

ST. AUGUSTINE PORT, WATERWAY & BEACH DISTRICT
MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING
Thursday, September 15, 2016

The regular meeting of the St. Augustine Port, Waterway & Beach District was held at the St. Augustine Beach City Commission Meeting Room, 2200 A1A South, St. Augustine Beach, Florida on Thursday, September 15, 2016.

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Dixon called the meeting to order at 3:00 p.m.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance to the flag of the United States of America followed.

3. ROLL CALL

Chairman Jerry Dixon, Vice-Chairman Barry Benjamin, Commissioner Tom Rivers, and Commissioner Mark Helman were in attendance. The meeting was also attended by Mike Trudnak of Taylor Engineering, District Counsel Jim Bedsole and Secretary-Treasurer Elyse Kemper.

4. SECRETARY-TREASURER'S REPORT

Secretary-Treasurer Kemper delivered the financial report to the Board. As of August 31, 2016, the District had expended \$11,675 for St. Johns County Sheriff's Department overtime pay, \$4,021 for the removal of derelict boats, and \$149,911 for dredging, all from committed funds. On deposit, the District has \$21,622 in the Florida Board of Administration, \$204,946 in its Operating Account and \$1,857,841 in its Money Market Account at Harbor Bank. Net funds available as of August 31, 2016 are \$2,063,110. Taxes collected this fiscal year total \$421,691 and no further income is expected.

5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion by Commissioner Helman to approve the minutes of the regular meeting held on August 16, 2016, was seconded by Commissioner Rivers and passed unanimously.

6. ENGINEERING REPORT

Mike Trudnak delivered the engineering report on behalf of Taylor Engineering. He reported the low bidder for the Summer Haven River Restoration Project was Turnbull Environmental, Inc., of St. Augustine, Florida. He distributed copies of a letter dated September 15, 2016 from Ken Craig, P.E., to Chairman Dixon explaining the responsive and responsible nature of the bid and recommending the board accept the bid from TEI.

Chairman Dixon moved to accept the bid from Turnbull Environmental, Inc. for the Summer Haven River Restoration at \$2,146,750.00. The motion was seconded by Vice-Chairman Benjamin and passed unanimously.

Mr. Trudnak then discussed the Temporary Construction Easement requested by St. Johns County to utilize certain lands adjacent to the Summer Haven River during the restoration project. He said the land is already part of a permanent easement given to the Army Corps of Engineers and the Florida Inland Navigation District for the purpose of dredge and fill operations in the Summer Haven area and that he and District Counsel Jim Bedsole had worked with county officials to draft the easement. He then requested the board approve the easement as part of the restoration project.

A motion by Vice-Chairman Benjamin to approve the Temporary Construction Easement was seconded by Commissioner Rivers and passed unanimously.

Mr. Trudnak also provided the board with a copy of the written overview of the previously-approved proposal by Taylor to increase the stated capacity of the dredge permits from FDEP and USACE for work in the San Sebastian River and Salt Run. He also reported the replacement piling for the Number 4 marker in Salt Run has been set and the new sign will be mounted as soon as it is available.

A recent meeting took place between officials of St. Johns County and members of the South Ponte Vedra-Vilano Beach property owners in which the county agreed to assume permit sponsorship for the north beach renourishment project. Chairman Dixon commented the meeting was very positive and will probably result in an official Board of County Commissioners vote to assume sponsorship of the permit sometime in the very near future.

7. **OLD BUSINESS** : NONE

8. **NEW BUSINESS**: NONE

9. **PUBLIC COMMENT**:

Corporal Jeff Truncellito appeared for the St. Augustine Police and explained he is the City's bike-boat officer splitting his time between downtown bicycle patrols and work in the city's patrol boat. He said Barry Fox will take over as Chief of Police in December, 2016, and will appoint a new marine liaison officer at that time. The city is working to remove an existing derelict vessel near the S.R. 312 bridge. Commissioner Helman commented there are other possible derelicts in East Creek and at the entrance to Guana.

10. **COMMENTS BY COMMISSIONERS**:

Commissioner Rivers said he has been elected as the Republican Committeeman for St. Johns County and that he is very surprised and gratified by the support he has received.

Commissioner Helman asked Mr. Trudnak whether the markers for the sandbar south of the City Marina had been funded yet by FIND. Mr. Trudnak said the grant application had

received good scores from FIND members but that the final list of funded projects has not been determined yet.

Chairman Dixon commented Vice-Chairman Benjamin had been elected to his fifth term on the board without opposition. Vice-Chairman Benjamin said he was pleased to continue serving and thanked the voters for their confidence in him.

NEXT MEETING

Chairman Dixon announced the next meeting of the board will take place at 5:05 p.m. on October 5, 2016. This will be the final hearing on the millage and budget for fiscal year 2016-2017.

He also announced that the next regular meeting will be held at 3:00 p.m. on October 18, 2016 in the St. Augustine Beach City Commission Room.

ADJOURN:

There being no further business, Chairman Dixon adjourned the meeting at 3:45 p.m.

Secretary-Treasurer

Chairman