

Town of Edisto Beach

Monthly Highlights

January 2024



IMPORTANT

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USACE Edisto Beach Coastal Storm Risk Management Project Update

The Edisto Beach Coastal Storm Risk Management Project with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers has moved into the surveying aspect of this beach nourishment project.

As shared with residents two weeks ago, surveying began on the beachfront on December 11. Those conducting the surveying will be wearing yellow vests. As always, if residents have questions, please contact Town Hall.

Following the surveying process, we will enter into the beachfront easement acquisition phase of this project. As a reminder, the easements will be held by the Town of Edisto Beach, not the USACE.

The project is approximately 3.3 miles in length. A vegetated dune and berm, which are designed to reduce risk to life and property on Edisto Beach, will work with the groins already in place on our beach.

As the recent coastal storm evidenced, we need this project in order to reduce the risk of coastal storm damage to property and infrastructure on our beach. This 50-year project includes three (3) nourishments which are cost-shared with the federal government; eligibility for post-storm repairs; and an attractive and usable beach for beachfront owners, residents, and visitors.



Pump Station A Update

As our residents will recall, Ordinance No. 2021-13, approved by Council in March 2021, put in place a temporary moratorium on sewer taps until appropriate upgrades could be made to Pump Stations A and B.

The Pump Station B project was completed in Spring 2023, and all is functioning properly with this lift station.

Upgrades to Pump Station A will begin in January. Babcock Construction has been approved by Town Council, as well as the Rural Infrastructure Authority (RIA), as the contractor for this project. This project is expected to be completed later this year.

Once the upgrades to Pump Station A are completed, the Town will be in a position to lift the sewer moratorium.

As a reminder, these upgrades, which include larger pumps, will enable the Town to provide a better system to the residents who currently are connected, or are eligible to connect, to the sewer system. These upgrades do not translate into additional sewer taps as we must still adhere to capacity requirements.

Septic Tank Reminders

For those residents with septic tank systems, please be aware of the importance of having your systems checked periodically. DHEC advises regular inspections to be aware of any issues early on before these problems cause harm to you or your family's health, become more expensive to repair, damage the environment, and possibly create a legal liability.

If using additives in your septic system, DHEC notes these additives do not eliminate the need for regularly pumping and maintaining your septic tank. As well, never add chemical additives as these will destroy the septic tank's bacteria, will change the ability of the drainfield to absorb or treat liquids, and may contaminate water below ground.

To have your septic system inspected, DHEC recommends contacting a licensed septic system professional to do so.

Town Ordinance Section [82-125](#) notes the continuing responsibility regarding septic systems, so please be aware of this ordinance if it applies to your situation.

Review SCDHEC Routine Preventative Maintenance tips [HERE](#).

Jane Edwards Elementary Students Come Caroling!

The employees of Town Hall were treated to wonderful caroling from the students of Jane Edwards Elementary School.

The students of Jane Edwards Elementary School sang traditional and lively holidays songs to the staff, police, and firefighters gathered for this yearly visit from the students.

Town Hall gives a big “thank you” to the students, Principal Jamalar Logan, the teachers, and staff of Jane Edwards Elementary for delighting us with this performance. Also we send our appreciation to Tonya McIntyre, Director of Community Outreach for the Charleston School District, for joining us as well.



The students of Jane Edwards Elementary School

Thank you for spreading your holiday joy to Town Hall!



Calendar Reminders

Town Hall will be closed on **January 1** in observance of New Year’s Day; and on **January 15** in observance of Martin Luther King Jr. Day.

Utility bill payments are due on January 5; late payment fees will be assessed beginning January 8.

2024 Meeting Schedule

The 2024 Meeting Schedule, which includes dates for all Town Council meetings, all committee meetings, as well as municipal court dates, may be found [HERE](#).



December Town Council Meeting Highlights

At the regular monthly Town Council meeting held on December 14, the following are a few of the items approved by Council:

- Approval of 2024 Additional Twice-Weekly Trash Collection Schedule, as per the Town's agreement with Republic Services. This is not for additional service; we must identify twelve additional weeks for twice-weekly pick-up annually. These weeks for 2024 are: 8 weeks from March 31 through May 25; 3 weeks from September 8 through September 28; and the week of December 22.
- Approval of Third Amendment to Water Tower Attachment Communication Site Agreement with Alltel Corporation d/b/a Verizon Wireless for a rental extension commencing January 1, 2025, in consideration of \$42,508.80 annually with four optional five-year extension periods each with a twenty percent rate escalation.
- Approval of the Government-wide Financial Statements and Other Financial Information for Year Ended June 30, 2023. Bill Hancock from the Brittingham Group, LLP, was present at this meeting and presented the financial statements with explanations of the contents. Mr. Hancock noted the Town of Edisto Beach had a "clean audit."



2024 Town Council Schedule

Town Council monthly work sessions and regular meetings will occur on the following dates in 2024:

January 9 (W); January 11 (M)
February 6 (W); February 8 (M)
March 12 (W); March 14 (M)
April 9 (W); April 11 (M)
May 7 (W); May 9 (M)
June 11 (W); June 13 (M)
July 9 (W); July 11 (M)
August 6 (W); August 8 (M)
September 10 (W); September 12 (M)
October 8 (W); October 10 (M)
November 12 (W); November 14 (M)
December 10 (W); December 12 (M)

W = Work Session

M = Monthly Meeting

As a reminder, Council agendas and minutes are found on our website [HERE](#).

