

TOWN OF SEABROOK ISLAND

Accommodations Tax Advisory Committee Meeting
August 23, 2022



[Watch Live Stream \(YouTube\)](#)

MINUTES

CALL TO ORDER – Randall Buck, Chair

Present: Buck (Chair), Fagan (virtual), Leggett, O'Rourke, Pontuti, Spisak, Schildge (virtual)

Absent: None

Staff Present: Town Administrator Cronin, Town Clerk Watkins

Mr. Buck called the meeting to order at 9:58AM

INTRODUCTORY REMARKS – Randall Buck, Chair

Mr. Buck introduced the new committee member Ann O'Rourke.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- Regular Meeting: August 12th, 2022

Mr. Buck moved to approve the previous meeting minutes of August 12th; Ms. Leggett seconded. All voted in favor.

The previous meeting minutes of August 12th were approved.

OVERVIEW OF PROJECTED REVENUES FOR FY 2023- Joe Cronin, Town Administrator

Town Administrator Cronin summarized the projected revenues for FY 2023 and fund balance in the ATAX account.

The committee clarified what funds are included in the fund balance for ATAX.

PRESENTATION OF REQUESTS FOR FY 2023 ACCOMMODATIONS TAX FUNDS

- **St. Johns Fire District (STJFD)** – Ryan Kunitzer
 - EMS Monitor amount requested: \$18,500.00

Ryan Kunitzer summarized the application and how this will benefit the Seabrook Island Community for both tourists and visitors.

A discussion was had on where the ambulances come from when responding to a call.

A discussion was had on what the EMS Monitor does.

- **Alan Fleming Tournament Comm./Seabrook Island Club** – Karen Petrucelli
 - 2023 Alan Fleming Tennis Tournament amount requested: \$17,000.00

Karen Petrucelli and Director of Racquet Sports with the Seabrook Island Club Laura Ferreira summarized the Alan Fleming Tennis Tournament application for 2023.

A discussion was had on the estimate for participants coming from off island for the upcoming year.

A discussion was had on where the welcoming party will be held for the tournament.

- **Town of Seabrook Island** – Joe Cronin, Town Administrator
 - Beach Patrol amount requested: \$90,000.00
 - Dolphin Education Program amount requested: \$10,000.00
 - Gateway and Wayfinder Signage amount requested: \$5,000.00
 - Special Events amount requested: \$40,000.00
 - Tourism Related Personnel & Operating Expenses amount requested: \$74,594.00
 - Bike Path Improvements/Amenities amount requested: \$150,000.00

Town Administrator Cronin summarized all the applications submitted by the Town.

A discussion was had on the potential increased services for beach patrol, the vehicles used, the monthly reports received, the number of incidents on the beach, potentially increasing the access point, and who provides the equipment, and the name of the company.

A discussion was had on the number of participants for the Chow Town Food Truck Rodeos and the number of staff needed for this event.

A discussion was had on the code enforcement officer if they would overlap with beach patrol.

A discussion was had on the type of lighting improvements to the bike path.

A discussion was had on potential light pollution from the developments along the bike path.

COMMITTEE DISCUSSION

Town Administrator Cronin summarized the total amount requested compared to the budgeted amount.

A discussion was had on the requests and using some of remaining ATAX funds in the fund balance.

A discussion was had on the request from St. Johns Fire District.

Mr. Buck moved to recommend awarding the St. Johns Fire District (STJFD) \$18,500.00; Mr. Spisak seconded. All voted in favor.

The recommendation to award STJFD \$18,500.00 was approved.

Mr. Buck moved to recommend awarding the Alan Flemming Comm./Seabrook Island Club \$17,000.00; Mr. Spisak seconded. A vote was taken as follows:

Ayes: Fagan, Leggett, O'Rourke, Schildge, Spisak, Buck
Recused: Pontuti

The recommendation to award Alan Flemming Comm./Seabrook Island Club \$17,000.00 was approved.

Mr. Buck moved to recommend awarding the Town of Seabrook Island for Beach Patrol \$90,000.00; Ms. Leggett seconded. All voted in favor.

The recommendation to award the Town of Seabrook Island for Beach Patrol \$90,000.00 was approved.

Mr. Buck moved to recommend awarding the Town of Seabrook Island for the Dolphin Education Program \$10,000.00; Mr. Pontuti seconded. All voted in favor.

The recommendation to award the Town of Seabrook Island for the Dolphin Education Program \$10,000.00 was approved.

Mr. Buck moved to recommend awarding the Town of Seabrook Island for Gateway and Wayfinder Signage \$5,000.00; Ms. O'Rourke seconded. All voted in favor.

The recommendation to award the Town of Seabrook Island for Gateway and Wayfinder Signage \$5,000.00 was approved.

Mr. Buck moved to recommend awarding the Town of Seabrook Island for Special Events \$40,000.00; Ms. Fagan seconded. A vote was taken as follows:

Ayes: Fagan, Leggett, O'Rourke, Schildge, Spisak, Buck
Recused: Pontuti

The recommendation to award the Town of Seabrook Island for Special Events \$40,000.00 was approved.

Mr. Buck moved to recommend awarding the Town of Seabrook Island for Tourism Related Personnel & Operating Expenses \$74,594.00; Mr. Spisak seconded. All voted in favor.

The recommendation to award the Town of Seabrook Island for Tourism Related Personnel & Operating Expenses \$74,594.00 was approved.

Mr. Buck moved to recommend awarding the Town of Seabrook Island for the Bike Path Improvements/Amenities \$150,000.00; Ms. Leggett seconded. All voted in favor.

The recommendation to award the Town of Seabrook Island for the Bike Path Improvements/Amenities \$150,000.00 was approved.

OTHER BUSINESS

A discussion was had on when the committee's recommendations go before Town Council and when the Town notifies the applicants of what funds were approved.

ADJOURN

Mr. Spisak moved to adjourn; Mr. Schildge seconded. All voted in favor.

The meeting adjourned at 11:09AM.

Date: August 24, 2022

Prepared by: *Katharine E. Watkins*
Town Clerk/Treasurer