



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

February 26, 2024

MINUTES

COMMITTEE MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE:

W. Rymer at Town Hall

A. Emerson, S. Ross and S. Magdeburger via Zoom

OUTSIDE CONSULTANTS:

Jonathan Hart and Tony Pratt via zoom

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE (in person or via zoom):

One resident in person and a few other members of public via zoom

Rymer called the meeting to order at 1:33 PM and the Committee did the Pledge of Allegiance. The committee discussed and approved (unanimous 4-0 in favor) the draft minutes from the January 24, 2024 meeting that were previously provided to the committee.

The committee then discussed and reviewed topics and documents related to the draft Request For Proposal (“RFP”) and upcoming public bidding process. Updates and discussions occurred on the following topics:

- Current cost estimates have increased by more than \$400,000 and were driven mostly by the need to pay “Prevailing State Wage Rates” (\$230,000), placing a protective rubber/synthetic liner underneath the dewatering area to protect against seepage into the ground soil, navigational aids (\$30,000) and dredging fee of \$1.50 per cubic yard (aprox \$30,000) charged by DNREC. Contractor will also be required to follow state-required drug testing protocols. The drug testing and Prevailing State Wage Rates are driven by the town receiving \$1 million of grant funds directly from the State. Discussed upland soil testing performed by landowner to review for any potential contamination. None was noted. Rymer communicated with Representative Ron Gray with the goal of obtaining another round of grant funding from the State Bond Bill but was notified that would not be an option. The town will reach out to Sussex County to request additional funds.
- Third-party, independent surveyor to be contracted directly by Contractor. Fenwick will have the right to reject any identified surveyor if that surveyor fails to meet certain qualifications. Fenwick has also reserved the right to hire its own independent surveyor if there are concerns regarding final volume calculations.
- Contractors will likely bid on a 12-hour, 6-day shift schedule but can discuss option for 24/7 or 12/7 schedule with consultants. Potential cost savings but risk of overwhelming dewatering location and concern for intrusion on public/residents.
- Winning bidder will be selected based on “best value/most qualified” criteria and not simply low cost bid.
- Geobag max volume will be 2,000 cubic yards.



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- Anchor walked the committee through the online portal that contains all RFP-specific documents and provided a brief summary of each document (more than 60 documents).
- We are awaiting final legal review which is expected this week.

The committee then voted 4-0 (unanimous) in favor of approving the RFP documentation for release pending final legal review.

There was no New Business.

The meeting was then opened to public participation.

- No public comments were made.

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

ADJOURNMENT:

A motion was made by S. Ross and seconded by S. Magdeburger to adjourn the meeting. The motion was passed unanimously and the meeting was adjourned at 2:48 pm.