

**MINUTES**  
**TOWN OF EDISTO BEACH**  
**NOVEMBER 10, 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, Jerome Kizer, Robert Renner, Jay Watts, Joey Bagwell.  
*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**

Councilman Bagwell led those in attendance in the Pledge of Allegiance and gave the invocation.

**Approval of Minutes**

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

**Presentations**

**Starfish Awards**

1. Mr. Peter Beck was recognized with the Starfish Award for his work as a member of the TIDE Committee, having served from January 2016 to November 1, 2022. Mr. Beck has been very active with TIDE Committee work, including leading the charge for the adoption of beach accesses by residents. He also effectively served as chair of the Committee from November 2021 to November 2022. Mr. Beck's engaging manner and attention to detail have been pivotal in the Committee's work. We sincerely thank Peter for his great work, and his commitment to our community.
2. Ms. Marie Bost was recognized with the Starfish Award for her work as a member of the TIDE Committee, having served from January 2016 to November 1, 2022. Ms. Bost has been very involved in the Committee's work, has participated faithfully in Committee meetings, and has brought forth many ideas and suggestions for the betterment of Edisto Beach. Her diligence, commitment, and love for her community are exemplary, her service is commendable, and she is very deserving to be recognized with this Starfish Award.

**Public Comment Period**

Mr. Michael Hess noted to Council his concerns regarding the installation of a swimming pool at his residence on Fort Street, and his issues with obtaining the required Town permit.

### **Old Business**

Ordinance No. 2021-13 Temporary Moratorium to be reviewed every 30 days until resolved. Construction of Pump Station B is scheduled to begin this December/January with completion scheduled for April. The SCIIP grant application award timeframe is the first quarter of 2023. The Town recently applied for an additional Rural Infrastructure Authority (RIA) grant in the amount of \$500,000 to be applied towards the Town's match of the SCIIP grant. Until both pumps are upgraded, the moratorium will remain in effect.

### **New Business**

First Reading of Ordinance No. 2022-21 Temporary Use of Town Water System. Council was asked to consider and approve the first reading of Ordinance No. 2022-21 to amend section 82-32(c)(1) which increases the temporary water use rate for contractors from \$5 to \$12 per 1,000 gallons of water. Mr. Renner made a motion to approve the first reading of Ordinance No. 2022-21 to amend section 82-32(c)(1). The motion was seconded by Mr. Watts and unanimously approved.

Water Connection Request. Council was asked to consider and approve the request of John Hamilton to connect the commercial property located outside of the Town limits at 495 Highway 174 to the Town of Edisto Beach water service. All connection costs will be paid by the requestor. Mr. Bagwell made a motion to approve Mr. Hamilton's request to connect the commercial property at 495 Highway 174 to the Town's water service. The motion was seconded by Mr. Kizer and unanimously approved.

Park and Wayfinding Signage. Council was asked to consider and approve the awarding of a park and wayfinding signage quote from Fast Signs in the amount of \$17,766.20. The signage design is consistent with the branding of the Town Welcome sign and therefore, to be consistent with this branding, this was a sole source bid. The design is copyrighted and protected from being competitively bid. The original Welcome sign design was originally competitively bid. The Town budgeted \$20,000 for signage this year in the General Fund as a Capital Improvement Project. Mr. Kizer made a motion to accept the park and wayfinding signage quote from Fast Signs in the amount of \$17,766.20. This motion was seconded by Mr. Renner and unanimously approved.

Resolution No. 2022-R22 United States Army Corps of Engineers Project Partnership Agreement. Council was asked to consider and approve Resolution No. 2022-R22 to enter into a Project Partnership Agreement with the United States Army Corps of Engineers (USACE). This agreement commits the Town to a fifty-year project with the USACE to implement and maintain storm damage reduction activities on Edisto Beach. Mr. Bagwell made a motion to approve Resolution No. 2022-R22 and enter into a Project Partnership Agreement with the United States Army Corps of Engineers. Mr. Kizer seconded this motion, which was unanimously approved.

3 Gulls Creamery Request for Waiver of Hospitality Tax and Fees. Council was asked to consider the request from the owners of 3 Gulls Creamery, located at 114 Jungle Road, to waive their hospitality fees, penalties, and late fees from April 2021 to July 2022 as they claim they were not aware of these fees. Mr. Watts made a motion to approve the request from 3 Gulls Creamery to waive the hospitality fees, penalties, and late fees for the period April 2021 to July 2022. The motion was seconded by Mr. Renner, which was unanimously approved.

Naming of the Old Reverse Osmosis Watering Station. Council was asked to consider and approve the naming of the old reverse osmosis water station located at Town Hall the “Watering Hole.” The Volunteer Fire Department has re-purposed the old watering station by painting the building and turning it into a vending machine area to raise funds for the VFD. The VFD wishes to create a sign to hang on the front of the building naming it the “Watering Hole” and requests permission to do so from Town Council. Mr. Kizer made a motion to approve the naming of the old reserve osmosis water station as the “Watering Hole.” Mr. Renner seconded this motion, which was unanimously approved.

Holiday and Meeting Schedules for 2023. Council was asked to consider and approve the 2023 Holiday and Meeting Schedules as presented. Mr. Bagwell made a motion to approve the Holiday and Meeting Schedules for 2023. This motion was seconded by Mr. Kizer, which was unanimously approved.

Rental Agreement Edisto Island Yacht Club/Christmas Party. Council was asked to consider and approve the rental agreement with the Edisto Island Yacht Club for the Town of Edisto Beach Annual Employee Christmas Party on December 7, 2022, from 4:30 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. Payment for this expenditure will be made from the Contingency Fund. Mr. Renner made a motion to approve the rental agreement with the Edisto Island Yacht Club for the Town of Edisto Beach Annual Employee Christmas Party on December 7. Mr. Watts seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved.

Resolution #2022-R23 Deductible Resolution/SC Municipal Insurance and Risk Financing Fund. Council was asked to consider and approve the Deductible Resolution with the SC Municipal Insurance and Risk Financing Fund for the Town to adopt a \$2500 general liability/auto liability deductible which would save the Town approximately \$4,210 based on our claim history. Our property/auto physical damage deductible will remain at \$1000/claim. Mr. Kizer made a motion to approve Resolution #2022-R23 with the SC Municipal Insurance and Risk Financing Fund and to adopt the \$2500 general liability/auto liability deductible. Mr. Renner seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved.

#### Accommodations Tax Advisory Board

Edisto Lions Club, \$46,900. At the November 3, 2022, Accommodations Tax Advisory Board meeting, the Board discussed the application submitted by the Edisto Lions Club in the amount of \$46,900. The Lions Club noted these funds will be used for the operation and maintenance of equipment and facility used for Bingo operations for tourists, including exterior doors, bingo machine, new signs for advertising, new HVAC, and new roof. At this meeting, the ATAX Board recommended funding in the amount of \$21,900, with the removal of the \$25,000 new roof line item.

Mayor Moore recused himself from this matter before Council as his wife is a board member of the Edisto Lions Club. Mr. Watts made a motion to fully fund the \$46,900 requested by the Edisto Lions Club, Mr. Bagwell seconded this motion. Vote: Yeas – Councilmen Watts, Bagwell, Kizer, Renner; No – None; Recusal – Mayor Moore.

**Council Time**

Mr. Renner thanked all the organizers, volunteers, the Town staff, the Chamber of Commerce, and all involved with the Triathlon on October 29<sup>th</sup>. It was a great success!

Mr. Watts reported 36 COVID shots and 34 flu shots were given at the clinic held today.

Mayor Crawford thanked Phyllis McElveen and the Town staff for a great Trick or Treat at the Creek event on October 31<sup>st</sup>.

Mayor Crawford noted the Edisto Ministerial Alliance will be providing a community Thanksgiving dinner event open to the public.

**Department Reports**

**Administration**

Assistant Town Administrator Mark Aakhus noted the following:

- Administration received official notification the LWCF Grant for the Bike Path project was awarded to the Town. A briefing was held this month, and we are in the process of receiving bids.
- Administration is in the process of getting ready to pave Jenkins Street.
- Administration is working on Hurricane Ian reports for reimbursement purposes.
- Tropical Storm Nicole washed over the beach near Coots; high tide expected at 10:00 p.m. tonight, so we will be watching this area.
- The Town had 8,647 unique visitors to the website this month with 22,000 pages viewed.
- The end of October is 33% of the fiscal year. The Town has spent 28.84% of the General Fund, and revenues are coming in better than expected.
- Since the project has been approved by the voters of Colleton County, Administration is moving forward with plans for the new Emergency Command Center and Town Hall.

**Fund Information**

<b>Fund</b>	<b>Received</b>	<b>Spent</b>
General Fund	30.92%	30.26%
Water Fund	24.78%	26.77%
Wastewater Fund	26.26%	28.25%

**Freedom of Information Act Requests (FOIA)**

	<b>October 2021</b>	<b>October 2022</b>	<b>YTD</b>
Number of Requests	17	3*	45

\*1 Building Request; 1 Police Request; 1 Utilities Request

**Building**

	<b>October 2021</b>	<b>October 2022</b>	<b>YTD</b>
Business/Rental License Fees	\$8,968.57	\$8,192.24	\$51,341.86
New Construction Permits	5	2	6
Other Permits	46	37	137
Permit Fees	\$16,463.50	\$11,707.50	\$39,435.50

Inspections	115	47	313
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Fire

<b>Calls</b>	<b>October 2021</b>	<b>October 2022</b>	<b>YTD</b>
Medical	46	0	78
Fire-Related	4	4	17
EMS/Misc. (includes alarms, hazmat, public assist, water rescue, etc.)	19	29	162
Public Service (includes fire inspections, beach wheelchair loan, welfare checks)	14	19	225

Chief Conley also reported the following:

- The Fire Department has been working on the Be Safe grant
- The Fire Department assisted with four fires in the Colleton County area.
- The Chief is working on re-writing the Statement of Goals for the Fire Department.
- Two new exhaust fans were purchased.
- Scott Epps is now a certified first aid instructor.

Police

	<b>October 2021</b>	<b>October 2022</b>	<b>YTD</b>
Miles Patrolled	7,530	8,769	36,007
Incidents & Calls for Service	142	104	745
Property Checks	801	784	3,576
Town Parking Tickets	29	38	547

Chief Seyle also reported the following:

- Lt. Casey Herring attended the human trafficking class at the Police Academy.
- One of the police vehicles hit by a deer has been repaired.
- The Police Department has received three officer applications.
- \$21,200 grant has been awarded to the Police Department for the purchase of new computers and docking stations.

Utilities

<b>MG (Million gallons)</b>	<b>October 2021</b>	<b>October 2022</b>	<b>YTD</b>
Pumped MG Water	17.0	15.6	79.5
Treated MG Wastewater	2.9	3.2	15.4
Water Line Repairs	6	2	16
Work Order Repairs	21	26	127

**Executive Session**

Mr. Kizer moved to go into Executive Session to discuss the following items and only the following items: **(1)** *discussion of employment, appointment, compensation, promotion, demotion, discipline, or release of an employee(s) related to the Town Attorney, S.C. Code §30-4-70 (a) (1); (2) receipt of legal advice where the legal advice relates to a pending, threatened, or potential claim or other matters covered by the attorney-client privilege related to Carla Dupre and Jasper Varn III v Town of Edisto Beach Zoning Board of Appeals Case No. 2021-CP-14 S.C. Code §30-4-70 (a) (2); (3) discussion of negotiations incident to proposed contractual arrangements relating to Ocean Ridge Property Association regarding deer management, S.C. Code §30-4-70 (a) (2).* Mr. Renner seconded this motion, which was unanimously approved.

Council entered Executive Session at 6:36 p.m.

**Open Session**

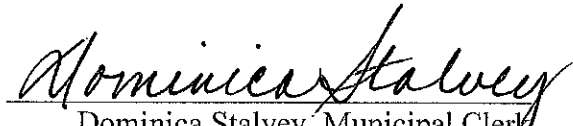
At 7:18 p.m., Mr. Bagwell made a motion to exit Executive Session and enter Open Session. Mr. Renner seconded this motion, which was unanimously approved.

Upon entering Open Session, Mr. Kizer made a motion, seconded by Mr. Renner, to hire Maryann Blake as Town Attorney and further authorize the Mayor to execute an agreement as such. Mr. Renner seconded this motion, which was unanimously approved.

**Adjournment**

Mr. Kizer made a motion, seconded by Mr. Renner, to adjourn the meeting. The motion was unanimously approved, and the meeting adjourned at 7:19 p.m.

APPROVED BY TOWN COUNCIL

  
Dominica Stalvey, Municipal Clerk  
December 8, 2022