

TOWN COUNCIL

STAFF REPORT Finance Department



| | |
|-------------------------|--|
| MEETING DATE: | February 14, 2023 |
| PROJECT: | Consideration of a 6 month Extension of the Agreement with Beaufort-Jasper Water and Sewer Authority |
| PROJECT MANAGER: | Chris Forster, Assistant Town Manager |

RECOMMENDATION: Staff recommends another extension of the agreement with Beaufort-Jasper Water and Sewer Authority (BJWSA).

BACKGROUND/DISCUSSION: On August 1, 1977, the Town of Bluffton signed a franchise agreement with BJWSA for a duration of 40 years. Prior to the 7/30/2017 expiration date, the Town and BJWSA expanded the scope captured by the franchise agreement with a new agreement dated November 14, 2001 with a validity period “for so long as the agreement is in effect”, essentially granting a franchise until one party affirmatively terminated the agreement.

On November 11, 2010, the Town and BJWSA created a supplemental agreement governing project collaboration and capacity fee credit usage; that supplemental agreement had a duration of ten years, through November 10, 2020. Since the expiration of the supplemental agreement, it has been temporarily renewed six times. The Town has engaged BJWSA in negotiations to renew for another ten year period, however BJWSA has requested another smaller extension while they coordinate all of their intergovernmental agreements with surrounding municipalities.

NEXT STEPS: Authorizing the Town Manager to sign the renewal agreement with BJWSA.

ATTACHMENTS:

1. Agreement 2011-38, Amendment 7, BJWSA franchise extension
2. Resolution
3. Motion