

**PUNTA GORDA ISLES
CANAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE
MEETING
JUNE 18, 2018**

MEMBERS PRESENT: David McBride, Chairman
Fredric Cort, Jake Dye, Fred Hannon,
Robert Knabe, Paul Raffa, Colleen Wright

OTHERS PRESENT: Sharon Knippenberg, Controller
Gary Disher, Mapping, Permitting, and Compliance Manager
Rick Keeney, Public Works Director
Irene Ploskina, Community Outreach Coordinator
Mark Gering, City Engineer
Anthony Gentile, Tim Weller, Debbie Gentile

CALL TO ORDER/ANNOUNCEMENTS

- A. Roll Call
- B. Next Scheduled Meeting
- 1. Next Scheduled Meeting – July 12, 2018
 - Mr. McBride confirmed no Canal Construction Special Permits were ready to be heard in July, inquiring as to any upcoming budgetary concerns which required action.
 - Ms. Sharon Knippenberg, Controller, replied if same were resolved this date, no financial matters would require action in July 2018.
 - Mr. McBride questioned if the City Code Chapter Six revisions would be ready for July 2018.
 - Mr. Gary Disher, Mapping, Permitting, and Compliance Manager, replied with uncertainty.
 - Mr. Raffa, Mr. Knabe SECONDED to cancel the July 12, 2018, meeting. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.
 - Mr. McBride announced the next meeting would be August 20, 2018.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- A. Approval of Minutes – May 21, 2018
 - Mr. Cort MOVED, Mr. Raffa SECONDED approval of the May 21, 2018, minutes. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

CITIZENS COMMENTS ON AGENDA ITEMS ONLY

- There were none.

REPORTS

- A. Patrol Update – May 2018
- Mr. McBride reviewed the May 2018 Marine Volunteers in Policing Report, as delineated in the agenda materials, announcing 308 nautical miles were patrolled. He noted a number of navigational hazards were removed from the water and a sunken vessel was towed, explaining directed patrols focused on areas of failed seawall, particularly near Medici Court.
- B. Finance Reports – May 2018
- Mr. Disher offered to answer questions regarding the May 2018 finance reports, as delineated in the agenda materials.
- C. Seawall Replacement Status Reports – May 2018
- Mr. Disher questioned if the new report format was acceptable.
 - Ms. Wright voiced approval.
 - Mr. McBride noted the status annotations for NE-2 differed from other zones.
 - Mr. Disher offered to discuss the inconsistencies with Ms. Cathy Miller, Canal Maintenance Supervisor.
- D. Budget Utilization Report – May 2018
- Mr. Disher briefly reviewed the May 2018 Budget Utilization Report (BUR), as delineated in the agenda materials, drawing attention to the Hurricane Irma – Seawall Replacement line item and reports regarding individual contractors. He noted work was not invoiced until lots were backfilled.
 - Mr. Cort requested combination of the individual contractor report and the production level report in the future.
 - Mr. Disher agreed.
- E. PGI Gap Information
- Mr. Disher drew attention to the PGI Gap Information Report, as delineated in the agenda materials. He reported Segment #2 on Park Beach Circle did not require replacement, reviewing the remaining ten locations. He commented briefly on associated repair costs, noting same would be reviewed in detail later in the meeting.
 - Mr. Cort inquired as to how gap repairs would impact the timing of Hurricane Irma-related seawall repairs, expressing concern one contractor might not schedule repairs efficiently.
 - Mr. Disher explained repair gaps abutting medium- or low-priority FEMA-funded repairs could be addressed concurrent with adjacent lower priority repairs. He clarified contractors would not be made aware of the repair gaps at the time of high-priority seawall repairs.

- Ms. Wright inquired if repair gaps could be addressed within the regular replacement schedule.
 - Ms. Knippenberg reviewed funding which would impact the Fiscal Year (FY) 2018/2019 budget, explaining funding for critical repairs scheduled prior to Hurricane Irma, repair gaps, and a contingency reserve from the regular operating budget would leave \$1,090,000 in the seawall line item available to be applied toward the City's portion of Hurricane Irma-related repair expenses.
- F. Presentation & Discussion of FY 2019 Operating Budget/CIP FY2019-2023
- Ms. Knippenberg announced the proposed additional assessment of \$100 would increase the Punta Gorda Isles (PGI) Canal Maintenance Assessment District (CMAD) total assessment to \$650 for four years. She then drew attention to the Preliminary Proforma, as delineated in the agenda materials, reviewing the assumptions in detail. She reviewed capital needs, drawing attention to a pickup truck replacement in FY 2019/2020 and the Seawall Maintenance Alternatives/Seawall Panels Project.
 - Mr. McBride inquired as to the division of the Project's expenses.
 - Mr. Disher explained the Burnt Store Isles (BSI) CMAD and the PGI CMAD were responsible for twenty thousand dollars and thirty thousand dollars respectively.
 - Mr. McBride inquired as to the status of the Project's scope.
 - Mr. Disher responded same was written and under review. He then outlined the anticipated construction dates and expenses for the Spoil Site Channel Project and the Ponce De Leon Inlet Widening & Dredging Project, noting the two scopes would be released as a dual project in order to reduce costs.
 - Mr. Raffa questioned why the projects were not being combined.
 - Mr. Disher replied the consultant would determine the viability of combining same.
 - Ms. Knippenberg reviewed the projected revenues denoted in the preliminary Proforma for the PGI Operating Budget, as delineated in the agenda materials. She then reviewed projected expenditures and reserves.
 - Mr. McBride inquired as to the percentage of seawall which would be replaced at the conclusion of Hurricane Irma-related repairs.
 - Mr. Disher replied approximately 10% of the seawall.
 - Mr. McBride suggested reserves not be expended at this time.
 - Ms. Knippenberg concurred. She then pointed out the hazard mitigation project proposed by FEMA was identified in the Preliminary Proforma, opining the project was sensible given their offer of \$8 million to place riprap at seawalls repaired with their funds.
 - Mr. Cort questioned if reserves would be exhausted in 2021.

- Ms. Knippenberg responded capital replacement reserves would be consumed by the capital projects discussed earlier; however, the operating reserve would remain.
- Mr. Cort inquired as to a “reserve to operating expenses” plan.
- Ms. Knippenberg replied an operating reserve of 60% was maintained to provide for contingencies, noting same would require review at a later date due to the increased cost of seawall repairs.
- Mr. Knabe questioned staff’s position regarding future riprap installation.
- Mr. Disher responded the engineer selected would investigate related costs and benefits, adding the amount of seawall repaired would decrease due to increased costs if the current budget for repairs was maintained. He concluded the seawall alternatives project could identify a more cost-effective option.
- Mr. Knabe MOVED, Mr. Raffa SECONDED to approve the FY 2018/2019 assessment and budget as presented. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

G Permits Authorized by City Staff – May 2018

- Mr. Disher announced staff had authorized 30 permits.

NEW BUSINESS

A. Fiscal Year 2019 Strategic Plan Input

- Mr. Rick Keeney, Public Works Director, explained the Committee could make recommendations as a whole or members could do so individually, noting members could suggest projects which were not already included in the budget.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

A. Hurricane IRMA Seawall Failure Updates

- Ms. Irene Ploskina, Community Outreach Coordinator, announced the City’s insurance carrier requested the City inform homeowners of their liability and risk associated with damaged seawalls, drawing attention to the letter approved by the BSI Canal Advisory Committee. She reviewed several options and related costs, requesting direction.
- Mr. McBride questioned the difference between the existing and proposed signs, stakes and ribbons.
- Mr. Disher replied the proposed signage would face landward to caution people of the failed seawalls as opposed to the current waterward signage warning boats to slow near failed seawalls. He explained the stakes and ribbons would replace what was previously installed.
- Mr. McBride questioned the insurance carrier’s opinion regarding the options.
- Mr. Keeney opined the insurance carrier preferred more action be taken to reduce liability, noting BSI sent their letters in a manner which could be tracked.

- Discussion ensued with consensus to send homeowners a letter similar to the BSI letter via regular mail and to recommend additional language be included advising homeowners to investigate their own insurance policies.
- Mr. Keeney stated the Board's discussion would be communicated to the Human Resources Director.

B. Irma 17 – Production Levels

- Mr. Disher reviewed the Irma 2017 Production Levels report, as delineated in the agenda materials, announcing the Harborwalk was backfilled but was marked 0% completed as it had not yet been invoiced. He then reviewed the percentage of restoration completed according to zone.
- Mr. McBride inquired as to how the addition of projects completed but not invoiced would impact the percent of restoration completed.
- Mr. Disher replied with uncertainty, offering to present same in the future.
- Mr. McBride questioned if there was a significant issue regarding Shoreline.
- Mr. Disher responded Ms. Miller was working with them to increase production.
- Mr. Cort questioned if contractors consulted each other.
- Mr. Disher replied contractor field trips were held; however, he was unsure how much of that information had been applied.
- Mr. Cort suggested the differences between contractor's practices be examined.
- Mr. Disher replied many suggestions regarding streamlining repairs had been made.
- Mr. Dye questioned if inefficiencies had been examined by staff and conveyed to the contractors.
- Mr. Disher responded contractors were supplied with their respective production level information which identified the required restoration rate to complete their contract on time.

Note: Ms. Wright left the meeting at 2:42 p.m.

CITIZENS' COMMENTS

- Mr. Anthony Gentile requested assistance in obtaining reestablishment of the original grade around the pool at 1217 Aqui Esta Drive, noting some fill had been removed.
- Mr. McBride questioned the reason fill was removed, further inquiring how the situation could be addressed.
- Mr. Mark Gering, City Engineer, explained staff opted to create a four-to-one slope to promote the establishment of sod due to the lack of a repair strategy related to the pool and deck being provided by the required date.

- Mr. Gentile indicated the residents now had a plan to address drainage which would facilitate the growth of sod, requesting the grade be brought back to normal to the left and right of the pool in addition to the placement of geotextiles.
- Mr. Tim Weller expressed frustration at what seemed to be a lack of organization in the seawall replacement process.
- Mr. Gentile concluded residents were looking for completion without incurring further expense.
- Mr. Gering agreed the residents should have an even four-to-one slope.
- Mr. McBride requested staff examine the slope and report their findings to the Committee.
- Ms. Debbie Gentile asserted a four-to-one slope would undermine the pool deck, pointing out the ground originally extended out from the pool before sloping down. She opined the residents would be liable if the job was not completed properly.

ADJOURNMENT

- Meeting Adjourned: 3:03 p.m.

David McBride, Chairman

Sara Welch, Recording Secretary