

MINUTES
June 8, 2017
PUBLIC HEARING
5:50 P.M.

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

Present: Jane S. Darby, Mayor, Susan Hornsby, Mayor Pro Tempore, Jerome Kizer, Crawford Moore, and Patti Smyer, Council Members; *Quorum of Council Present.*

Mayor Darby called the meeting to order.

The purpose of the public meeting was to hear public comment on two items:

A. Second Reading of Ordinance No. 2017-13 to Adopt the FY2017-18 Budget – Town Administrator Iris Hill pointed out several items to Council and those in attendance. On page 8 of the draft transmittal letter prepared by Administrator Hill, it shows that the budget for all funds is \$6,508,633, including a General Fund budget of \$4,512,538. This represents an overall budgetary decrease of \$682,028 (-9.5%) and a General Fund decrease of \$1,025,359 (-18.5%) from the amended FY2016-17 operating budget. Administrator Hill reminded all that the Town amended the FY2016-2017 budget to transfer \$1,000,000 after Hurricane Matthew to the General Fund from Prior Year Funds. The reassessment data from Colleton County has not been received at this time. The Town may have to adjust the millage rate after the beginning of the new fiscal year. The reassessment is a process required by State law to determine the change in market value of property over a certain period of time in order to provide equity among tax payers. The FY2017-218 Proposed Budget provides a total of \$6,508,633 which includes a General Fund of \$4,512,538, a Water Fund of \$1,269,600, a Sewer Fund of \$654,300, a Civic Center Fund of \$72,195. The South Carolina Retirement employer contribution rates are scheduled to increase 2% this fiscal year and additionally for the next 5 years to offset unfunded pension liabilities. The General Assembly has fully funded the second 1% increase in employer contributions for 2018. Public Employee Benefits Authority (PEBA) will issue credit invoices to each employer for 1% of the employer contributions based on its share of the appropriated funds (\$13,582.37). Administrator Hill commended the Town on being awarded several grants, including the Building Department's Coastal Access Improvement Fund Grant and the Administrations Department's grant for mosquito control chemicals from the Department of Health and Environmental Control. The Town banked 2.34% in millage. Administrator Hill outlined some of the special funds next. The balance of the ATAX 65% Fund is projected to be \$334,979. The Alcohol Permit Fund has a balance of \$24,859 with projected income of \$15,000. Administrator Hill asked Mayor Pro Tem Hornsby if she thought it necessary to move \$12,500 to cover stormwater projects. Mayor Pro Tem Hornsby said she didn't see a stormwater project in the next year, so the funds could be left in the Alcohol Permit Fund. In the Local Accommodations fund, Administrator Hill pointed out there would be a cash balance of approximately \$500,000 after the 2017 beach nourishment project is complete. Ms. Hill suggested re-investing the funds into a beach preservation fund. With all encumbered balances and FY2017-18 projects included, the ending balance on the local accommodations fund is \$179,651. In the Hospitality Fee account, CodeRed, our notification system will cost \$5,000 and 50,000 has been allotted to cover civic center and Bay Creek Park upgrades. In the Vehicle Equipment

Fund, \$20,000 has been earmarked to replace the Administration vehicle (Trailblazer) and \$20,000 to replace the Building Department vehicle (HHR). In the Sewer System R & R, the Capital Improvement Plan allows for a rehab of Lift Station C (\$30,000) and Lift Station at Docksite (\$70,000). The accrued prior year funds show a balance of \$3,270,422 in the General Fund, \$1,529,025 in the Water Fund, and \$756,638 in the Sewer Fund. In the Contingency Fund, the General Fund has a balance of \$78,866, the Water Fund, \$61,585 and the Sewer Fund \$27,045. In the Water Fund, since the first principal payment on the 2017 series bonds will be due in January 2018, and there has only been one 15% increase, the Town will need to subsidize that with prior year funds. The Town has put \$220,00 from prior year funds into that fund to give the Town the \$420,000 necessary to pay the principal.

B. Second Reading of Ordinance No. 2017-16 to Amend Sections: 86-214(c)(1)(a), 86-214(c)(1)(b), 86-214 (c)(3), 86-d and 86-186(1)(c) of the Town of Edisto Beach Code of Ordinances

There being no comment, the meeting was adjourned by common consent.

The media/public was informed of the date, time and location of the meeting on Friday, June 2, 2017.

APPROVED BY TOWN COUNCIL



Deborah Hargis, Municipal Clerk
July 13, 2017