

**PUNTA GORDA ISLES  
CANAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE  
MEETING  
JANUARY 19, 2021**

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Fredric Cort, Chairman  
Jake Dye, Fred Hannon,  
Robert Knabe, Mark Kuharski,  
Paul Raffa

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Rick Keeney, Public Works Director  
Gary Disher, Mapping, Permitting and Compliance Manager  
Bob Nikula, Project Manager  
John Davies

**CALL TO ORDER/ANNOUNCEMENTS**

- Mr. Cort called the meeting to order at 1:30 p.m., followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.
- A. Roll Call
- B. Next Scheduled Meeting
- 1. February 16, 2021

**CITIZEN COMMENTS ON AGENDA ITEMS ONLY**

- None.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

- A. December 14, 2020
- Mr. Dye MOVED, Mr. Knabe SECONDED approval of the December 14, 2020, minutes.  
MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

**REPORTS**

- A. Finance Reports – December 2020
- Mr. Dye requested clarification of the line item for Seawall Panel Building Materials, denoted in the Expenditure Report, questioning whether the City was still producing seawalls at this time.
- Mr. Gary Disher, Mapping, Permitting and Compliance Manager, replied affirmatively.
- Mr. Cort inquired as to what happened with surplus funds.
- Mr. Disher responded same was always carried over to the next fiscal year (FY).
- Mr. Cort expressed confusion regarding the revenues compared to the dates detailed in the FY 2020 report.
- Mr. Disher confirmed he would contact the Finance Department for clarification regarding same.
- B. Budget Utilization Report – December 2020
- Mr. Disher verified there were no questions regarding the December 2020 report.

- C. Seawall Replacement Status Reports – December 2020
  - Mr. Disher reported five projects were under construction, as delineated in the agenda material.
- D. Permits Authorized by the City – December 2020
  - Mr. Disher announced 17 permits were authorized in December 2020.
- E. PGI Capital Improvement Status - Update
  - Mr. Disher stated the Seawall Alternative Materials project would be presented to City Council at their January 20, 2021, meeting, noting staff would receive direction at that time.
  - Mr. Cort verified there were no updates relating to the Ponce De Leon Inlet Widening & Dredging/Spoil Site Channel Project (Inlet/Channel Project) as same was still on hold.
  - Mr. Kuharski questioned whether the permit for the Inlet/Channel Project was for widening the Inlet since dredging was already completed.
  - Mr. Disher replied affirmatively, verifying the City was currently permitted to continue maintenance dredging to six feet mean-low water.

**PUBLIC HEARING**

**NOTE: Mr. Dye stepped down from the dais at 1:35 p.m.**

- Recording Secretary Pues swore in all participants.
- Special Permit – CCSP-01-2021 - Petition for Special Permit under the provisions of Chapter 6, Section 2-1(e) of the Punta Gorda Code to install a third boat lift (Personal Watercraft Lift) which is prohibited by Section 2-1(c)(2), Punta Gorda Code, at Lot 23, Block 18, Section 2, aka 119 Hibiscus Drive, Punta Gorda, Florida 33950  
Owner/Petitioner: Robert Posey  
Charlotte County Parcel: 412211356002
- Mr. Bob Nikula, Public Works Project Manager, displayed photographs and proposed construction drawings from the agenda material, briefly reviewing the request. He explained the request included the installation of a Personal Watercraft Lift (PWL) on a replacement dock, noting the PWL would be stored over the dock when not in use. He stated the public hearing notice for the request included signage posted at the applicant’s property, adding one question was received relating to the specifications of the proposed PWL. He concluded staff recommended approval of this request.
- Mr. Cort called three times for public comment.
- Mr. Kuharski MOVED, Mr. Knabe SECONDED to close the public hearing. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

- Mr. Hannon MOVED, Mr. Knabe SECONDED to approve Special Permit CCSP-01-2021. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.
- Mr. Cort stated Mr. Dye did not vote on this motion. (Form 8B Conflict of Interest attached)

**NOTE: Mr. Dye returned to the dais at 1:40 p.m.**

**NEW BUSINESS**

- No items.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

- No items.

**STAFF COMMENTS**

- None.

**COMMITTEE/BOARD COMMENTS**

- None.

**CITIZENS' COMMENTS**

- Mr. John Davies, Blue Jay Court, requested members' feedback regarding the use of a concrete resurfacing product on the seawall at his property. He explained the City had repaired the seawall cap numerous times, then displayed photographs of same.
- Mr. Cort questioned whether there was information relating to the status of the seawall in the seawall replacement assessment.
- Mr. Disher replied in the negative, adding he could research same.
- Mr. Davies reiterated the seawall cap was repaired numerous times within the past eighteen months.
- Mr. Disher verified the City was no longer replacing the seawall caps and were now replacing the entire seawall, explaining a broken seawall cap could indicate an issue within the seawall.
- A brief discussion ensued regarding the City's current process and considerations for replacing seawalls as well as the seawall caps.
- Mr. Cort inquired whether there was any feedback to provide Mr. Davies regarding the concrete resurfacing product.
- Mr. Disher expressed uncertainty regarding same, verifying Mr. Davies had spoken with Ms. Cathy Miller, Canal Maintenance Supervisor, regarding the product.
- Mr. Davies listed some potential benefits of the product, including the potential prevention of cracking of seawall caps.
- Mr. Cort suggested Mr. Davies work with the Canal Maintenance Division to determine potential positives and negatives of the product, noting members could not direct him on whether to utilize same.

- Mr. Rick Keeney, Public Works Director, stated he was unaware of Mr. Davies inquiry with Ms. Miller, explaining he did not have an answer regarding use of the product at this time. He verified the Punta Gorda Code currently did not permit any product to be applied to seawall caps, adding Ms. Miller likely suggested Mr. Davies attend the meeting for education and feedback purposes. He advised staff would gather additional information on the product, concluding Ms. Miller could report back at their next meeting.

**ADJOURNMENT**

- Meeting Adjourned: 1:58 p.m.

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Fredric Cort, Chairman

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Leah Pues, Recording Secretary