

MINUTES
TOWN OF EDISTO BEACH
August 8, 2024
REGULAR TOWN COUNCIL MEETING
6:00 p.m.

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

This Regular Town Council Meeting was properly advertised and posted and met all requirements of the Freedom of Information Act.

Present: Mayor Crawford Moore, and Council Members Jerome Kizer, Robert Renner, Jay Watts, and 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

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

Approval of Minutes

Mr. Kizer moved to approve the Regular Town Council Meeting Minutes, July 11, 2024. The motion was seconded by Mr. Renner and unanimously approved.

Proclamations and Presentations

Starfish Award

Corzell "Trey" Simmons (not present to receive the award), a member of the Town's Public Works staff, was nominated for a Starfish Award by resident Bill Boyne. Mr. Boyne noted that he usually gets a wave and shout out "hello" from Trey as he is out working in his yard. Trey represents the Town in a very "Edisto like" way and he is to be commended for his positive attitude and representing the Town so well.

The Town of Edisto Beach is pleased to recognize Ken Tingman for his work as an Edisto Island Preservation Alliance Board Member, and for his work in establishing the first bird sanctuary on Edisto Beach. Due to Ken's efforts, the Wilson's Plovers nest was sectioned off and the chicks had a safe place to hatch. The Town appreciates Ken's dedication in leading this effort to protect our shorebirds.

Mayor Crawford Moore was nominated for a Starfish Award by Councilman Jay Watts and supported by Councilmen Kizer, Renner, and Bagwell. Mayor Moore worked together with the Edisto Island Preservation Alliance and Mr. Ken Tingman in protecting our shorebirds. With the Mayor's support, they were able to create a safe area for the Wilson's Plovers while they nested.

Public Comment Period

1. Ms. Kim Moredock, Edisto Beach resident, noted the lack of cell phone service on the beach due to an osprey nest on the tower, is a safety issue. She shared an article from the Center for Birds of Prey, Charleston Harbor where they were able to move an uninhabited nest.
2. Mr. Bill Wallace, Edisto Beach resident, noted some of the drains on Palmetto Blvd. were clogged. He also requested additional spraying for mosquitos since we have had so much rain.

Old Business

Ordinance No. 2021-13 Temporary Moratorium to be reviewed every 30 days until resolved. Construction of Pump Station B is complete. Notice to proceed for Pump Station A construction has been provided to Babcock Construction, LLC. Materials and equipment have been delivered to the site, and work began on July 29.

New Business

ESP Surveying Work Order for Beach Renourishment Project. Council was asked to consider and approve the work order in the amount of \$10,000 to ESP Surveying for the field survey and to map additional ground locations, per the Army Corps of Engineers. This will be paid from the Beach Preservation Fund which has a current balance of \$11,414,626. Mr. Renner made a motion to approve the work order to ESP Surveying for the field survey and to map additional ground locations in the amount of \$10,000. Mr. Watts seconded this motion, which was approved unanimously.

Approval to Advertise for Town Committee Vacancies: Zoning Board of Appeals (2), Construction Board of Appeals (1). Council was asked to consider and approve to advertise vacancies for two Town committees: (1) Zoning Board of Appeals, two vacancies; and (2) Construction Board of Appeals, one vacancy. Mr. Bagwell made a motion to approve to advertise the vacancies for the two Town committees: Zoning Board of Appeals, two vacancies and Construction Board of Appeals, one vacancy. Mr. Kizer seconded the motion, which was approved unanimously.

Special Event Application: Edisto Island Triathlon, October 26, 2024. Council was asked to consider and approve the special event application for the Edisto Island Triathlon, sponsored by South Carolina Triathlon Series, on October 26, 2024, from 8:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. The event course will be on Edisto Beach and Edisto Island, with post-event activities at Bay Creek Park. Approximately 300 participants are expected. Mr. Kizer made a motion to approve the special event application for the Edisto Island Triathlon on October 26, 2024, with post-event activities at Bay Creek Park. Mr. Watts seconded the motion, which was approved unanimously.

ATAX Board Recommendations. Council was asked to consider and approve the following ATAX Board recommendations:

- Edisto Art Guild Plein Air Paint Out – Art Display Lighting for October 2024 Event. Art display lighting in the amount of \$1,000 for the October 2024 event.

- Edisto Art Guild Plein Air Paint Out – Advertising for October 2025 event. International advertising for the October 2025 event in the Outdoor Painter’s Ultimate Guide in the amount of \$1,595.

Mr. Watts made a motion to approve the Edisto Art Guild Plein Air Paint Out – Art Display Lighting in the amount of \$1,000., and the Edisto Art Guild Plein Air Paint Out – Advertising for the 2025 event in the amount of \$1,595. Mr. Bagwell seconded the motion, which was approved unanimously.

Department Reports

The following reports were presented to Council:

Building

	July 2023	July 2024	YTD
Business/Rental License Fees	\$17,182.51	\$18,728.52	\$18,728.52
New Construction Permits	4	1	1
Other Permits	32	36	36
Permit Fees	\$20,752.50	\$9,694.52	\$9,694.52
Inspections	52	88	88

- Mr. Brown stated damage information from Debby has been input into the SC Palmetto Damage App. He also reported 24 homes damaged, 1 home destroyed, 5 homes with major damage and 8 homes affected. Two businesses reported major damage. Damage assessments are ongoing.

Fire (presented by Town Administrator Mark Aakhus)

Calls	July 2023	July 2024	YTD
Medical	38	37	37
Fire-Related	7	3	3
EMS/Misc. (includes alarms, hazmat, public assist, water rescue, etc.)	11	21	21
Public Service (includes fire inspections, beach wheelchair loan, welfare checks)	45	53	53

- Mr. Aakhus reported EBFD continued training on marine rescue operations, hose lay deployment and tactics, and water supply scenarios.
- Mutual Aid with St. Paul’s Fire Department traffic control on HWY 174 for downed power line.

Police (presented by Town Administrator Mark Aakhus)

	July 2023	July 2024	YTD
Miles Patrolled	10,726	12,723	12,723
Incidents & Calls for Service	303	196	196
Property Checks	1,341	1,280	1,280
Town Parking Tickets	243	138	138

- Mr. Aakhus reported 14 rescues during Tropical Storm Debby. EBPD assisted EBFD and other departments during the storm.
- Roads were barricaded due to flooding.
- Eric Duvall successfully completed the Police Academy
- Interviews were conducted for two new officers.
- The Police Department provided security for the Governor's Cup.

Utilities

MG (Million gallons)	July 2023	July 2024	YTD
Pumped MG Water	26.4	25.2	25.2
Treated MG Wastewater	5.7	5.9	5.9
Water Line Repairs	1	2	2
Work Order Repairs	37	27	27

- Mr. Zemp reported they are in the process of installing over 500 lbs. of new street signs.
- Both Utility and Public Works crews are working on storm clean -up, clearing bike paths and mowing ditches.
- Mosquito spraying will resume when weather allows.
- Mayor Moore commended both the Utilities Department and the Public Works Department for doing the lions share of work for Tropical Storm Debby.

Fund Information

Fund	Received	Spent
General Fund	6.00%	7.60%
Water Fund	5.19%	8.02%
Wastewater Fund	3.52%	3.40%

Freedom of information Act Requests (FOIA)

	July 2023	July 2024	YTD
Number of Requests	2	4	4

Administration

Town Administrator Mark Aakhus presented updates to Council on the following items:

- Work at Pump Station A has begun and is moving quickly.
- SCDOT TAP grant was approved and the full application has been submitted. CTC will hold a meeting regarding matching funds.
- Edisto Beach Coastal Storm Risk Management Project:
 - Survey Plats have been completed
 - Appraisal work has begun
 - Attorney is working on title research for easements
- Tropical Storm Debby:
 - Two separate EF-1 Tornadoes were confirmed by the National Weather Service at the 100 and 2700 block of Palmetto
 - 24 damaged buildings in Edisto of which five residences had major damage and two businesses also had major damage. One residence was completely destroyed but

- fortunately, we had no reported injuries.
- The Fire Department rescued 14 individuals from three different residences.
 - Dominion Energy had multiple bucket trucks and crews staged so many of the downed poles and lines were repaired the next day.
 - EBFD and EBVFD cut trees to clear Jungle Road and SCDOT has started to remove the debris.
 - Lyons Contracting began collecting debris to supplement the Town's efforts.
- The Administration received one FOIA request in July from Marie Bost

Council Time

Council presented the following items for information:


- Mr. Bagwell noted the large police presence at the Billfish Tournament and noted there were no issues.
- Mr. Kizer noted people are cleaning up after the storm.
- Mayor Moore stated it takes all hands to get through events like TS Debby and our Fire Department and Police Department, along with Dominion and Colleton County, made everything run seamlessly.
- Mayor Moore asked everyone to keep Mr. Watts in their thoughts and prayers due to the passing of his father.

Adjournment

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

The meeting was adjourned at 6:36 p.m.

APPROVED BY TOWN COUNCIL



Donna Iskra, Municipal Clerk
September 12, 2024