

TOWN COUNCIL

STAFF REPORT

Projects and Watershed Resilience Department



MEETING DATE:	July 11, 2023
PROJECT:	Consideration of a Proposed Lighting Agreement with Dominion Energy for Oyster Factory Park Parking Lot (Fiscal Impact – \$105,445.20)
PROJECT MANAGER:	Kimberly Washok-Jones, Director of Projects and Watershed Resilience

REQUEST: Town Staff requests Town Council to authorize the Town Manager to execute a Lighting Agreement (Attachment 2) with Dominion Energy to provide Lighting Installation and Lighting Services for the Oyster Factory Park project. The total contract amount of \$105,445.20 will be billed monthly over a 10-year duration.

The cost is within the approved budget limits established with the Adopted Consolidated Municipal Budget for Fiscal Year (FY) 2024.

BACKGROUND: Oyster Factory Park, “the Park,” is a County owned park located inside the Town of Bluffton. The Park is comprised of several parcels. Many of the parcels are owned solely by Beaufort County with one being owned jointly with the Town. The Town and the County executed an Operational Agreement dated February 17, 2017, whereby the Town agreed to be the managing partner for The Park. This includes managing operations, maintenance, capital improvements, safety, events, and other facets of the Park. The Park is subject to a conservation easement held by The Open Land Trust and recorded at the Beaufort County Register of Deeds.

Over the past several years, the Town has utilized SCE&G, now Dominion, to provide lighting on several streetscape and lighting projects throughout the Historic District. To provide lighting inside the recently completed Oyster Factory Park parking area, staff contacted Dominion Energy to obtain a Lighting Agreement for installation and maintenance of lights. The agreement governing ownership, costs, facility installations, and durations are outlined in the Lighting Agreement attached hereto for reference as Attachment 2. No easement from the Town or the County will be required to complete the scope.

The Agreement allows for 10 LED Sheppard Crook lights to be installed at the Park. The lights and the poles will be owned, operated, and maintained by Dominion. The duration of the agreement is 10 years. A cost breakdown is as follows;

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|--------------------------------|------------------------|
| • 10 LED Sheppard Crook Lights | 71.29 \$/Month |
| • Monthly Facility Fee | 807.42 \$/Month |
| • Total Monthly Cost | 878.71 \$/Month |

NEXT STEPS: Should Town Council desire to authorize the Town Manager to execute the Lighting Agreement, the following next steps will be implemented:

1. Town Manager executes Agreement.
2. Dominion Energy orders the light fixtures and poles
3. Dominion Energy completes installation of wires and lights.

SUMMARY: This Lighting Agreement allows lighting to be present in the newly constructed parking area. In addition to the 35 car and 11 cart spaces being added to the Historic District, the inclusion of lighting will increase safety for residents, events, and visitors of the park. The lighting, in conjunction with the sidewalks and other aspects of the project increase safety, connectivity, and walkability for the Park and adjacent areas. Taken together, the features create greater access to the May River and the scenic vistas present at Oyster Factory Park.

ATTACHMENTS:

1. Presentation
2. Contract
3. Proposed Motion