

Members Present: Bert Adams, Jimmy Burke, Cecil DeLorme, Helen Downing, Harvey Ferrelle, Mary McCracken, Lou Off, Walter Parker, Harry Spirides, Bill Sprague, Greg Stoeffler, John Wylly

Ex Officis Present: Brad Gane – DNR, Kevin Haas – AASU, Sonny Emmert – DNR, Diane Schleicher – City Manager, Paul Wolff – Councilperson

Members Absent: Amy Lanier (E), Henry Levy (E), Freda Rutherford (E), Wick Searcy (E), Mark Smith

Visitors: Karl Burgess – DNR, Jennifer Drazek, Wanda Doyle – Mayor Pro Tem

CALL TO ORDER (*Agenda Item 1*):

Lou called the meeting to order at 11:45am. Compliments were given to Huc-a-Poos for lunch.

ATTENDANCE AND GUESTS (*Agenda Item 2*):

See above.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES (*Agenda Item 3*):

Paul motioned to approve the January minutes. Jimmy seconded. All approved.

ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS REPORT (*Agenda Item 4*):

Burt reviewed because Hamp was not able to make the meeting.... (COE Actions & Status sheet provided separately)

- 1) Tybee Coastal Zone Management Implementation:
 - a. Lou reviewed the CZM. Headquarters is trying to figure out what to do. District is to coordinate a meeting w/ Brad @ DNR. However, it has been over a year and it is still pending.
- 2) Channel Impact Feasibility Study:
 - a. Final report is complete. Scope / feasibility study to find alternatives is being done.
- 3) Tybee Island Shore Protection Project:
 - a. It was reiterated that any work Tybee does prior to the PCA signing will not be eligible for reimbursement / credit.
- 4) Jasper County Terminal Development
 - a. Two of the present Savannah River dredge material disposal areas are being taken away. GDOT has 6 months to transfer ownership of land. Once this transfer is final, applying for permits to build the new port will begin. Studies will also have to be done prior. GA & SC are in agreement with this. There will be an independent committee overseeing the project and process to give COE new land for disposal areas for dredge materials.
 - b. Bert asked about the impact to Tybee. Walter is monitoring when Tybee will need to be involved in the Jasper County Port's impact to Tybee. The timeline is unknown.
 - c. Jones Oyster Bed Island is a desired location for dredge material. Bert wants to know if this material could be used for Tybee's renourishment. This will be part of the second phase of the Channel Impact Study.
- 5) Brunswick Harbor Deepening

- a. 15.4 mill cubic yards of material were removed for this project. Mitigation for Turning Basin building contract was awarded one week ago. The contract came in at \$65 mill, which was the lowest bid. It went to court. The Judges said if awarded it would go to Great Lakes. It started as a \$63 – \$64 mill project, and ended up being \$75 million.
- 6) Savannah Channel Maintenance
 - a. Maintenance on inner-harbor should finish around September.
 - 7) Sav'h Harbor Expansion
 - a. Alan Garret is the project manager
 - b. Burt will “run the show” once it is awarded

Questions/Concerns:

John confirmed that Burt is aware the north & south channels have joined each other. DOT is aware as well. It was projected that this is going to be a problem for Harbor deepening.

TYBEE RE-NOURISHMENT PROJECT – UPDATE (*Agenda Item 5*):

Lou reviewed “hot topics” list prepared by Hamp

- Fed funds are in the COE hands
- Non fed funds – Tybee received \$450,000 from county
- Waiting on state of Georgia
 - o Brad reported the DNR board will meet next Tues / Wed and review the sale of the bond; State is working to see 5/15 deadline is met for Tybee to have its money
- PCA
 - o Tybee may be able to use the previous request w/ a memo of understanding between the commander at the Savannah District COE & Mayor Buelterman
- Tybee project to Fed project – Erik working hard on this
 - o There is study of the borrow area. One area has been mapped out just NE of the borrow area used in the last nourishment and materials are being found, examined, etc.
 - o cultural resources are being thorough in their checks for safety of the pumps
 - o environmental committee is working on completing their assessment
 - o real estate – Diane is applying thru DNR for a mineral mining permit from the State to remove material from the borrow area.
 - Brad confirmed work needs be done through State for use of the sediments.
 - Approx. 1.8 mill cub yards should be used for this project and it will be good for approx 5 years.
- Design
 - o Erik has designed an optimal beach renourishment project. We have to work with a certain federal template. We are inside the template at 2nd Street, between the Pier & 18th St. & the Back River. The 2nd St. renourishment area would work better if it tied in with the whole front beach. The designed re-nourishing is from 1,000 feet south of the N groin all the way to the South groin plus a small area on the Back River. We'll have b/t \$9.5 – \$10.0 mill for the contract after overhead, planning, design and management. In order to get the most sand for the buck, the design is divided into five alternatives. Depending on where the bids come in, we can determine which design to use. There are two components to the bid – mobilization & sand cost per cubic yard.

Lou expressed time sensitive issues, obstacles and variables for this renourishment.

- Misc.
 - o Per Lou, the City has requested extra money from Senator Eric Johnson in case we need it for the renourishment. If we get state money, we could pull out seawalls & groins by the entrance at Ft. Screven. Lou confirmed (for Paul) that GIS locations will be done. If there is additional money, Erik is designing a way to put more rocks on North & South groins.
 - o 75% plans and specifications are due 2/20. The plans should be available to view at next months meeting. Rough designs are available right now.
- Procurement
 - o With the 5 alternatives we can optimize the money we have.
 - o Burt confirmed that the staging / work areas are being cleared: North Beach parking lot, 19th St. parking lots, Back River parking lot, Inlet Ave.; not using the 18th – 14th St. lots.

TYBEE FUNDING FOR BEACH MAINTENANCE (*Agenda Item #6*):

(Discussed earlier)

MEMBERSHIP, NEW OFFICERS (*Agenda Item #7*):

Bylaws require that Chair and vice-chair are nominated & elected in February. Bill nominated Lou as Chairperson. Jimmy seconded. All approved. Bert nominated Amy to be vice-chair. Walter seconded. All approved. No more nominations.

OLD BUSINESS – SEA WALL, BEACH MGT PLAN, LNG (*Agenda Item #8*):

- Lou reported that he had not talked to Amy regarding LNG. Diane confirmed the City has not received a check from LNG. Bert said that she believes LNG wants a dedication event in the spring for their contribution.
- Tybee Beach Overview – Lou handed out an outline of future BTF items to coordinate.
 - I. Renourishment program project – teleconferences every Thurs. / meetings
 - II. Additional items if and when funds could be available
 - Advance maintenance sand
 - Maintenance of North / South Federal Groins
 - Old Sea wall removal, 2nd St. to North Groin
 - Raise Savannah River Beach

*Bert added that Campbell units be considered for the back river jetties as break waters...look at the possibility of using rock as break waters there and or north beach with no jetties to accrue sand
 - III. Savannah River Impact Study (phase two)
 - final copies of 1st phase should be in hand by March meeting;
 - scoping of alternatives to come and process will be determined;
 - we have credit from GPA towards the second study per City Manager
 - IV. CZM

- Waiting for COE to figure out what to do and contact DNR
- V. Permanent funding & channel facilities
 - Senator Eric Johnson working on possible state involvement
- VI. Start planning for 2015; beach monitoring, maintenance

Miscellaneous items for the list...

- o Sand management plan will be reviewed and updated as necessary
- o Diane & Brad are working on safety issues (escarpments, etc)
- Bill reiterated we need to continue meetings with GPA, Steve Green.
- Lou confirmed efforts continue to secure federal funds.
- Berta shared she is working on alternative ideas also.
- Jimmy suggested that Lou or someone from BTF become involved with Propeller Club or Savannah Maritime Association. This can assist in making contacts.
- Freda is BTF representative with SEG.

NEW BUSINESS – HHI RE-NOURISHMENT, EMAIL ADDRESSES (Agenda Item #9):

Lou passed around a tri-fold brochure from Hilton Head's renourishment last year. It was handed out to hotels, real estate brokers, etc. The Mayor and Lou will be meeting with HHI Mayor & City Engineer in April to discuss matters of concern. Lou wants individuals to look at the brochure and give input. Discussions ensued regarding Tybee Tourism Council's input / implementation and the cities PR efforts for marketing.

Lou also passed out a sheet of various websites by other cities renourishment updates. It is important to get the word out this season so people are aware for travel next year.

Greg expressed the tourism council would appreciate any assistance in getting the word out.

Mary will update the legislative directory.

MEETING ADJOURNED (Agenda Item 10):

1:11pm