

**MINUTES**  
**TOWN OF EDISTO BEACH**  
**REGULAR TOWN COUNCIL MEETING**  
**April 13, 2023**  
**6:00 p.m.**

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

**Present**

Mayor Crawford Moore, and Councilmembers Jerome Kizer, Robert Renner, and Jay Watts.  
*Quorum of Council Present.*

**Absent**

Councilmember Joey Bagwell (excused)

**Call to Order**

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

**Pledge of Allegiance and Invocation**

Mayor Moore led those in attendance in the Pledge of Allegiance, and he also gave the invocation.

**Approval of Minutes**

Special Town Council Meeting Minutes, February 6, 2023: Mr. Kizer moved to approve the Special Town Council Meeting Minutes of February 6, 2023. The motion was seconded by Mr. Renner and unanimously approved.

Regular Town Council Meeting Minutes, March 9, 2023: Mr. Renner moved to approve the Regular Town Council Meeting Minutes of March 9, 2023. The motion was seconded by Mr. Watts and unanimously approved.

**Proclamations and Presentations**

Ceremonial Swearing-In, Officer Joseph Vincent Adams, Edisto Beach Police Department

The Mayor officiated at the ceremonial swearing in for Officer Joseph “Vince” Adams, who graduated from the South Carolina Police Academy. Officer Adams is now on patrol with the Edisto Beach Police Department, as he continues his training with our police department.

May 2023 Building Safety Month Proclamation 2023-P05

Mr. Kizer moved to approve the May 2023 Building Safety Month Proclamation 2023-P05 as presented. The motion was seconded by Mr. Watts and unanimously approved.

**PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD**

The following made public comments during this meeting:

- Sue Keith, Colleton County Legislative Delegation Office, presented delegation updates.

- Steven Mueller, Edisto Beach Resident, commented on speeding on Palmetto Boulevard and the need for more enforcement.

### **OLD BUSINESS**

Ordinance No. 2021-13 Temporary Moratorium to be reviewed every 30 days until resolved. Construction of Pump Station B has commenced and is scheduled to be completed by April. The SCIIP grant application award timeframe is pending. The Town applied for an additional Rural Infrastructure Authority (RIA) grant in the amount of \$500,000 to be applied towards the Town's match of the SCIIP grant. Until both pumps are upgraded, the moratorium will remain in effect.

Second Reading of Ordinance No. 2023-03 Adoption of the Comprehensive Plan 2023. Council was asked to consider and approve the second reading of Ordinance No. 2023-03, Adoption of the Comprehensive Plan 2023. The Planning Commission approved this plan, and the Commission's resolution for recommendation to the Town Council for approval has been received. The Public Hearing for this item was held earlier this evening at 5:55 p.m. Mr. Renner made a motion to approve the second reading of Ordinance No. 2023-03, Adoption of the Comprehensive Plan 2023. Mr. Kizer seconded the motion, which was approved unanimously.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

First Reading of Ordinance No. 2023-06 Authorizing and Directing the Town of Edisto Beach to Enter into an Intergovernmental Agreement Relating to South Carolina Local Revenue Services; to Participate in One or More Local Revenue Service Programs; to Execute and Deliver One or More Participant Program Supplements; and Other Matters Relating Thereto. Council was asked to consider and approve the first reading of Ordinance No. 2023-06, which deals with the Municipal Association of South Carolina's collection programs for certain business license taxes. Due to the name change of the programs, now known as the Insurance Tax Program, the Brokers Tax Program, and the Telecommunication Tax Program, and due to changes to the state's business licensing law from Act 176 of 2020, the Town of Edisto Beach must take action on the new authorizing ordinance and agreements by May 26. Mr. Kizer made a motion, seconded by Mr. Renner, to approve the first reading of Ordinance No. 2023-06, which deals with the Municipal Association of South Carolina's collection programs for certain business license taxes. The motion passed unanimously.

First Reading of Ordinance 2023-07 to Amend Section 82-139 of the Town's Code of Ordinances to Adjust the Rates for Sewer Service. Council was asked to consider and approve the first reading of Ordinance 2023-07 to Amend Section 82-139 of the Town's Code of Ordinances to Adjust the Rates for Sewer Service. The adjustment calls for a rate per billing cycle of \$243.72 for 0-6000 Gallons, semi-annual; and \$4.06 for over 6,000 gallons, per 1,000 gallons, semi-annual. This is a 3% increase. Mr. Renner made a motion to approve the first reading of Ordinance 2023-07 to amend section 82-139 of the Town's Code of Ordinances to adopt the rates for sewer service at a rate per billing cycle of \$243.72 for 0-6000 gallons, semi-annual; and \$4.06 for over 6,000 gallons, per 1,000 gallons, semi-annual. Mr. Watts seconded the motion, which was approved unanimously.

First Reading Of Ordinance 2023-08 to Amend Section 86-145 of the Town's Code regarding Beach Management Overlay Zoning District. Council was asked to consider and approve the first reading of Ordinance 2023-08 to amend Section 86-145 of the Town's Code of Ordinances

regarding beach management overlay zoning district. This amendment allows for the Town to consider issuing conditional use construction permits within property setback areas provided they satisfy certain criteria. Mr. Watts made a motion to approve the first reading of Ordinance 2023-08 regarding the beach management overlay zoning district. Mr. Renner seconded the motion, which was approved unanimously.

Work Authorization No. 1 Under Continuing Master Services Agreement with American Engineering Consultants, Inc. for 2023 Water and Wastewater Rate Study Update. Council was asked to consider and approve Work Authorization No. 1 with American Engineering Consultants, Inc., for a water and wastewater rate study update in the amount of \$18,000, which will be paid from the Water and Sewer Contingency Funds which collectively have a balance of \$174,489. Mr. Kizer made a motion to approve Work Authorization No. 1 with American Engineering Consultants in the amount of \$18,000 to update the water and wastewater rate study. Mr. Renner seconded the motion, which was approved unanimously.

Engineering Services Proposal from Rosenblum Coe Architects for Additional Service, Fire Sprinkler System in Fire/Police Building. Council was asked to consider and approve the fee proposal from Rosenblum and Coe Architects, Inc., in the amount of \$29,654, for the design of a new sprinkler system in the existing fire/police building, separate from the design of the new Town Hall, and will also include submittals to LLR, assistance in bid advertising, and provide construction administration phase services. These costs will be paid from General Fund CIP, which has \$361,855 in available funding. Mr. Renner made a motion to approve the engineering services proposal from Rosenblum Coe Architects for additional services in the fire sprinkler system in the Fire/Police Building. Mr. Kizer seconded the motion, which was approved unanimously.

License Agreement with Verizon. Council was asked to consider and approve the Town Administrator to negotiate an agreement with Cellco Partnership, d/b/a Verizon Wireless, which grants Verizon a license to use a 20' x 20' parcel located at 2414 Murray Street, from April 1, 2023, through March 31, 2024, in order to provide temporary wireless capabilities as Verizon works on improving their antenna, which is affixed to the Town's water tower. These improvements will enhance wireless communications on Edisto Beach. Mr. Kizer made a motion to authorize Town Administrator Aakhus to negotiate a license agreement with Verizon to use the 20' x 20' parcel located at 2414 Murray Street. Mr. Watts seconded the motion, which was approved unanimously.

Special Event Application: Animal Lovers of Edisto Paddling for the Pups, May 20, 2023. Council was asked to consider and approve the special event application from Animal Lovers of Edisto for the Paddling for the Pups event on May 20, 2023, from 10:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m. at Bay Creek Park. Approximately 150 attendees are expected. Mr. Renner made a motion to approve the Paddling for the Pups event on May 20, 2023. Mr. Watts seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved.

Special Event Application: Edisto Beach Baptist Church Concert, July 1, 2023. Council was asked to consider and approve the special event application from Edisto Beach Baptist Church Concert on July 1, 2023, at Bay Creek Park, from 7:00-9:00 p.m. Mr. Watts made a motion to approve the Edisto Beach Baptist Church Concert on July 1, 2023, at Bay Creek Park. Mr. Kizer seconded the motion, which was approved unanimously.

Special Event Application: Hackett Family Parade. Council was asked to consider and approve the special event application from William E. Hackett III and Stephanie H. Marshall for the Hackett Family 4<sup>th</sup> of July Parade along Myrtle Street to Mikell and Jenkins Streets, on July 4, 2023, from 8:30 a.m.-10:30 a.m. Mr. Kizer made a motion, seconded by Mr. Renner, to approve the Hackett Family Parade on July 4<sup>th</sup>. The motion was approved unanimously.

Special Event Application: 2023 Edisto Invitational Billfish Tournament, July 19-22, 2023. Council was asked to consider and approve the special event application from the Edisto Marina Association for the Edisto Invitational Billfish Tournament, to be held on July 19-22, 2023, at the Marina at Edisto Beach and Bay Creek Park, from 8 a.m. to 11:00 p.m. Also, the Edisto Marina Association requests the Town support this event in the amount of \$12,500, waive the Bay Creek Park rental fee, and provide patrols by the Edisto Beach Police Department. Mr. Renner made a motion to approve the special event application for the 2023 Edisto Invitational Billfish Tournament, July 19-22, 2023, waive the Bay Creek Park rental fee, patrols by the Edisto Beach Police Department, and will support the event in the amount of \$10,000. Mr. Watts seconded the motion. Mayor Crawford recused himself from this vote. Mr. Renner, Mr. Watts, and Mr. Kizer voted to approve the motion.

Special Event Application: Edisto Chamber of Commerce Movies in the Park, June 14, July 12, August 9, September 13, December 8, 2023. Council was asked to consider and approve the special event application from the Edisto Chamber of Commerce for Movies in the Park on June 14, July 12, August 9, September 13, and December 8, 2023, at Bay Creek Park, from 5:30 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. In the event of inclement weather, the Chamber also requests these events be held at the Civic Center, if available. If the Civic Center is unavailable on the stated dates, Chamber requests to be able to work with Ms. McElveen to find available rescheduled dates without the need to appear before Council again for approval. Approximately 100 attendees are expected at these events. Mr. Renner made a motion to approve the Chamber of Commerce's Movies in the Park dates for Bay Creek Park, and to work with Ms. McElveen in the event of inclement weather to reschedule dates as needed. Mr. Watts seconded the motion, which was approved unanimously.

Special Event Application: "#Who You Whit" Benefit, October 28, 2023. Request Council consideration and approval of the special event application for the #Who You Whit Benefit for mental health on October 28, 2023, from 3:00 p.m.-10:00 p.m. Approximately 100 attendees are expected. Mr. Watts made a motion to approve the #Who You Whit Benefit on October 28, 2023. Mr. Renner seconded the motion, which was approved unanimously.

First Reading of Ordinance 2023-09 to Amend Section 66-8(c) of the Town's Code of Ordinances to Adjust the Rates for Solid Waste Service. Council was asked to consider and approve the first reading of Ordinance 2023-09 to amend Section 66-8(c) of the Town's Code of Ordinances to adjust the rates for solid waste service. The fee adjustment of 3.5% calls for \$330.58 for all residential property owners (first container) and \$206.38 for each additional container per year. These fees are billed semiannually in advance. Mr. Kizer made a motion to approve the first reading of Ordinance 2023-09 to amend Section 66-8c of the Town's Code for the solid waste services fee adjustments in the amount of 3.5%. Mr. Renner seconded the motion, which was approved unanimously.

**Town Committees – Approval to Advertise**

Mr. Renner made a motion, seconded by Mr. Watts, to approve the following committee vacancies for advertisement. The motion was approved unanimously.

Municipal Election Commission – Two Vacancies. Request Council consideration and approval to advertise for two vacancies on the Municipal Election Commission, one term vacant due to the death of a member, and another term expiring on May 31, 2023.

Beachfront Management Committee – Three Vacancies. Request Council consideration and approval to advertise for three vacancies on the Beachfront Management Committee due to expired terms as of May 1, 2023.

Planning Commission – Two Vacancies. Request Council consideration and approval to advertise for two vacancies on the Planning Commission due to expired terms as of May 31, 2023.

**Council Time**

No items shared during Council Time.

**Department Reports**

The following reports were presented to Council:

Building

	<b>March 2022</b>	<b>March 2023</b>	<b>YTD</b>
Business/Rental License Fees	\$89,684.39	\$32,062.65	\$118,976.63
New Construction Permits	3	0	10
Other Permits	56	64	388
Permit Fees	\$17,179.00	\$6,518.50	\$90,776.20
Inspections	131	147	952

Fire

	<b>March 2022</b>	<b>March 2023</b>	<b>YTD</b>
Calls			
Medical	7	18	168
Fire-Related	0	0	26
EMS/Misc. (includes alarms, hazmat, public assist, water rescue, etc.)	8	12	230
Public Service (includes fire inspections, beach wheelchair loan, welfare checks)	10	6	191

Chief Denney Conley also reported the Edisto Beach Volunteer Fire Department mailed their donation letters this week.

**Police**

	<b>March 2022</b>	<b>March 2023</b>	<b>YTD</b>
Miles Patrolled	8,380	8,954	80,414
Incidents & Calls for Service	99	145	1,275
Property Checks	857	592	6,353
Town Parking Tickets	37	24	609

Chief Daniel Seyle also reported on the following items:

- Four beach patrol officers have been hired; training will be conducted in a couple weeks.
- Vince Adams, police officer, is now completing field training.
- Lt. Herring attended the FBI Command training.
- Boat rescue training was held.
- New equipment was purchased for the boat; Chief Seyle thanked the Volunteer Fire Department for the funds to do so.
- Chief Seyle spent some time discussing the Isle of Palms shooting last weekend. Several beach towns have been meeting due to this incident. He noted all of us must be aware of what can happen, such as the incident in IOP. The Edisto Beach Police Department has safety and enforcement in place, but everyone’s help is needed. He advised all to be alert, and dial 911 with any concerns. “Proactive enforcement” is needed.

**Utilities**

<b>MG (Million gallons)</b>	<b>March 2022</b>	<b>March 2023</b>	<b>YTD</b>
Pumped MG Water	12.1	12.1	134.1
Treated MG Wastewater	2.2	3.5	31.4
Water Line Repairs	4	5	34
Work Order Repairs	44	42	377

Mr. Zemp also reported on the following items:

- 120 street and beach signs are expected to arrive very soon.
- The Lift Station B project is just awaiting DHEC inspection.

**Fund Information**

<b>Fund</b>	<b>Received</b>	<b>Spent</b>
General Fund	86.45%	30.72% / 60.81% @
Water Fund	67.53%	70.31%
Wastewater Fund	175.67% / *72.57%	61.72%

@ GF without regard to PRT grant \$7.5m unspent

\*Wastewater Fund without regard to Pump Station B Project

**Freedom of Information Act Requests (FOIA)**

	<b>March 2022</b>	<b>March 2023</b>	<b>YTD</b>
<b>Number of Requests</b>	14	11*	24

- \*9 Building Requests, 1 Police Request, 1 Administration Request

**Administration**

Town Administrator Mark Aakhus noted the following:

- Vine Street Bike Path project is completed. A site visit by the granting authority should occur in the coming days.
- We have received the survey for the Jungle Road Park bathroom project, so we will begin working on an RFP for construction.
- The kick-off meeting for the Arc Billow project was held with Davis & Floyd and IPW Construction.
- A planning meeting was held regarding the \$100,000 Lagoon Study grant.
- Budget process for 2023-2024 has begun. The first reading of the budget ordinance will be held on May 11, with the second reading on June 8.

**Executive Session**

Mr. Kizer made a motion to enter into Executive Session to discuss the following items only: discussion of employment, appointment, compensation, promotion, demotion, discipline, or release of an employee(s) as it relates to Employment Policies. S.C. Code §30-4-70 (a) (1). Mr. Renner seconded the motion, which was approved unanimously.

Council entered Executive Session at 6:42 p.m.

*Upon returning to Open Session, action may be taken by the Council on items discussed during the Executive Session.*

**Open Session**

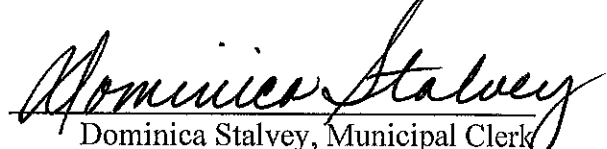
At 7:07 p.m., Mr. Watts made a motion, seconded by Mr. Renner, to exit Executive Session and enter into Open Session. This motion was approved unanimously.

**Adjournment**

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

The meeting adjourned at 7:07 p.m.

**APPROVED BY TOWN COUNCIL**

  
Dominica Stalvey, Municipal Clerk  
May 11, 2023