

**WATER AND SEWER COMMITTEE MEETING
TOWN OF EDISTO BEACH
January 17, 2023
10:00 a.m.**

MINUTES

Present: John David Griffith, David Ballard, Lou Rasmussen, John Drolet

Absent: Jody Kleckley (excused)

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

Call to Order

In Chairman Kleckley's absence, Mr. Griffith chaired this meeting, and he called the meeting to order at 10:01 a.m.

Approval of Minutes from November 15, 2022

Mr. Rasmussen moved to accept the minutes of November 15, 2022. Mr. Ballard seconded this motion, which was approved unanimously.

Old Business

Update on Moratorium

Assistant Town Administrator Aakhus and Utilities Director Zemp gave a brief update to the Committee on the work with Pump Station B. Construction has begun on this project, and the concrete pad has been poured. Work on Pump Station B is expected to be completed no later than April.

Update on Capital Improvements

Mr. Aakhus noted we are still awaiting word on our SCIIP grant application; hopefully, we will hear word on this in the coming weeks. Mr. Aakhus reminded the Committee all capital improvements are dependent upon the receipt of the SCIIP grant.

Development of Process for Sewer Tap Approvals

- **Electronic Process for Sewer Tap Approvals**

Mr. Aakhus shared the updated Sewer Connection Decision Tree draft. Mr. Ballard noted he will plug in the two addresses of the individuals who appeared before the Committee to determine if this decision tree works as it should.

- Discussion held on whether we should approve these two requests based upon the lifting of the moratorium. Mr. Zemp noted his disagreement with approving any requests until work on the pump stations are completed. Mr. Aakhus noted we will keep the list of requests on a spreadsheet and whenever we are ready to approve sewer taps, we will contact those on our spreadsheet and ask them to complete an application.
- Discussion held on environmental impacts if sewer systems fail. This will cause leakage on the beach and leakage on the creek. Mr. Aakhus noted we should consider drafting a definition of what this is so we can be objective when we go through this process. Use of a numbering system to work on environmental impacts, and how severe the impact is, would be helpful.

Draft Application for Sewer Tap

- Mr. Aakhus shared the draft sewer tap application. Mr. Griffith asked the Committee to review the application and suggest any changes at the next meeting.

2022-06 Water and Wastewater RFQ

Mr. Aakhus informed the Committee that the 2022-06 Water and Wastewater RFQ was approved by Council at its December 8, 2022, meeting. The RFQ for as needed professional services was awarded to American Engineering and to Alliance Consulting Engineers, and we are in the process of finalizing the agreements.

New Business

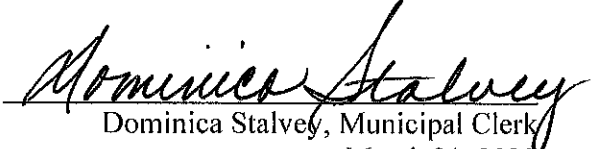
Communication regarding Winter Freeze

Discussion was held on the winter freeze during the Christmas holiday and the communication with residents by the Town. Mr. Aakhus noted how our notification system works, including our website “News” site, our CodeRed system, our email notification system, and our “report a problem” link on the website. Notifications were forwarded to residents prior to the freeze and during the freeze. Mr. Aakhus noted for CodeRed and email notifications, Town residents must be signed up through our system to receive those messages. Sign-up links are featured on our website and in our Monthly Highlights. Next time something like this occurs, we will also utilize the message board and post at the Town’s entrance.

Adjournment

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

APPROVED BY THE WATER AND SEWER COMMITTEE


Dominica Stalvey, Municipal Clerk
March 21, 2023