and unanimously approved.

Bank Depository Agreement with Enterprise Bank. Council was asked to consider for its approval the Bank Depository Agreement with Enterprise Bank for a three-year period commencing August 1, 2022, through December 31, 2025, and may upon agreement of both parties extend the agreement for an additional two years. This was a sole source procurement. Mr. Kizer made a motion to approve this Bank Depository Agreement with Enterprise Bank. Mr. Renner seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved.

South Carolina Infrastructure Investment Program (SCIIP) Grant Application Letter of Commitment. The SCIIP grant application letter of commitment was presented to Council for its consideration and direction. The grant application is for the "Wastewater System upgrades of plant, forcemain, and pump station." The project maximum is \$10,000,000 which requires a 15% match

of \$1,500,000 if 100% of the project is granted. The Town is also pursuing a secondary RIA grant in the amount of \$500,000 (which is the maximum for this grant) which can apply towards the Town's match of the wastewater system upgrade grant. If the Town is successful in receiving funds for the full project, the Town's wastewater system would be considered up to date upon completion of the project. The Town's match will be funded by the Water R&R and Sewer R&R funds which collectively have a balance of \$1,679,682, which includes this year's appropriations in the amount of \$487,636. Mayor Moore noted that Council will consider this item following the August 24, 2022, meeting with American Engineering Consultants, Inc. to further discuss this grant application.

Bay Creek Park Pier Structural Assessment Contract with GEL Engineering. Council was asked to consider and approve the proposed GEL Engineering contract in the amount of \$4,900 and to authorize the Town Administrator to execute said contract, upon successful negotiation of terms. This proposal is to provide professional engineering services in evaluating the existing timber pier and piles of the floating dock at Bay Creek Park. This project will be funded from the Hospitality account which has a balance of \$423,028. Mr. Bagwell made a motion to approve this contract in the amount of \$4,900 and to authorize the Town Administrator to execute said contract. Mr. Renner seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved.

Yellowstone Landscaping 5% Annual Renewal Increase for Next 12-Month Period. Council was asked to consider for its approval a 5% annual renewal increase for the next 12-month period for Yellowstone Landscaping for trash pick-up on Highway 174. Yellowstone Landscaping is requesting a 5% annual increase to help offset their rising operating costs due to inflation. This would result in an annual increase in the amount of \$600 which is reimbursable through Charleston County under the terms of our existing contract with Charleston County. Mr. Kizer made a motion to approve the 5% annual renewal increase for the next 12-month period with Yellowstone Landscaping. Mr. Watts seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved.

Special Event Application: #WHOYOUWHIT Benefit, October 8. Council was asked to consider for its approval the special event application for the #WHOYOUWHIT Benefit, to be held at the Edisto Marina on October 8, 2022, from 7 a.m.-10 p.m., with a projected estimate of 300 participants. This is a benefit fishing tournament, party, and raffle to raise money for Project Healing Waters Fly Fishing Charleston. DNR has approved this event and will be present during the event. Mr. Watts made a motion to approve the special event application for #WHOYOUWHIT Benefit on October 8, 2022. Mr. Renner seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved.

Temporary Access Agreement for Edisto Beach Loggerhead Turtle Project (EBLTP). Council was asked to consider for its approval the Temporary Access Agreement which permits the EBLTP to temporarily store turtle patrol materials underneath the front porch of the Town's RO Plant. Mr. Bagwell made a motion to approve the temporary access agreement for the Edisto Beach Loggerhead Turtle Project. Mr. Watts seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved.

Committee Vacancies

ATAX Committee – Two Vacancies

Council was asked to consider for its approval the following applications submitted for the two vacancies on the ATAX Committee: (1) Leslie Varner Hurley in Hospitality and (2) Tyler Von Neida in Hospitality/Lodging, both for three-year terms. These were the only two applications

received for these vacancies. Mr. Kizer made a motion to approve Leslie Varner Hurley in Hospitality and Tyler Von Neida in Hospitality/Lodging for the two vacancies on the ATAX Committee. Mr. Renner seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved.

Water and Sewer Committee – One Vacancy

Council was asked to consider for its approval the following application submitted for the vacancy on the Water and Sewer Committee: Jody Kleckley for a four-year term. This application was the only application received for this vacancy. Mr. Renner made a motion to approve Jody Kleckley to serve on the Water and Sewer Committee for a four-year term. Mr. Bagwell seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved.

Council Time

Mr. Renner reported that the information session for the proposed Dollar General to be built on Edisto Island has been rescheduled to August 16, 2022, at 6:00 p.m. at Jane Edwards School. Since this requires a zoning change from agricultural to commercial, it is important that residents attend the meeting and get informed.

Mr. Watts reported 32 individuals received COVID-19 booster shots on August 11, 2022, at Town Hall.

Mayor Moore noted that the upcoming Labor Day Weekend will be a busy one with visitors coming to the beach for the Shag Festival.

Department Reports

Administration

Assistant Town Administrator Mark Aakhus noted the following:

- The digital budget book is finalized and published on our website, featured in the News section and included in the Monthly Highlights. The digital budget book is very user friendly because it takes a large document and condenses it into a web tool that provides a transparent view of the Town's finances and projects we will be working on during the fiscal year.
- The Mayor and Town staff attended the Colleton County Council meeting this month for the third and final reading of the Capital Project Sales Tax Referendum, which was approved. Our project will now officially be included in the referendum for this November's election.
- The SCDOT performed patchwork today along the side streets of Palmetto Boulevard.
- Mr. Aakhus attended a few trainings this month, including Public Information Officer's training and Cybersecurity training.
- The anticipated King Tides this week have been mild to this point, and we have not experienced any street flooding.
- The Administration Department has received an increase in FOIA requests, which the staff has been working on.
- Our website subscriptions for news and other information have increased from 500 to 700 subscriptions.

Town Administrator Iris Hill briefed the public on items related to the Capital Project Sales Tax and the Town of Edisto Beach project. The project would be funded by a Capital Project Sales Tax. This tax was initially approved 7 years ago, and a portion of the taxes paid for beach nourishment.

- The Town has outgrown its space, so the need for this project is great, but this project is not just a new Town Hall.
- This project includes an emergency operations center, which is critical and the largest component of this proposed project. The need for this space became evident during the past 7 storm events and will provide a safe, hardened space for staff while reopening the beach.
- The Police Department would move to the current Town Hall once a new building is built, which will give the department much more office space than they have currently. The current police department was built for 2 officers, and they now have 9 officers.
- The Fire Department would expand its operations into the current Police Department space.
- This is an important project given the growth on Edisto Beach.

Fund Information

Fund	Received	Spent
General Fund	5.22%	7.72%
Water Fund	6.08%	11.74%
Wastewater Fund	6.49	7.57

Freedom of Information Act Requests (FOIA)

	July 2021	July 2022	YTD
Number of Requests	9	14*	14

*12 Building Requests; 2 Police Requests

Building

	July 2021	July 2022	YTD
Business/Rental License Fees	\$21,256.65	\$19,031.61	\$19,031.61
New Construction Permits	1	0	0
Other Permits	30	41	41
Permit Fees	\$5,882.00	\$4,840.50	\$4,840.50
Inspections	79	64	64

Fire

Calls	July 2021	July 2022	YTD
Medical	24	44	44
Fire-Related	2	6	6
EMS/Misc.	21	20	20
Beach Wheelchairs	21	47	47
Water Rescue	1	2	2
Welfare Checks	0	4	4

- Chief Conley noted fire training in the Hammocks with St. Paul’s Fire Department, Colleton County Fire Rescue, and Edisto Beach Fire Department went very well.
- The Fire Department assisted with the Golf Cart Parade in cooperation with EBFD, EBVFD, and EBPD.

Police

	July 2021	July 2022	YTD
Miles Patrolled	7,687	9,400	9,400
Incidents & Calls for Service	327	286	286
Property Checks	561	834	834
Town Parking Tickets	261	279	279

- Lt. Casey Herring reported the following monthly events on behalf of Police Chief Miano:
 - The PD assisted with July 4th Parade (large number of participants with little to no issues)
 - The PD successfully completed the 1033 Program (Military Surplus) Audit
 - The PD submitted departmental goals to administration for inclusion in the strategic plan
 - The PD completed investigations on B&E Auto Suspects (out-of-state juvenile identified and procedures for arrest are being completed by SCDJJ)
 - The PD assisted with the Governor’s Cup
 - The second “Lattes with Law Enforcement” was held on July 20 with 12 individuals in attendance with great questions and dialogue by all
 - The PD is working on online property check forms and video surveillance identification forms, and we would like to thank Ms. Dee Stalvey for her assistance with these items which we know will better serve our community.
 - The PD completed the Request for Bids concerning Building Access Control

- The Chief is pleased how all departments responded to a suicidal suspect in late July; without the quick response and teamwork by all involved the situation could have been disastrous.
- Officer McMullan has successfully completed Field Training!

Utilities

MG (Million gallons)	July 2021	July 2022	YTD
Pumped MG Water	26.8	26.1	26.1
Treated MG Wastewater	4.5	5.05	5.05
Water Line Repairs	1	5	5
Work Order Repairs	36	40	40

- Mr. Zemp noted the following items to Council:
 - Public Works assisted with the Governor’s Cup
 - Utilities repaired electrical equipment at Lift Station C
 - Public Works ordered 40 trash cans
 - 25 street signs were delivered
 - 49 work orders were taken care of by Public Works

Adjournment

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

The meeting adjourned at 6:40 p.m.

APPROVED BY TOWN COUNCIL



Dominica Stalvey, Municipal Clerk
September 8, 2022