

MINUTES  
JANUARY 25, 2022  
TOWN COUNCIL RETREAT  
10:00 AM

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

**Present:** Mayor Crawford Moore, Mayor Pro Tempore Jerome Kizer, Bob Renner and Jay Watts, Council Members. *Quorum of Council Present.*

**Present Ex Officio:** Town Administrator Iris Hill, Assistant Town Administrator Mark Aakhus, Town Attorney Bert Duffie, Municipal Association of South Carolina Field Manager Charlie Barrineau (Facilitator)

**Goals**

**Must Do:**

**A. Beach renourishment planning**

1. Include next steps for the USACE
2. Develop a Plan B if we get dropped from the USACE plan.
3. CSE has indicated that a major renourishment is needed within the next 5 years.
4. How do we fund this nourishment? Paid parking?
5. To what extent do we nourish?
6. Limited by funding?
7. Include groin adjustments and/or improvements?
8. Meet with Colleton County leadership and County Legislative Delegation to ensure they are aware of plan(s)
9. Role of Town lobbyist
10. South Carolina Beach Advocates 2022 Annual Meeting January 31 – February 2 –  
Conversation with USACE Brig. Gen. Jason Kelly

**B. Future wastewater tap approval conditions once the moratorium is lifted.**

1. How do we prevent over tapping the collection system requiring additional upgrades?
2. As sea levels rise, septic systems will fail.
3. Do we need to develop a plan for the future?
4. Utilities committee to study; Work with engineer to develop written process.

**C. Install automated read meters (ARM)**

1. \$750,000
2. Challenges with absentee owners
3. Seek software that has some form of “push” notification technology so that leaks do not go undetected
4. Goal to upgrade entire system at once

**D. Prioritize master recreation plan recommendations**

1. Rank
2. Provide funding options
3. Council review & prioritize and provide to staff
4. Budget funds in 2022/23 (possibly last year surplus)

**Should Do:**

**A. Lagoon study & next steps if grant receive**

1. Town has engaged the services of Davis & Floyd

**B. Garbage collection**

1. Due to Town's isolated location, this will likely be an on-going focus area
2. Provide the best possible service at the lowest possible cost
3. Look to adding additional weeks (possibly considering additional weeks during spring and Christmas season)
4. Improving public education here critical

**C. Paving/Rock/Sand**

1. On-going focus area
2. Jungle Shores at Whaley, 700-800 block, Pompano 500-600 block, Dolphin 600 block. Dawhoo. In addition, the Town portion of Jenkins St near the back entrance gate needs to be resurfaced.

**Could Do:**

**1. Town Administrator's Retirement**

1. Time frame of 1/30/23
2. Council should make decision to provide some overlap with the next administrator

**2. Assess use to Town owned beach access**

1. Open access 11 and 15 to golf carts (no vehicles)
2. Assess other under utilized access areas for golf carts

**3. Public safety needs for unincorporated Colleton County (Edisto State Park, Jeremy Cay Edisto Oaks, Neck, Hammocks, Cowpens)**

1. State Park, as of 2022, no longer providing Class 3 officer certification for rangers; Town police likely will be requested for more routine matters
2. Areas outside of incorporated Edisto Beach beginning to grow
3. Staff need to begin gathering data and tracking fiscal impact to prepared for future communication with Colleton County

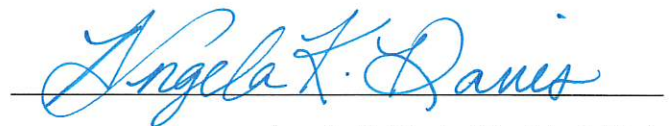
**Other Goals Proposed (no order assigned)**

- A. Health Provider-Locate a person or entity that can fill the void left by the retirement of Dr. Borders. Available on Edisto 3 times a week.
  - a. Reach out to MUSC, Colleton Medical Center, House Calls (schousecalls.com), etc. to possibly seek ways to fill gap
- B. Enhancing the Town's communications to the public

- a. New email service development underway; assess and provide feedback following initial rollout
- C. Investigating commuting options for employees of our local businesses with the Lowcountry Council of Governments. Should this be better addressed by the Chamber?
- D. New Town Hall Status-This has been submitted the Colleton County Capital Projects committee for review and approval to be included in the 2023 CPST referendum. The Town will not know if funded until after the November 2023 referendum. If it is not included in the referendum or the referendum fails, the project does not move forward.
- E. Water and sewer tap fees (around average compared to others), building permit fees (standardized), other municipal fees compared to other municipalities in SC
- F. How does the Town remediate for flood prone areas? Change ordinance allowing fill/structures/revetments/retaining walls? Raise structure? Will this impact height restrictions?
- G. The annual surveys indicate the deer population is increasing and causing property damage and bodily injury. What are the next steps? Deer culling(\$), sterilizing(\$\$), ordinance restricting feeding?
- H. Do we want to or are we able to attract or incentivize new business to locate here? Most of the Town's commercial lots are being used for residences. Does Council want to prohibit residences in commercial zone? Can this legally be done now without it being considered a taking?
- I. This coming year is a reassessment year. Although property values are up, reassessment basically prevents municipalities from having a "windfall". How does the Town fund needs to provide the same level of service with an increase in population? More tourist? Use banked millage? 1 mill = \$50,000? Police officer, finance position, insurance and retirement increases?
- J. How do we address golf cart parking at beach accesses when designed for standard sized golf carts and all the companies are adding extended golf carts?
- K. Conduct a PUD Lagoon study. How to fund? Partner with Wyndham, Ocean Ridge? How to deal with private property issues?
- L. The Town needs to install security locks on all doors and the Water Plant to track who is accessing the buildings (\$15,000)
- M. Purchase a sweeper for bike paths. New tractor (>10,000)? Attachment for existing tractor (\$3,000-\$5,000)? Attachment to stihl weed eater (\$350.00)? Contract? Silicosis? (NIOSH recommends the use of half-facepiece particulate respirators with N95 or better filters for airborne exposures to crystalline silica at concentrations less than or equal to 0.5 mg/m3)

- N. Bay Creek Park parking lot. Last year the Town stabilized the parking area. This has not held up to traffic. Pave (\$150,000) or continue to repair monthly (\$2,000)?
- O. Bay Creek Park lighting -Lighting needs to be enhanced at Bay Creek Park.
- P. The major concern is that the current building restrictions on height, size and setbacks for houses might be modified. They feel it is especially important that the 40-foot height restriction as well as the others be maintained and enforced.
- Q. There is significant concern about the number of approvals that DHEC has given for engineered septic systems placed seaward of the allowable setback line, and the damage that could be incurred by our beach should they fail. Can the Town be more restrictive than SCDHEC?
- R. The numbers of day visitors is continuing to grow with the increased housing development around Charleston. This development is projected to increase significantly. Other coastal towns have already experienced this and have had to take action to restrict such things as parking, litter control, etc., even to the extent of limiting the number of visitors at a given time. How can this be handled here on Edisto? (paid parking, ordinance revisions (more restrictive)
- S. Expand Garbage Service June 2022

**APPROVED BY TOWN COUNCIL**



Angela K. Davis, Municipal Clerk  
February 10, 2022