

**MINUTES
SPECIAL CALLED MEETING
PAWLEYS ISLAND TOWN COUNCIL**

DATE/PLACE: September 26, 2016
Pawleys Island Chapel

PRESENT: Mayor Bill Otis, Mike Adams, Ashley Carter, Rocky Holliday & Sarah Zimmerman

ABSENT: None

DECISION ON MOVING FORWARD WITH CSE FOR BASE ENGINEERING FOR A PERMIT APPLICATION TO OCRM Necessary For a Beach Renourishment grant

Mayor Otis stated that Town had received the \$30 million Parks, Recreation and Tourism grant application criteria, which include environmental impact, public recreation benefit, protection of the beach and infrastructure and tourism impacts. PRT is handling the grant process for the State. In order to request these funds, we must submit a fully completed application that includes our commitment of our 50/50 cost share of the total cost of the project. We must also have a project narrative with maps, a budget summary and proof of matching funds. All of this requires an engineer, engineering studies and OCRM permit application. We also need an approved local comprehensive beach management plan, which we already have. Our project will make a strong case in almost every area. The highest consideration will be given by PRT to projects that are furthest along in the process. If the decision was made today to proceed, it would take CSE until mid-November to do the necessary engineering needed for the Town to submit the permit application. The application to PRT is underway by Ryan, but Council would need to make a decision on the proposed extent of the application for the 50/50 cost share amount, by submission time, which would be about 60 plus days from the approval to begin engineering. There is in excess of \$5 million in Town funds in the bank and committed by Council to beach purposes.

DISCUSSION OF BEACH COMMITTEE MEETING AND RECOMMENDATION

Mayor Otis stated that at the last Beach Committee meeting they approved a recommendation to Council for the Town to move forward with engineering for a beach renourishment project so as to make an early submission to PRT for state matching funds. The recommendation was based on the ability of the Committee to make later recommendations to the Town Council on the final project scope, recognizing that the scale of a permitted project can be reduced.

CSE project manager, Steve Trainum says that to include groin extensions in a project would be around \$3 million. This could create circumstances, such as appeals, that could unduly delay the permit approvals. Delaying the permit approval could potentially make the Town ineligible for the existing State funding for the renourishment project, and matching State funds are necessary for our project to be successful. Chairman Holliday, Ryan Fabbri and Mayor Otis recommended to Council that groin extensions be removed from the proposed project, and that CSE contact OCRM regarding a maintenance permit to repair/upgrade the existing groins as either a part of the project or an earlier project. We could also make separate permit applications for groin extensions, or to just repair the groins. The first thing to do is get the application in to PRT which will include just the beach renourishment, then the Beach Committee will have time to discuss groins and their extensions/repairs. The current cost of the CSE engineering proposal is a guaranteed top of \$146,028. This is recognizing that our agreement would be a cost plus with a guaranteed top.

It should take about 60 days to put all this into a permit application. During this 60-day period the Beach Committee will meet to make further recommendations to Council regarding the scope and the financing of the beach project. Near the end of the 60 days a decision will need to be made to authorize a biological assessment for US Fish and Wildlife, and the essential fish habitat assessment for the National Fishery Service. CSE would prepare these for an additional cost to be \$20,050 and this is necessary for the permit application. Council will need to determine if proceeding with CSE's proposal is in the best interest of the Town, without requiring bid proposals under the provision of section 2-264 of our bidding ordinance. Council should consider the extent of emergency caused by Hurricane Juaquin, followed by the response of CSE in preparing necessary engineering quickly, and at a reasonable cost, for the 4 permits required for the Town to successfully construct the dune restoration in March. CSE has a 28-year history with Pawleys Island. They did a 1988 project, as well as the 1997/1999 beach renourishment and groin repair project. In 2014 they updated their analysis of the Pawleys Island beach and in 2015/2016 they provided engineering and oversight of the emergency dune project. They are currently under 2 agreements, at the direction of Council, for a current evaluation of the beach and dune system as well as establishing a recommended beach profile for Pawleys. The information already developed under the 2014, 15 and 16 agreements with CSE will not need to be duplicated, and should reduce CSE costs involved with the project. Under our current ordinance the Mayor, as the acting purchasing agent, must make the recommendation to not bid, which he is because there is a limited time frame for the possibility of applying for and receiving State assistance under the FY 16/17 State Emergency budget appropriation. Without the State matching funds the Town would not be able to afford a project to establish an engineered beach, according to FEMA regulations, or to return a normal high tide beach to all of the Pawleys beachfront. CSE's prior history with the Town and their results appear to give the best chance of success for our residents and property owners within the limited timeframe, at the lowest possible price. Ashley Carter recommended that we go with the \$140K plus the additional as needed. **Sarah Zimmerman made a motion to proceed with the Beach Committee recommendations to hire CSE at a cost not to exceed \$146,028 for the engineering required to submit a beach application to PRT, to be done with the current proposal, without the bidding process, and to include an additional \$20,050 in the event it is necessary to have the other study for fish habitat and biological assessments. Mike Adams seconded. All in favor.**

BUDGET REVISION FOR ENGINEERING

Mayor Otis stated that we budgeted last year \$250,000 for 2016 for dune rebuilding project with the total cost, so far, coming in below \$150,000 however the current proposals could bring that 2016 expense to possibly around \$180,000 more than we committed for. We have applied to be reimbursed for 75% of the cost for the beach scraping but we don't know exactly how much we will get back. **Sarah Zimmerman made a motion to amend the budget by adding \$166,000. Rocky Holliday seconded. All in favor.**

Meeting adjourned.

APPROVED

DATE

ATTEST

DATE