

**MINUTES**  
**TOWN OF EDISTO BEACH**  
**February 13, 2025**  
**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. *Quorum of Council Present.*

**Absent:** Joey Bagwell

**Call to Order**

Mayor 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, January 9, 2025, and the Town Council Goal Setting Retreat Minutes, January 28, 2025. The motion was seconded by Mr. Renner and unanimously approved.

**Proclamations and Presentations**

- **Cumming Group: Update on the EOC/Town Hall Project**  
An update presentation on the plans for the new EOC/Town Hall Project was given at the Town Council Work Session, Tuesday, February 11, 2025.
- **Ceremonial Swearing-In**  
The Mayor led the ceremonial swearing-in of the new police officers:
  - Kelsey Golden, who graduated from the South Carolina Justice Academy on January 17, 2025; and
  - Cory Glosser, who joined our police department with many years of experience.

- Starfish Awards

Clayton Branham and Tray Simmons, Public Works Department, for going above and beyond their required work duties. Both Clayton and Tray volunteered to help the Utilities Department, working well into the night repairing a broken sewer force main.

**Public Comment Period**

Kim Moredock, Jungle Shores Drive resident, stated she would like to see the Town Council meeting recorded and minutes taken verbatim. (See attached statement from Ms. Moredock)

**Old Business**

(No Items)

**New Business**

Recommendation from Planning Commission: Approval of Change in Parking Requirements for 114 Jungle Road/3 Gulls Creamery. Council was asked to consider and approve the recommendation from the Planning Commission, as per Town Ordinance 86-141(i), C-3 Commercial District, for the Change in Parking Requirements as submitted by 3 Gulls Creamery, 114 Jungle Road, Unit J. Mr. Renner made a motion to approve the recommendation from the Planning Commission for the Change in Parking Requirements as submitted by 3 Gulls Creamery. Mr. Watts seconded this motion, which was approved unanimously.

Stormwater Management Services Master Consulting Agreement RFP No. 2019-07/Two Year Extension with Davis & Floyd, Inc. Council was asked to consider and approve the two-year extension on the Stormwater Management Services Master Consulting Agreement, RFP No. 2019-07 with Davis & Floyd, Inc. Mr. Kizer made a motion to approve the two-year extension on the Stormwater Management Services Master Consulting Agreement RFP No. 2019-07. Mr. Watts seconded the motion, which was approved unanimously.

Stormwater Management Services Master Consulting Agreement RFP No. 2019-07/Two-Year Extension with American Engineering Consultants, Inc. Council was asked to consider and approve the two-year extension on the Stormwater Management Services Master Consulting Agreement, RFP No. 2019-07, American Engineering, Inc. Mr. Renner made a motion to approve the two-year extension on the Stormwater Management Services Master Consulting Agreement, RFP No. 2019-07, American Engineering, Inc. Mr. Kizer seconded the motion, which was approved unanimously.

2024-2025 Budget Amendment. Council was asked to consider and approve the 2024-2025 Budget Amendment as presented. As part of the discussion, Mr. Aakhus gave a brief presentation on the current budget and the budget amendments. Mr. Renner made a motion to approve the 2024-2025 Budget Amendment as presented. Mr. Watts seconded the motion, which was approved unanimously.

Non-Federal Funding Match, HMGP 4829 – Localized Flood Reduction Projects (\$144,200). Council was asked to consider and approve the Non-Federal Funding Match, HMGP 4829 – Localized Flood Reduction Project in the amount of \$144,200, for localized flood reduction projects. If approved funds will be provided from the Town of Edisto Beach Capital Improvement Project Fund. Mr. Kizer made a motion to approve the Non-Federal Funding

Match, HMGP 4829 – Localized Flood Reduction Project in the amount of \$144,200. Mr. Watts seconded the motion, which was approved unanimously.

Non-Federal Funding Match, HMGP 4829 – Generator (\$56,250).

Council was asked to consider and approve the Non-Federal Funding Match for the Hazard Mitigation Project HMGP 4829, in the amount of \$56,250, for Town Hall Back-up Generator. If approved, funds will be provided from the Town of Edisto Beach Capital Improvement Project Fund. Mr. Renner made a motion to approve the Non-Federal Funding Match for the Hazard Mitigation Project HMPG 4829, in the amount of \$56,250, for Town Hall Back-up Generator. Mr. Watts seconded the motion, which was approved unanimously.

Proposal for Professional Engineering Services for Jungle Shores Bike Path Improvements/Davis & Floyd (\$14,900).

Council was asked to consider and approve the proposal from Davis & Floyd in the amount of \$14,900 for professional engineering services for the Jungle Shores Bike Path project. This project is budgeted for under the Capital Improvement Projects Fund as part of the Land and Water Conservation Fund Grant. Mr. Watts made a motion to approve the proposal from Davis & Floyd in the amount of \$14,900 for professional engineering services for the Jungle Shores Bike Path project. Mr. Kizer seconded the motion, which was approved unanimously.

Mutual Aid Agreement with Charleston Metro Marine Patrol Unit.

Council was asked to consider and approve the Mutual Aid Agreement with Charleston Metro Marine Patrol Unit. Due to a new sheriff, Carl Ritchie, being elected, this agreement must be approved by Town Council and the Sheriff's Office. Mr. Kizer made a motion to approve the Mutual Aid Agreement with Charleston Metro Marine Patrol Unit. Mr. Renner seconded the motion, which was approved unanimously.

Appointment to Planning Commission: One Vacancy.

Council was asked to consider and approve, following the advertisement of one vacancy to the Planning Commission, the appointment of Phoebe Allen to the Planning Commission for an unexpired term to May 2026. Mr. Renner made a motion to approve the appointment of Phoebe Allen to the Planning Commission for an unexpired term to May 2026. Mr. Watts seconded the motion, which was approved unanimously.

**Special Event Applications**

- Town of Edisto Beach 6<sup>th</sup> Annual Cookin' on the Creek BBQ Festival: October 10 & 11, 2025, Bay Creek Park. Council was asked to consider and approve the Town's 6<sup>th</sup> Annual Cookin' on the Creek BBQ Festival, to be held on October 10 and 11, 2025, at Bay Creek Park. Approximately 1000 attendees are expected over this two-day event. Mr. Watts made a motion to approve the Town's 6<sup>th</sup> Annual Cookin' on the Creek BBQ Festival, to be held on October 10 and 11, 2025. Mr. Kizer seconded the motion, which was approved unanimously.
- Edisto Art Guild Arts in the Park: June 1, July 13, August 10, 2025, Bay Creek Park. Council was asked to consider and approve the Edisto Art Guild Arts in the

Park events on June 1, July 13, and August 10, 2025, at Bay Creek Park, with the Civic Center as the inclement weather site. The event will be held at 7:00 p.m., and approximately 300 attendees are expected. The Edisto Art Guild also requests a waiver of the Bay Creek Park fees, or Civic Center fees if inclement weather, for these event dates. Mr. Renner made a motion to approve the Edisto Art Guild Arts in the Park events on June 1, July 13, and August 10, 2025, at Bay Creek Park with the Civic Center as the inclement weather site. Mr. Kizer seconded the motion which was approved unanimously.

### **ATAX Board Recommendations**

- **Town of Edisto Beach: Replacement of Ropes and Posts at Beach Access Points.** Council was asked to consider and approve the Town's request for \$22,500 in ATAX funding to replace worn and dirty marine ropes and posts at the beach access points, which have not been replaced in many years. The purchase will include approximately 5,000 feet of marine rope and replacement posts. The ATAX Board recommended approval of this request. Mr. Kizer made a motion to approve the Town's request for \$22,500 in ATAX funding to replace worn and dirty marine ropes and posts at beach access points. Mr. Renner seconded the motion, which was approved unanimously.
- **Town of Edisto Beach: Fire Department Radio Acquisition.** Council was asked to consider and approve the Edisto Beach Fire Department request for \$52,946.53 in ATAX funding to purchase radio equipment. The acquisition of these radios is to meet current needs and ensure the department meets the requirements for the upcoming International Organization for Standardization (ISO) inspection in the Fall 2025. The ATAX Board recommended approval of this request. Mr. Renner made a motion to approve the Edisto Beach Fire Departments request for \$52,946.53 in ATAX funding to purchase radio equipment. Mr. Watts seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved.
- **Town of Edisto Beach: Police Officer (two-year request).** Council was asked to consider and approve the Edisto Beach Police Departments request for \$168,153 in ATAX funding over a two-year period for the employment of one (1) police officer. As has been the case, this request for ATAX funds is to allow for an additional officer to patrol and protect the Town of Edisto Beach and its residents throughout the tourist season. The ATAX Board recommended approval of this request. Mr. Kizer made a motion to approve the Edisto Beach Police Departments request for \$168,153 in ATAX funding over a two-year period for the employment of one (1) police officer. Mr. Watts seconded the motion which was unanimously approved.
- **Town of Edisto Beach: Beach Patrol (two-year request).** Council was asked to consider and approve the Edisto Beach Police Departments request for \$78,600 in ATAX funding over a two-year period for salaries, cameras, uniforms and equipment, fuel, replacement UTV, vehicle maintenance, vehicle graphics, and aluminum utility trailer. The Beach Patrol is employed during the tourist season and has various duties. The ATAX Board recommended approval of this request in the amount of \$78,600. Mr. Renner made a motion to approve the Edisto Beach

Police Departments request for \$78,600 in ATAX funding over a two-year period. Mr. Watts seconded the motion which was unanimously approved.

- Town of Edisto Beach Cookin' on the Creek BBQ Festival. Council was asked to consider and approve the 2025 Cookin' on the Creek BBQ Festival ATAX funding request in the amount of \$15,000. These funds will be used for advertising and promotion and related expenses. The ATAX Board recommended approval of this request. Mr. Kizer made a motion to approve the Town of Edisto Beach 2025 Cookin' on the Creek BBQ Festival for \$15,000. Mr. Renner seconded the motion, which was approved unanimously.
- Edisto Art Guild, Inc., Annual Spring Play. Council was asked to consider and approve the Edisto Aart Guild, Inc., request for \$2,125 in ATAX funding for the advertisement and promotion of the Annual Spring Play to be held on March 20-23, 2025. The ATAX Board recommended approval of this request in the amount of \$2,125. Mr. Kizer made a motion to approve the Edisto Art Guild, Inc. request for \$2,125. Mr. Renner seconded the motion, which was approved unanimously.

**Department Reports**

The following reports were presented to Council:

<b><u>Building</u></b>	<b><u>January 2024</u></b>	<b><u>January 2025</u></b>	<b><u>YTD</u></b>
Business/Rental License Fees	\$5,853.30	\$7,467.26	\$91,035.22
New Construction Permits	3	0	10
Other Permits	62	45	309
Permit Fees	\$17,992.00	\$5,809.00	\$85,600.00
Inspections	129	77	683

**Fire**

<b><u>Calls</u></b>	<b><u>January 2024</u></b>	<b><u>January 2025</u></b>	<b><u>YTD</u></b>
Medical-Related	6	11	147
Fire-Related	2	2	12
EMS/Misc.*	19	16	137
Public Service**	11	23	246

(\*includes alarms, hazmat, public assist, water rescue, etc.)

(\*\*includes fire inspections, beach wheelchair loan, welfare checks)

<b><u>Police</u></b>	<b><u>January 2024</u></b>	<b><u>January 2025</u></b>	<b><u>YTD</u></b>
Miles Patrolled	11,122	11,293	84,074
Incidents & Calls for Service	92	167	9,796
Property Checks	1,592	1,849	7,947
Town Parking Tickets	2	5	245

- Chief Seyle reported he has met with SLED Community Liaison.
- Officer Golden has successfully completed radar training.

<b><u>Utilities</u></b>	<b><u>January 2024</u></b>	<b><u>January 2025</u></b>	<b><u>YTD</u></b>
Pumped MG Water	9.9	11.2	
Treated MG Wastewater	3.4	3.05	

Waterline Repairs	3	5
Work Order Repairs	38	28

<u>Fund Information</u>	<u>Received</u>	<u>Spent</u>
General Fund	58.00%	51.00%
Water Fund	71.00%	61.00%
Wastewater Fund	65.00%	45.00%

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

<u>January 2024</u>	<u>January 2025</u>	<u>YTD</u>
5	8	48

**Administration**

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

- Wastewater Improvement Project
  - Forcemain project is on schedule for completion by March 15, 2025, deadline.
  - Work on the pump stations begins February 17, 2025.
  - Anticipated change order to upgrade pump motors to utilize all grant funds.
- Beach Renourishment Project
  - Surveys, appraisals, and title work have been completed.
  - Easement language is approved and waiting for USACE approval to move forward in preparing easement agreements.
- Automated Meter Readers
  - RFP is completed and will be advertised.
- Public Assistance – FEMA Grants:
  - Submitted reimbursement documentation for Tropical Storm Debby and Hurricane Helene.
- HMGP (FEMA) Grants:
  - Work on Hazard Mitigation Grant (FEMA) for the generator for the new EOC/Town Hall is in progress.
  - Phase 1 of Lagoon Study recommendations is in progress.
- Town Hall/EOC
  - Bids are due February 19, 2025.
- Bay Creek Park Dock:
  - Pile jackets and deck boards installed, railings are in progress.
- Jungle Road Park Grant:
  - Final Inspection completed and final reimbursement request has been submitted.
- BRIC Lagoon Study:
  - Final reimbursement request submitted.
- Administration FOIA requests for January:
  - Kim Moredock (1)
  - Hannah Golt (1)

**Council Time**

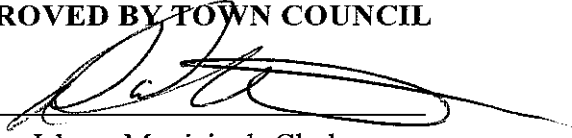
Mayor and Council wished everyone a Happy New Year.

**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 6:45 p.m.

**APPROVED BY TOWN COUNCIL**



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Donna Iskra, Municipal Clerk  
March 13, 2025

I notified town administration as soon as I read the approved minutes of the Nov. Council meeting that the minutes were not accurate. I asked for them to be corrected. Mr. Aakhus told me in order for approved minutes to be corrected the council would need to put that on the agenda to vote on correcting them.

I wrote to all of your requesting the minutes be corrected. None of you responded and I do not see this on tonight's agenda. All of you except Mr. Kizer were present for the Nov. meeting. ~~All of you know~~ <sup>and</sup> what is recorded in the minutes is not correct. All of you approved the minutes.

The records of the town should be accurate and when a citizen lets you know the comments they made were not recorded accurately I suggest you do more that ignore them. I suggest you do like many municipalities and record the meetings. The Colleton County Council records public comments verbatim. I have noticed a pattern. This is not the first time my comments have not been recorded accurately. Comments that reflect anything negative about the town seem to get omitted. While I encourage you to record the meetings the least you can do is make sure the minutes are accurate.