



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

October 23, 2023, 2:00PM

MINUTES

DRAFT

COMMITTEE MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE:

S. Magdeburger and W. Rymer at Town Hall

J. Armstrong, G. Murphy, S. Ross and A. Emerson via Zoom

OUTSIDE CONSULTANTS:

S. Bagnull, Jonathan Hart and Ram Mohan via zoom

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE (in person or via zoom):

Several residents in person and via zoom

Rymer called the meeting to order at 2:00 PM and the Committee did the Pledge of Allegiance. Rymer mentioned that Steve Bagnull (Anchor QEA) will be leaving the firm this week. Jonathan Hart (Anchor QEA) will become the project manager and point person for our committee.

The committee discussed and approved (unanimous 5-0 in favor) the draft minutes from the August 21, 2023 meeting that were previously provided to the committee. Emerson "arrived" in meeting after this vote.

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

- Third and final Public Notification period is currently occurring and closes on October 31. This final comment period relates to DNREC's wetlands/subaqueous permit along with the water quality certification.
- As a follow up to an earlier comment from USACE/SHPO, a consultant was hired to perform survey/research work necessary regarding the placement site containing items of historical significance. Important to remember that the site has already been approved for residential development which will result in more land disturbance than the placement of dredge materials on the property. The consultant has completed their final report which will be released to USACE/SHPO this week. No items of significance were identified during their fieldwork. No other follow up is anticipated.
- PERMIT TIMING: Currently expect DNREC to provide final permit response by late November and then the USACE to complete by late December. This will allow the RFP/bid process to begin in January with the goal of selecting a dredge contractor in February and completing all dredging efforts by May 31.



The Town of Fenwick Island

800 Coastal Highway, Fenwick Island, DE 19944-4409

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

www.fenwickisland.delaware.gov

- No updates on the draft of the Land Access Agreement since both parties were awaiting the sediment analysis (last meeting) as well as the survey consulting project (SHPO comment above). Will re-engage and goal is to finalize by end of November.
- Steve Bagnull then led a detailed discussion regarding the \$59,000 consulting proposal to provide support for the RFP/bid process/contractor selection. Included in the \$59,000 is approximately \$4,000 of fees related to amending the current Sussex County land development permit specific to erosion control measures that is currently held by the property owner. The remaining \$55,000 includes all design/engineering documentation needed as well as the formal big package for a public process. This proposal also includes efforts to lead the public process and help identify the winning contract big. One topic discussed was the need to consider engaging a third-party survey company directly as opposed to having the dredge contractor take point for that relationship. The survey company identifies the number of cubic yards of material that were dredged which ultimately impacts the overall cost of the project. This does not impact the contract proposal but future efforts. After the discussion, the committee voted to recommend to the Town Council that the consulting proposal be approved. The vote was unanimous 6-0 in favor. In addition, Steve Magdeburger and George Murphy were identified to provide additional oversight to the RFP/big process.

There was no New Business.

The meeting was then opened to public participation.

- Rusty Kimmel asked about impact of the upcoming vote by the Sussex County Planning and Zoning board regarding the landowner's recent request for townhomes on a portion of that property. Rymer mentioned that the outcome of that smaller portion of the property does not impact the landowner's desire for the dredge materials since there is already a residential project in process.
- Ray Fager asked for a quick summary of the status since he was late to the meeting. This was provided and the comments were consistent with items listed above.

No other public comments were made.

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

ADJOURNMENT:

A motion was made by J. Armstrong and seconded by S. Magdeburger to adjourn the meeting. The motion was passed unanimously, and the meeting was adjourned at 2:42 pm.