

**MINUTES**  
**WATER AND SEWER COMMITTEE MEETING**  
**TOWN OF EDISTO BEACH**  
**May 21, 2024**  
**10:00 a.m.**

**Present**

Chair Jody Kleckley, John David Griffith (via conference call), David Ballard, and John Drolet, Committee Members. *Quorum of Members Present.*

**Absent**

Lou Rasmussen

**Others Present**

Town Administrator Mark Aakhus, Assistant Town Administrator Dee Stalvey, Utilities Director Patrick Zemp, and Municipal Clerk Donna Iskra

**Call to Order**

Vice Chair Griffith called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.

**Approval of Minutes – February 20, 2024**

Mr. Drolet moved to accept the minutes of February 20, 2024. Mr. Ballard seconded this motion, which was approved unanimously.

**Old Business**

**Pump Station B Update**

Town Administrator Aakhus reported he has reached out to American Engineering for recommendations on waterproofing Pump Station B. Mr. Zemp stated American Engineering has yet to identify a solution that would work due to the location of the manhole inside the pump station which would flood the pump station regardless of any efforts to floodproof the exterior of the building. Mr. Griffith noted installing a backflow preventer on the Ocean Ridge lagoon outfall pipe may provide some security, however that option comes with its own challenges. Mr. Aakhus stated we will continue to look at all options.

**New Business**

**Wastewater Systems Upgrades Project-Schedule Update**

Mr. Aakhus gave an update on Pump Station A; shop drawings have been submitted to American Engineering and the equipment needed has been ordered. Final design is being wrapped up and required permits are being obtained. One easement will be needed for the forcemain on golf course property. Mr. Aakhus shared a plat map with the Committee showing the proposed easement location. Timeline for completion of Pump Station A is August-September 2024. The remainder of the projects will be completed by early 2026.

### Well Pump Update

Mr. Zemp informed the Committee of an issue with Well 8 concerning the Sinewave filter, which appears to be failing. The original electrical engineering company, Gregory Electric, was contacted regarding this issue of the well continually losing power, and they did not respond. Mr. Zemp then contacted American Engineering to inspect Well 8, and they discovered the electrical panel was not wired correctly and provided an official technical report. Mr. Aakhus forwarded correspondence and the technical report to Wharton & Smith, original project contractors, and requested an immediate response. Wharton & Smith are expected to inspect Well 8 on May 22. Wells 7 and 9 produce adequate water, which will suffice until Well 8 is repaired.

### Open Discussion

#### Rate Study from American Engineering

Mr. Aakhus reported the rate study from American Engineering has been received, and there will be no increase in water or sewer rates at this time. Small incremental increases may be needed in the future, but all is well for the time being.

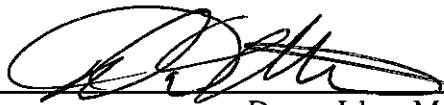
#### Meter Readers Update

Mr. Aakhus reported the outlook for receiving additional grant money for the meter readers upgrade is favorable. The expectation is the Town will receive a majority of the money requested. With the \$500,000 already received for this project, the Town should be able to move forward even if we receive partial funding.

### Adjournment

There being no further business to discuss, Mr. Drolet made a motion to adjourn the meeting, which was seconded by Mr. Ballard. The motion passed unanimously.

**APPROVED BY THE WATER AND SEWER COMMITTEE**



Donna Iskra, Municipal Clerk  
August 20, 2024