



The Town of Fenwick Island

800 Coastal Highway, Fenwick Island, DE 19944-4409

302-539-3011 ~ 302-539-1305 fax

www.fenwickisland.delaware.gov

DREDGING COMMITTEE MEETING

August 21, 2023 10:00AM

MINUTES

DRAFT

COMMITTEE MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE:

S. Ross, G. Murphy and W. Rymer at Town Hall

J. Armstrong via Zoom

OUTSIDE CONSULTANTS:

S. Bagnall via zoom

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE (in person or via zoom):

Several residents in person and via zoom

Rymer called the meeting to order at 10:01 AM and the Committee did the Pledge of Allegiance.

The committee discussed and approved (unanimous 4-0) the draft minutes from the June 28, 2023 meeting that were previously provided to the committee.

Rymer provided an update that the Town was awarded a \$300,000 grant from the State Bond Bill and the funds have already been received. The Town has now been awarded \$1 million of grant funding as a direct result of the support from Representative Gray and Senator Hocker. These funds combined with other allocations are sufficient to cover the anticipated costs of the dredging project.

Updates were then provided and discussions occurred on the following topics:

- In-Situ sediment sampling: Sample results from the lab were received for the ten discreet samples taken in late June. The results are consistent with test samples that were previously taken for specific chemicals/metals etc. These new samples also included testing for Gasoline Range Organics and Diesel Range Organics as requested by the placement-site property owner. The results for GROs and DROs were all in the acceptable range. These results have been forwarded to the property owner's experts for their review.
- Rymer, engineering consultants and town legal counsel have continued to exchange comments related to the land access agreement. We feel the agreement is near completion and the largest open item relates to any necessary upland sediment sampling and potential remediation (if any



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contamination is identified). These specific discussions will be led by Anchor QEA and the property owner's experts.

- Two of the three public comment periods related to the dredging permit applications have already been closed. We are still awaiting the start of the third (and last) public comment window which relates to the DNREC Wetlands and Waterways Review (Subaqueous Land and Water Quality permits).
- The Town received two preliminary comments back from the regulatory agencies.
 - Dredging windows – it appears that the Town will not be limited to specific time periods for this project which means the dredging could occur in April/May (if necessary based on permit review process).
 - Working with property owner to respond to a comment from US Army Corps regarding land disturbance from the GeoBag placement and de-watering process. The land owner has already received approval to develop the land for a residential community and any efforts related to the GeoBags and de-watering would be less impactful than those in connection with residential development. Ultimately, our proposed solution to this comment will need to be acceptable to the regulatory agency.

The meeting was then opened to public participation. There were no public comments.

The committee's next meeting will be scheduled at a later date.

ADJOURNMENT:

A motion was made by G. Murphy and seconded by J. Armstrong to adjourn the meeting. The motion was passed unanimously and the meeting was adjourned at 10:59 am.