

MINUTES
TOWN OF EDISTO BEACH
DECEMBER 8, 2022
REGULAR TOWN COUNCIL MEETING
6:00 p.m.

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

Present: Mayor Crawford Moore, Jerome Kizer, Robert Renner, Jay Watts, Councilmembers.

Quorum of Council Present.

Absent: Joey Bagwell (excused)

Call to Order

Mayor Crawford Moore called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

Pledge of Allegiance and Invocation

Councilman Watts led those in attendance in the Pledge of Allegiance and gave the invocation.

Approval of Minutes

Regular Town Council Meeting Minutes, November 10, 2022: Mr. Kizer moved to approve the Regular Town Council Meeting Minutes of November 10, 2022. The motion was seconded by Mr. Renner and unanimously approved.

Special Town Council Meeting Minutes, November 17, 2022: Mr. Renner moved to approve the Special Town Council Meeting Minutes of November 17, 2022. The motion was seconded by Mr. Watts and unanimously approved.

Proclamations and Presentations

Starfish Awards

- Officer Matthew Nichols, Edisto Beach Police Officer, was recognized with the Starfish Award for his service to two elderly visitors. The visitors were locked out of their vehicle, without a ride back to their rental location. The couple expressed their gratitude to the Town Administrator, Police Chief, and Council for Officer Nichols' "kind and gracious service" in helping them. The Council thanked Officer Nichols for his commitment to our community.
- Tammy Lake, Permit Tech/Business License Clerk; Morgan Viars, Code Enforcement Officer; and Patrick Brown, Building Code Administrator, were recognized with a Starfish Award. A business expressed to the Town Administrator his appreciation for the Building Department's outstanding service, and their efforts in going above and beyond with their helpfulness with permits. The Council thanked Tammy, Morgan, and Patrick for their great work.

Public Comment Period

Deborah Hargis introduced herself to Council as the new Ocean Ridge Association Manager. She looks forward to working with Council and the Town of Edisto Beach in this new capacity.

Old Business

Ordinance No. 2021-13 Temporary Moratorium to be reviewed every 30 days until resolved. Construction of Pump Station B is scheduled to begin this December/January with completion scheduled for April. The permit for construction has been issued. The SCIIP grant application award timeframe is the first quarter of 2023. The Town applied for an additional Rural Infrastructure Authority (RIA) grant in the amount of \$500,000 to be applied toward the Town's match of the SCIIP grant. Until both pumps are upgraded, the moratorium will remain in effect.

Second Reading of Ordinance No. 2022-21 Temporary Use of Town Water System. Council was asked to consider and approve the second reading of Ordinance No. 2022-21, which amends Section 82-32(c)(1) and increases the temporary water use rate for contractors from \$5 to \$12 per 1,000 gallons of water. Mr. Kizer made a motion to approve the second reading of Ordinance No. 2022-21, which increases the temporary water use rate for contractors. This motion was seconded by Mr. Watts and unanimously approved.

New Business

Government-wide Financial Statements and Other Financial Information for Year Ended June 30, 2022. Mr. Bill Hancock from the Brittingham Group, LLP, presented the financial statements at the Council meeting. He noted the audit showed no issues, no deficiencies, and no instances of non-compliance.

Council was asked to consider and approve the Government-wide Financial Statements and Other Financial Information for Year Ended June 30, 2022, as presented. Mr. Kizer made a motion to approve the financial statements for year ended June 20, 2022. Mr. Renner seconded this motion, which was unanimously approved.

RFB 2022-11 Beach Access Grounds Maintenance Award. Council was asked to consider and approve the awarding of RFB 2022-11, Beach Access Grounds Maintenance, to Backwater Landscaping in the annual amount of \$39,950 to be paid from the Public Works Salaries Budget and the Hospitality Account which has a balance of \$335,679. The contractor will be responsible for maintaining the grounds of all beach access points and Jungle Road Park. Mr. Watts made a motion to approve the awarding of RFB 2022-11 to Backwater Landscaping in the amount of \$39,950. This motion was seconded by Mr. Renner and unanimously approved.

2023 Twice Weekly Garbage Pick-Up Dates. Council was asked to consider and approve the twelve weeks for twice-weekly trash pick-up by Republic, as per the Town's agreement. This is not for additional service; these twelve additional weeks for twice-weekly pick-up annually must be identified. The suggested weeks are: 7 weeks from April 10 through May 26; 4 weeks from September 11 through October 6; and the week of December 25. Mr. Renner made a motion to approve the 12 weeks as requested. The motion was seconded by Mr. Watts and unanimously approved.

RFP 2022-14 Semi Rugged Laptops Award. Council was asked to consider and approve RFP 2022-14 for Semi Rugged Laptops from Preferred Communications in the amount of \$18,069.60

for 8 laptops and 8 docking stations. These laptops and docking stations will replace aging equipment in the police vehicles. The full amount of this award will be reimbursed through a South Carolina Department of Public Safety grant. Mr. Kizer made a motion to approve the awarding of RFP 2022-14 in the amount of \$18,069.60 to Preferred Communications. This motion was seconded by Mr. Renner and unanimously approved.

Arc/Billow Street Drainage Improvement Bid Award. Council was asked to consider and approve the awarding of a contract to IPW Construction Group, Inc. for the Arc/Billow Street Drainage Improvement project in an amount not to exceed \$281,102.55. This project will be paid from the Capital Improvement Projects budget and ARPA funds which collectively have a balance of \$302,000. Mr. Renner made a motion to approve the Arc/Billow Street Drainage Improvement project to IPW Construction Group, Inc., in an amount not to exceed \$281,102.55. This motion was seconded by Mr. Kizer and unanimously approved.

Davis and Floyd Professional Services Contract Amendment 1. Council was asked to consider and approve the Professional Services Contract Amendment 1 for the Arc/Billow Street Drainage Improvements submitted by Davis & Floyd, Inc. to provide permitting and construction phase services in an amount not to exceed \$41,500. This will be paid from the Capital Improvement Projects budget and ARPA funds. Mr. Watts made a motion to approve Professional Services Contract Amendment 1 for the Arc/Billow Street Drainage Improvements submitted by Davis & Floyd, Inc., in an amount not to exceed \$41,500. This motion was seconded by Mr. Renner and unanimously approved.

RFQ 2022-06 Water and Wastewater Professional Engineering Services. Council was asked to consider and approve the awarding of RFQ 2022-06 Water and Wastewater Professional Engineering Services to American Engineering and Alliance Consulting Engineers for as needed water and wastewater professional services and to authorize the Town Administrator to negotiate a contract. These two firms were the highest ranked firms selected by the Water/Wastewater Professional Services Selection Committee. Mr. Kizer made a motion to approve the awarding of RFQ 2022-06 to American Engineering and Alliance Consulting Engineers for as needed water and wastewater professional services and authorized the Town Administrator to negotiate a contract. Mr. Renner seconded this motion, which was unanimously approved.

Committee Vacancies – Approval to Advertise

Planning Commission: Council was asked to consider and approve the advertisement for one vacancy on the Planning Commission due to a resignation. Mr. Renner made a motion to approve the advertisement of this vacancy on the Planning Commission. This motion was seconded by Mr. Watts and unanimously approved.

Water and Sewer Committee: Council was asked to consider and approve the advertisement for one vacancy on the Water and Sewer Committee due to a resignation. Mr. Watts made a motion to approve the advertisement of this vacancy on the Water and Sewer Committee. This motion was seconded by Mr. Renner and unanimously approved.

Council Time

Mr. Watts noted the Flu Shot and Covid Booster Clinic was held earlier in the day at Town Hall, with a good number of individuals participating.

Mayor Crawford expressed his thanks to Phyllis McElveen and Town staff for the wonderful Employee Christmas Party held on December 7th. He also noted upcoming events as follows: the Market and Mingle, the Christmas tree lighting, and the movie on December 9 at Bay Creek Park; and the Christmas Parade on December 10 at 2:00 p.m.

The Mayor wished “Merry Christmas” to all residents on behalf of Town Council.

Department Reports

Administration

Assistant Town Administrator Mark Aakhus noted the following:

- Bids for the LWCF Grant for the Bike Path project are due on December 22.
- For the month of November, the Town website had 13,000+ views.
- We had 875 website subscribers for the month of November.
- A pre-proposal meeting was held with the architect regarding the new Town Hall/Emergency Operations Center. The architects are preparing the proposal, which will be shared with Council shortly.
- The end of November represents 41% of the fiscal year. The Town has spent 36.65% of the General Fund.
- Jenkins Street repaving project is out for bid.
- Bay Creek Park pier renovation project is out for bid.
- Utility bills have been mailed to residents.

Fund Information

Fund	Received	Spent
General Fund	40.01%	36.67%
Water Fund	43.34%	30.99%
Wastewater Fund	48.21%	33.94%

Freedom of Information Act Requests (FOIA)

	November 2021	November 2022	YTD
Number of Requests	11	12*	57

*6 Building Requests; 6 Police Requests

Building

	November 2021	November 2022	YTD
Business/Rental License Fees	\$3,440.00	\$6,560.58	\$57,902.44
New Construction Permits	1	3	9
Other Permits	38	39	176
Permit Fees	\$8,640.00	\$17,076.70	\$56,512.20
Inspections	103	121	434

Fire

	November 2021	November 2022	YTD
Calls			
Medical	15	13	120

Fire-Related	0	3	20
EMS/Misc. (includes alarms, hazmat, public assist, water rescue, etc.)	16	25	187
Public Service (includes fire inspections, beach wheelchair loan, welfare checks)	8	5	120

Chief Conley also reported the following:

- Ladder testing was completed in November.
- The Chief worked on the new Statement of Goals.
- The ESO data transfer continues.

Police

	November 2021	November 2022	YTD
Miles Patrolled	8,045	9,068	45,075
Incidents & Calls for Service	101	101	846
Property Checks	734	541	4,117
Town Parking Tickets	17	21	568

Chief Seyle also reported the following:

- Seven arrests were issued for the month of November (1 public disorderly conduct, 1 simple possession of marijuana, 1 petit larceny, 2 reckless driving, 2 driving under suspension).
- The Police Department conducted annual in-service training for Taser, defensive tactics, de-escalation, weapon retention, and response to resistance.
- Chief Seyle attended a meeting at the Police Academy in reference to new standards put in place by Act 218.
- Updated policies in accordance with Act 218 are in place as of December 1, one month ahead of the January 1, 2023, deadline.
- Chief Seyle attended the bi-monthly chiefs' training and meeting in Waltherboro.
- The body camera grant funding was awarded.
- Two new full-time officers were hired in November. Both are retired Army Lt. Colonels and will attend the Police Academy.

Utilities

MG (Million gallons)	November 2021	November 2022	YTD
Pumped MG Water	13.0	11.8	91.4
Treated MG Wastewater	2.6	3.8	19.3
Water Line Repairs	2	3	19
Work Order Repairs	33	27	154

Executive Session

Mr. Kizer made a motion to go into Executive Session to discuss the following items and only the following items: (1) Receipt of legal advice where the legal advice relates to a pending, threatened, or potential claim or other matters covered by the attorney-client privilege related to Carla Dupre and Jasper Varn III v Town of Edisto Beach Zoning Board of Appeals Case No. 2021-CP-14 S.C. Code §30-4-70 (a)(2). (2) Discussion of employment, appointment, compensation, promotion, demotion, discipline, or release of an employee(s) in the Fire Department. S.C. Code §30-4-70 (a)(1). (3) Discussion of negotiations incident to proposed contractual arrangements relating to Ocean Ridge Property Association regarding deer management, S.C. Code §30-4-70 (a)(2). Mr. Renner seconded this motion, which was unanimously approved.

Council entered Executive Session at 6:44 p.m.

Open Session

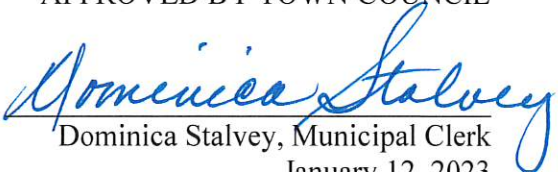
At 7:58 p.m., Mr. Kizer made a motion to exit Executive Session and enter Open Session. Mr. Renner seconded this motion, which was unanimously approved.

Upon entering Open Session, Mr. Kizer made a motion to authorize the Town Administrator to send to the South Carolina Department of Natural Resources the report regarding deer management at Ocean Ridge. Mr. Renner seconded this motion, which was unanimously approved.

Adjournment

Mr. Kizer made a motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Mr. Renner and unanimously approved. The meeting adjourned at 8:01 p.m.

APPROVED BY TOWN COUNCIL


Dominica Stalvey, Municipal Clerk
January 12, 2023