

# The Edisto Beach Comber

TOWN OF EDISTO BEACH NEWSLETTER, EDISTO BEACH SOUTH CAROLINA

(843) 869-2505 January, 2012 website: [www.townofedistobeach.com](http://www.townofedistobeach.com)

## MONTHLY MEETINGS

TIDE Committee	02/01	10:00 am
ATAX Meeting	02/02	4:00 pm
Council WkSess	02/07	10:00 am
Municipal Court	02/09	2:00 pm
Council Meeting	02/09	6:00 pm
ZBA Meeting	02/13	5:00 pm
PC WkSess	02/15	4:00 pm
Planning Comm	02/21	5:00 pm



The history of Valentine's Day and its patron saint, Saint Valentine, is shrouded in mystery, but we do know that February has long been a month of romance. According to one legend, Saint Valentine actually sent the first "valentine" greeting himself. While in prison, it is believed that Valentine fell in love with a young girl (who may have been his jailor's daughter), when she visited him during his confinement. Before his death, it is alleged that he wrote her a letter which he signed "From your Valentine", an expression that is still in use today. Although the truth behind the Valentine legend is murky, the stories certainly emphasize his appeal as a sympathetic, heroic, and, most importantly, romantic figure. It's no surprise that by the Middle Ages, Valentine was one of the most popular saints in England and France.

## TOWN HALL 2012 HOLIDAY SCHEDULE

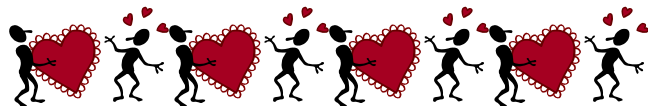
New Year's Day	Jan 02
Martin Luther King Day	Jan 16
President's Day	Feb 20
Good Friday	Apr 06
Confederate Memorial Day	May 10
National Memorial Day	May 28
Independence Day	July 04
Labor Day	Sept 03
Columbus Day	Oct 08
Veteran's Day	Nov 12
Thanksgiving	Nov 22 & 23
Christmas	Dec 24, 25 & 26

Valentine's Day began to be popularly celebrated around the seventeenth century. By the middle of the eighteenth century, it was common for friends and lovers in all social classes to exchange small tokens of affection or handwritten notes. By the end of the century, printed cards began to replace written letters due to improvements in printing technology. Ready-made cards were an easy way for people to express their emotions in a time when direct expression of one's feelings was discouraged. Cheaper postage rates also contributed to an increase in the popularity of sending Valentine's Day greetings. Americans probably began exchanging hand-made valentines in the early 1700s. In the 1840s, Esther A. Howland began to sell the first mass-produced valentines in America. According to the Greeting Card Association, an estimated one billion valentine cards are sent each year, making Valentine's Day the second largest card-sending holiday of the year, behind Christmas as the first largest.

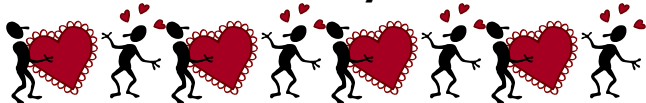
Town Hall will be closed in observance of holiday



PRESIDENT'S DAY, Monday, February 20<sup>th</sup>



**Have a Happy  
Valentine's Day on  
February 14<sup>th</sup>**



Approximately 85% of all valentines are purchased by women. In addition to the United States, Valentine's Day is celebrated in Canada, Mexico, the United Kingdom, France and Australia.

## **EDISTO RECIPES**

### **Valentine's Pie**



- 1 8 oz pkg cream cheese
- 1 cup confectioner's sugar
- 1 tsp vanilla extract
- 1 8 oz container cool whip (thawed)
- 1 9 in prepared graham cracker crust
- 1 16 oz can cherry pie filling

Beat cream cheese and powdered sugar until combined. Add vanilla and beat 2 minutes, then gently fold in cool whip. Pour mixture into the pie crust, top with cherry pie filling and refrigerate for at least one hour before serving.

## **BEACH COMBER TREASURES**



### **Starfish/Sea Star**

Marine Scientists have undertaken the difficult task of replacing the beloved starfish's common name with sea star because the starfish is not a fish. It is an echinoderm, closely related to sea urchins and sand dollars.

There are some 2,000 species of sea star living in all the world's oceans, from tropical habitats to the cold seafloor. The five arm varieties are the most common, hence their name, but species with 10, 20 and even 40 arms exist. They have bony, calcified skin, which protects them from most predators, and many wear striking colors that camouflage them or scare off potential attackers. Purely marine animals, there are no freshwater sea stars, and only a few live in brackish water.

Beyond their distinctive shape, sea stars are famous for their ability to regenerate limbs, and in some cases, entire bodies. They accomplish this by housing most or all of their vital organs in their arms. Some require the central body to be intact to regenerate, but a few species can grow an entirely new sea star from just a portion of a severed limb.

Most sea stars also have the remarkable ability to consume prey outside their bodies. Using tiny, suction-cupped tube feet, they pry open clams or oysters, and their sack-like cardiac stomach emerges from their mouth and oozes inside the shell. The stomach then envelops the prey to digest it, and finally withdraws back into the body.

## **MINUTES** **DECEMBER 8, 2011** **COUNCIL MEETING** **6:00 P.M.**

Present: Burley L. Lyons, Mayor, Susan Hornsby, Mayor Pro Tempore, Pete Anderson, Larry "Babe" Hutto, Tommy Mann and Jane Darby, Council Members; *Quorum of Council Present.*

Mayor Lyons welcomed guests and thanked all who served the Town of Edisto Beach.

Council Session opened with a word of prayer by Councilwoman Hornsby, who also led those present in the *Pledge of Allegiance.*

Councilman Hutto moved to approve the Regular Council Meeting Minutes of November 10, 2011. Councilman Mann seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

Councilman Mann moved to approve the Special Council Meeting Minutes of November 21, 2011. Councilman Hutto seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

### **Proclamations and Presentations**

Mayor Lyons presented the Council Appreciation Award to Councilwoman Susan Hornsby for her four years of service on the Edisto Beach Town Council.

Mayor Lyons told the audience that he presented Starfish Awards for service on the Bay Creek Park Committee to Mr. Bill Houston and Mr. Ray Archibald in Tuesday's Work Session. Mayor Lyons also recognized Mr. Bob Foster and Mrs. Drew Weeks for their service on the Bay Creek Park Committee. They were not in attendance to receive their Starfish Awards.

Councilwoman Susan Hornsby presented Mayor Burley Lyons with a Starfish Award for his service on the Bay Creek Park committee.

## Old Business

Approved: 2012 Legislative Initiatives. Council will be in Columbia, SC on February 15, 2012 for the Legislative Action Day. This trip will provide Council the opportunity to meet with Legislators face to face to discuss issues that impact the Town of Edisto Beach. Councilman Hutto moved to approve the 2012 Legislative Initiatives. Councilman Anderson seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

## New Business/Apearances

*Swearing in Ceremony.* Mayor Burley L. Lyons, Councilman Pete Anderson and Councilwoman Jane Darby were sworn in by Judge Thomas Weeks.

*Nomination of Mayor Pro Tempore.* Council selected Councilman Babe Hutto as Mayor Pro Tempore.

Approved: Mayor Appointed Department Liaisons. Councilman Hutto moved to approve the elimination of Mayor appointed department liaisons. Councilman Mann seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

Approved: First Reading of Ordinance #2011-39 to Refinance Revenue Bond and First Reading of Supplemental Ordinance #2011-40. Council was asked to consider and approve the first reading of **Ordinance #2011-39** and **Supplemental Ordinance #2011-40** to refinance the water and sewer revenue bond to fund future needs of the utility. With interest rates at an all-time low and the Edisto Beach utility facing future needs such as wastewater capacity expansion, water valve replacement and Point Street water project, the Town can refinance the current revenue bonds and obtain approximately \$400,000 in additional funds by extending the payout of the bond without increasing the bond payment amount. The cost of issuance is \$46,500. The new bond amount is \$1,725,035.72. On November 14, 2011, the Water & Sewer Committee unanimously approved refinancing the bond.

## First Reading of Ordinance #2011-39

Authorising and Providing for the Issuance by the Town of Edisto Beach, South Carolina of Waterworks and Sewer System Revenue Bonds to Finance or Refinance Improvements to the Water and Sewer System of the Town of Edisto Beach; Prescribing the Form of Bonds to be Issued Hereunder; Covenanting as to the

Revenues and the Fixing, Establishment, and Collection of Rates and Charges for the Use of the Water and Sewer System; Pledging the Revenues and Other Funds to the Payment of the Principal of and Interest on the Bonds; and Making Other Covenants and Agreements Relating to the Foregoing.

Councilman Mann moved to approve the first reading of Ordinance #2011-39. Councilman Hutto seconded the motion. The vote carried 4 to 1, with Councilwoman Darby opposed.

## First Reading of Supplemental Ordinance #2011-40

Providing for the Issuance and Sale by the Town of Edisto Beach, South Carolina of Waterworks and Sewer System Revenue Refunding and Improvement Bonds in one or more Series; and Other Matters Relating Thereto.

Councilman Mann moved to approve the first reading of Supplemental Ordinance #2011-40. Councilman Hutto seconded the motion. The vote carried 4 to 1, with Councilwoman Darby opposed.

Approved: Reverse Osmosis Project. The Water and Sewer Committee unanimously approved moving forward with Individual Work authorization No. 2 titled Feasibility Study to Improve Water Quality and Water Supply Utilizing Reverse Osmosis Treatment and Aquifer Storage Recovery Technologies with URS (formerly known as BP Barber) at a cost of \$60,000 to be funded from the Water R & R Fund. Once the study is complete, a public survey will be conducted. Councilwoman Darby moved to approve Work Authorization No. 2 titled Feasibility Study to Improve Water Quality and Water Supply Utilizing Reverse Osmosis Treatment and Aquifer Storage Recovery Techniques. Councilman Mann seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

Approved: Resolution #2011-R37 Safety Policy. Phil Cromer of the South Carolina Municipal Insurance Risk Fund requests that Council approve a new Safety Policy Resolution any time there are new Council Members elected. Councilman Anderson moved to approve Resolution #2011-R37 Safety Policy. Councilman Mann seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

*Direction from Council regarding Erosion.* Staff has been receiving complaints from residents in Cell 1 (100 block of Palmetto Boulevard) on the

front beach regarding erosion that occurred this past year. Several homes are in threat of being damaged from this erosion. It was the general consensus of Council that, at this point, the erosion is the individual homeowner's responsibility, and that Town staff will try to facilitate any remedial work that can be done to help the situation.

Approved: *Transfer \$5,000 for Air Conditioner replacement Fire and Police Departments.* According to the contractor, both the fire and police department air conditioners need to be replaced and since the duct work services both areas, it is more cost effective to replace both units at the same time and upgrade the duct work. Eight thousand dollars was budgeted to replace the fire department a/c unit and an additional \$5,000 is needed to replace the police department a/c. The replacement generator came in under budget and funds are available. Councilman Hutto moved to approve the transfer of \$5,000 from funds budgeted for the replacement generator to fund replacement of the air conditioner units in the fire and police departments. Councilman Anderson seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

**Planning Commission**

Approved: *131 Jungle Road-Construction of Residential Home in C-3 District.* Ms. Julie Gyselinck applied with the Building Department to construct a residential home at 131 Jungle Road, which is an area zoned C-3. A residential home is a permitted use in the C-3 district; however, per section 86-141(i) of the Town's Code, each application for a building permit for new construction in an area zoned C-3 shall be reviewed by the Planning Commission and approved by Town Council. The Planning Commission approved this item with a vote of 6 to 1. Councilwoman Darby moved to approve the application submitted by Ms. Gyselinck for the construction of a residential home to be located at 131 Jungle Road, an area in the C-3 district. Councilman Anderson seconded the motion. Councilman Mann stated that while he has no reason to vote against this item, he does not agree with the construction of a residential home in the commercial district. The vote was unanimous to approve.

**Committee Reports**

Financial Report

This report was presented by Iris Hill, Town Administrator for the month ending November 30, 2011.

	Received	Spent
General Fund	28.71 %	46.74 %
Water Fund	29.94 %	39.76 %
Wastewater Fund	24.20 %	35.01 %

Police Department Report

The Police Department report was presented by Chief Coffey for the month of November 2011.

	Nov-10	Nov-11	YTD
Citations	4	10	60
Speeding	0	8	54
Golf Cart Violations	0	0	4
Property Checks	0	1,120	6,875
Calls for Service	58	62	477
Calls Requiring 2 Officers	10	6	38
Burglary	1	5	10
Larceny	3	7	20
Assaults	1	1	3
Alarms	38	16	100
Traffic Warnings	32	27	481
			38,63
Patrolled Miles	3,407	8,225	5
Criminal Domestic Violence	0	0	3

Building Department Report

The Building Department Report was presented by Patrick Brown, Building Codes Administrator, for the month of November 2011.

	Nov-10	Nov-11	YTD
Business/Rental License Fees	\$2,784	\$3,067	10,343
New Construction Permits		0	2
Other Permits	36	19	107
Permit Fees	\$3,018	\$1,628	14,513
Inspections	79	77	446

Mr. Brown told Council that he met with Mrs. Cunningham regarding her erosion issue. The Town is looking into grants to relocate her house, and she has consulted with an engineer regarding strengthening the foundation of her house.

## Fire Department

The fire department report for the month of November 2011 was given by Assistant Fire Chief Billy Callahan. Assistant Chief Callahan told the audience that Chief Waddle's baby had been born.

Calls	Nov-10	Nov-11	YTD
Medical	3	11	103
Fire-related Public Assistance	1	0	18
Beach Wheel Chairs	5	6	86
	3	0	24

## Edisto Chamber of Commerce

The Chamber report for the month of November was given by Dan Carter.

## Utilities Department

The Utilities Department report for the month of November 2011 was given by Bob Doub, the Utilities Director.

	Nov-10	Nov-11	YTD
Pumped MG Water	17.77 MG	12.25 MG	106.56 MG
Treated MG Wastewater	4.16 MG	3.2 MG	28.58 MG
Water Line Repairs	108	115	333
Work Order Repairs	63	115	399

Mr. Doub reported to Council that utilities department personnel had been conducting monthly maintenance of wells, lift stations and Town owned equipment. SCDHEC installed solar powered rain gauge at the wastewater treatment plant that will download monthly rain totals. This was installed at no expense to the Town.

## Public Works

This report was presented by the Utilities Director, Bob Doub for the month of November 2011.

	Nov-10	Nov-11	YTD
Mowed Acres Cleaned Ditches (miles)	32.31	9	158.56
Roll Carts Delivered	1.37	4	23.44
	6	10	47

Mr. Doub told Council that the Public Works Department had been short one employee during the month of November due to shoulder surgery, but now that employee is back at work. The Public Works Department delivered 8 new trash cans to Linkside in Wyndham, trimmed limbs at intersections, removed damaged sand fencing from the beach, picked up trash and pulled in cans along Palmetto Boulevard. The Utilities and Public Works Departments along with Bob Doub and Patrick Brown put up Christmas decorations around Town and at the Bay Creek Park.

## **Signed in to Speak**

There was no one signed in to speak.

Councilman Hutto moved to go into Executive Session. Councilman Mann seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

Councilwoman Darby moved to exit Executive Session. Councilman Mann seconded the motion, which carried unanimously. Councilman Mann moved to go into regular session. Councilwoman Darby seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

Councilman Mann moved to agree to monitor the wells utilized to test water quality and sampling for wastewater effluent. Councilman Hutto seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

Councilman Mann moved to adjourn the meeting. Councilman Hutto seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

Meeting adjourned at 7:08 p.m.

*The media/public was duly notified of the date, time and place of the Council Meeting on Friday, December 2, 2011.*