

**BURNT STORE ISLES  
CANAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE  
MEETING  
SEPTEMBER 8, 2020**

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Mike McIntosh, Chairman  
Norman Ashworth, Rick Daugherty,  
Sean Harrigan

**MEMBERS ABSENT:** Charles Longenbarger

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Kristin Simeone, Finance Director  
Cathy Miller, Canal Maintenance Supervisor  
Gary Disher, Mapping, Permitting and Compliance Manager  
Bob Fritz

**CALL TO ORDER/ANNOUNCEMENTS**

- A. Roll Call
- B. Next Scheduled Meeting
- 1. October 13, 2020

**CITIZEN COMMENTS ON AGENDA ITEMS ONLY**

- Mr. Bob Fritz requested the narrow areas in the perimeter canal be addressed underneath the Master Permitting Agreement, expressing safety concerns regarding same. He then opined "navigable channel" was not defined appropriately in the proposed rewrite of Chapter Six, Punta Gorda Code, asserting the definition could cause navigational issues within certain waterways.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

- A. August 11, 2020
- Mr. Ashworth MOVED, Mr. Harrigan SECONDED approval of the August 11, 2020, minutes. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

**REPORTS**

- A. Finance Reports - August 2020
- Mr. Harrigan questioned the \$493,228 denoted under the Amended Budget.
- Ms. Kristin Simeone, Finance Director, replied same was the projected carryover and might need to be updated to reflect the actual ending balance as of September 30, 2019, briefly reviewing how the line item was calculated.

- B. Budget Utilization Report - August 2020
  - Ms. Cathy Miller, Canal Maintenance Supervisor, reported some mangrove trimming funds were not expended, noting the next mangrove trimming was scheduled to commence September 14, 2020.
- C. Seawall Replacement Status Reports - August 2020
  - Ms. Miller announced all proposed projects were complete.
- D. Permits Authorized by City Staff - August 2020
  - Ms. Miller reported 3 permits were authorized in August 2020.
- E. BSI Capital Improvement Stats - Update
  - Mr. Gary Disher, Mapping, Permitting and Compliance Manager, reported the National Marine Fisheries Service had not yet provided a response to the Army Corps of Engineers for the Burnt Store Isles (BSI) Inlet Widening project. He then reported the first two purchase orders under the Master Permitting Agreement were ready to be issued, noting the BSI Channel Corner Widening project would be completed under the Master Permitting Agreement.

**NEW BUSINESS**

- A. FY 2020/2021 Seawall Replacement Work Program
  - Ms. Miller drew attention to the proposed Fiscal Year (FY) 2020/2021 Seawall Replacement Work Program from the agenda material, noting the projected lineal feet of seawall to be replaced was reduced to 949 due to a 4% increase in material cost.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

- A. GA-08-2020 - An Ordinance of the City of Punta Gorda, Florida, amending Chapter 6 of the Punta Gorda Code, relating to the use of waterways, operation of vessels, construction within waterways, seawalls and canal maintenance; rewriting and reorganizing substantial portions thereof; providing for conflict and severability; and providing an effective date.
  - Mr. Disher announced GA-08-2020 had been approved by the City Attorney and would be presented to City Council for first reading, concluding same could be adopted by the Committee's next meeting.
- B. Presentation of the Financial Proforma as it relates to the Draft Seawall Materials & Methods Feasibility Study by Taylor Engineering and Selection of a Study Recommendation.
  - Ms. Simeone drew attention to the financial proforma, as delineated in the agenda material, noting same was created in relation to the draft of the Seawall Materials and Methods Feasibility Study (Study) presented at the August 11, 2020, meeting. She stated the updated proforma differed slightly from what was previously presented. She

provided a brief overview of the current replacement program, noting the majority of the seawalls, constructed in 1980, could fail around the same time as they reached the end of their estimated life. She explained the options presented included costs based on replacing the remainder of the BSI canal system over a 20-year timeframe as well as costs based on the estimated life of the construction material. She then reviewed the options and their 20-year replacement program costs as follows: Current construction method, 50-year lifespan with an estimated assessment rate increase of \$879; Alternative 1 (Martensitic Microcomposite Formable Steel [MMFX]), 65-year lifespan with an estimated assessment rate increase of \$1,032; Alternative 2 (Stainless Steel), 90-year lifespan with an estimated assessment rate increase of \$1,285; Alternative 3 (Vinyl), 40-year lifespan with an estimated assessment rate increase of \$1,058.

- A lengthy discussion ensued regarding the timeframe for replacement of the entirety of the BSI canal system's seawalls under the current and proposed programs as well as the estimated life spans and costs of the options.
- Mr. Harrigan suggested additional research be completed before presenting the potential seawall assessment rate increases to the public.
- Mr. Daugherty opined the estimated 90 year lifespan for Alternative 2 seemed excessive since the standard-strength concrete proposed within that alternative was more vulnerable to cracking.
- Mr. Disher acknowledged the costs for Alternative 2 could increase upon further study, noting a detailed study of the options was not requested from the consultants.
- Mr. Harrigan inquired as to the calculation of the lifespan for vinyl seawalls.
- Mr. Disher expressed uncertainty regarding same.
- Mr. Harrigan stated members should remain cognizant of related necessary expenses for other proposed projects, noting they would be in addition to the costs proposed in the financial performma.
- Mr. Ashworth inquired if the consultant provided information on the potential impact of severe weather events on the seawalls.
- Mr. Disher replied in the negative.
- Ms. Simeone concluded by requesting the Committee provide a recommendation on the preferred seawall construction method as well as the timeframe to implement same or whether to phase the program.
- Mr. McIntosh expressed uncertainty whether a decision could be made at this time.

- Mr. Daugherty requested staff provide a more in-depth review of the current method and Alternative 1, opining same were the most viable options. He expressed preference for the longer replacement program timeframe.
- Mr. Disher replied staff would work to provide additional information.
- Mr. Harrigan opined the explanation for the short lifespan of vinyl seawalls should be included in future information, then questioning how the current seawall panel inventory would be used.
- Mr. Disher explained the current inventory would be used within the next year's program, noting production of seawalls would commence again on October 1, 2020.

**STAFF COMMENTS**

- None.

**COMMITTEE/BOARD COMMENTS**

- None.

**CITIZENS' COMMENTS**

- None.

**ADJOURNMENT**

- Meeting Adjourned: 2:35 p.m.

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Mike McIntosh, Chairman

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Leah Pues, Recording Secretary