

TOWN COUNCIL

STAFF REPORT

Projects and Watershed Resilience Department



MEETING DATE:	October 10, 2023
PROJECT:	Approval to Authorize a Lighting Agreement with Dominion Energy for the New Riverside Barn Park (Fiscal Impact – \$325,220.04 over a 10-year term)
PROJECT MANAGER:	Kimberly Washok-Jones, Director of Projects and Watershed Resilience

REQUEST: Town Staff requests that Town Council authorize the Town Manager to execute a Lighting Agreement (Attachment 1) with Dominion Energy to install and maintain the parking and pedestrian pathway lighting at New Riverside Barn Park. The fiscal impact is \$32,522.04 annually and is within the approved budget limit for Fiscal Year FY 2024, illustrated on the attached Project Data Sheet (Attachment 2). The term of the Lighting Agreement is 10-years with a total fiscal impact of \$325,220.04. This agreement is similar to prior Dominion lighting agreements approved by Council for Oyster Factory Park and Buck Island/Simmons ville Lighting Phases 5 and 6. Due to the multi-year commitment, staff is bringing the agreement before Council.

BACKGROUND: The 37-acre New Riverside Barn property was purchased in December 2018 for a passive park use and public gathering space. The Conceptual Master Plan was presented in 2020 and Town Council authorized Staff to proceed with Phase 1 design and construction. Construction of Phase 1 Site Development began in January 2022 to install the necessary initial infrastructure required for the project. Power service and site lighting is part of required infrastructure and will be provided by Dominion Energy under this Agreement.

The attached lighting plan illustrates the proposed lighting for the parking and pedestrian areas (Attachment 3). The plan illustrates LED fixture locations including 19 Sheperd's Crook style fixtures and 5 shoe box style parking lot fixtures. With proper approval through Dominion Energy, the Town will install safety cameras on some of the light poles to allow for 24-hour surveillance of the park.

NEXT STEPS:

- Following Town Council approval of this Agreement, the Town Manger will execute a contract with Dominion Energy.
- Staff will coordinate the installation of the necessary conduit.
- Upon receipt of the poles and fixtures (8 to 12 weeks), Dominion Energy will schedule the installation of the lights prior to the end of this calendar year.

SUMMARY: This project originated from the Town of Bluffton's Comprehensive Plan and FY 2021-2024 Strategic Plans. It is supportive of the following guiding principles of the Town:

- Community Quality of Life Strategic Focus Area, Guiding Principle #5: Foster and support place-based initiatives and evaluate community policies, programs, gathering places, and events that promote healthy and quality lifestyles for our diverse citizenry.
- Infrastructure Strategic Focus Area, Guiding Principal #3: Establish long-term planning, prioritization and investment strategies for future infrastructure and facilities that improve the quality of life for citizens while being financially sustainable.

Consistent with the above Guiding Principles, Staff is requesting Town Council authorize the Town Manager to execute the Lighting Agreement with Dominion Energy to install and maintain site lighting at the New Riverside Barn Park.

ATTACHMENTS:

1. Draft Lighting Agreement
2. Project Data Sheet
3. Lighting Plan
4. Proposed Motion