



MINUTES
TOWN OF HILLSBORO BEACH
SPECIAL COMMISSION MEETING
JANUARY 24, 2023

10:00 A.M.

CALL TO ORDER, ROLL CALL, AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mayor Deborah L. Tarrant called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. Roll was called with the Commission members and staff present as listed below.

Town Commission:

Mayor Deborah L. Tarrant
Vice Mayor Irene Kirdahy
Commissioner Jane Reiser

Commissioner Barbara Baldassarre
Commissioner Vicky Feaman

Town Staff:

Town Manager William "Mac" Serda, ICMA-CM
Donald J. Doody, Town Attorney, Esq.
Town Clerk Sherry D. Henderson, CMC

I. PRESENTATIONS

Mayor Tarrant thanked everyone who contributed to putting together the presentation for the meeting.

Tarra Brenner, PG, PE, Senior Coastal Engineer, Coastal Protection Engineering (CPE), introduced the team and provided a *PowerPoint* presentation, which is **included in the record for this meeting**. She discussed volumes, permitted capacity, and reimbursements.

Vice Mayor Kirdahy asked for clarification on determining the amount of sand to be distributed. Ms. Brenner noted further detail would be presented later in the presentation, but the deciding factor would be cost and budget.

Ms. Brenner continued her presentation, reviewing the bid results for the ebb shoal dredging and truck haul. Mayor Tarrant provided additional clarification on what was covered by mobilization fees.

Continuing, Ms. Brenner outlined the timeline for coordination of the dredge project.

Mayor Tarrant noted that Boca Raton needed to mobilize the dredge with or without the project in order to keep their inlet open, so there was a benefit to them in that Deerfield Beach and Hillsboro Beach would be sharing in mobilization costs. Ms. Brenner agreed and stated that split was a large part of what was being negotiated in the Interlocal Agreement between the parties.

Ms. Brenner discussed potential cost share sources, including Federal and State programs and local partnerships.

Mayor Tarrant noted funding from Broward County was listed as “to be determined” and asked what was happening with communications with the County regarding the request for them to participate. Ms. Serda stated there had been local lobbyists engaged, and staff of both Hillsboro Beach and Deerfield Beach had had conversations. He noted he would not count on the County as a likely funding source.

Mayor Tarrant asserted that was a problem, as every coastal community in the State gets County participation when State money is involved except Hillsboro Beach, and stated sand placed on the beach benefits the County.

Mr. Serda pointed out that due to the number of funding sources identified for this nourishment, the incremental effect of County participation on the Town’s 6.5 percent share would be nice, but not the lion’s share. She stated that going forward to the next nourishment, that issue would be more significant.

Mayor Tarrant argued her concern was with the precedent set by the County not participating. She challenged the Town to figure out how to move the needle, and noted this challenge was not personal to Mr. Serda. She stated the Town should not take the path of least resistance. Discussion continued regarding County participation in other Florida communities and the calculation utilized.

Ms. Brenner reviewed the recommended plan for the sand placement area and discussed project options. She stated all options would place sand along the full permitted length and would raise the beach approximately seven (7) feet above the water level. She presented the individual options, reviewing the goals, sand volume, total cost, and Town cost for each.

Option	Sand Volume (cubic yards)	Estimated Total Construction Cost	Construction cost per cubic yard	Hillsboro Beach share after reimbursements
A	108,855	\$3.4 million	\$31.59	\$800,000
B1	195,000	\$5.5 million	\$27.98	\$2.4 million
B2	216,855	\$5.6 million	\$25.60	\$2 million
C	375,900	\$10.3 million	\$27.41	\$7.1 million

Ms. Brenner explained CPE and staff recommend option B2 as the most beneficial at this time. She stated it would satisfy the settlement agreement, complete the FEMA Hurricane Dorian repair, offset recent erosion, and maximize the State cost share, while also resulting in the lowest cost per cubic yard of sand.

Stephen Bloom, Town Finance Director, Inframark, provided additional financial information regarding the recommended option. He stated despite the fact that the Town's contribution would be approximately \$2 million, they would still need to fund the full \$5.6 million estimated total construction cost up-front pending reimbursements. Mr. Bloom explained to make the funds available without interruption to cash flow for the Town's operations, he would recommend \$1 million be taken from cash reserves and \$4.6 million come from a draw down loan, with reimbursements expected in the first year and the remaining \$1 million to be financed for the remaining term. He stated with an assumed interest rate of five (5) percent, a three (3) year term would result in a cost of approximately \$367,000 per year and a five (5) year term would cost approximately \$231,000 per year. He noted all numbers were estimated for discussion purposes.

Discussion ensued regarding loan terms. Mr. Doody clarified that the Commission would not be determining the loan term at this meeting.

Commissioner Baldasarre inquired as to the expectations for reimbursement. Mr. Serda and Ms. Brenner explained the expectations and provided historical information. Mr. Serda stated within one (1) year was the benchmark expectation for the FEMA portion.

II. DISCUSSION & POSSIBLE ACTION

A. Pre-Project Update, Discussion, and Possible Action on the Town of Hillsboro Beach and the City of Deerfield Beach Joint Beach Renourishment Project

Mr. Serda stated the request was for direction regarding the scope of the project so staff could start negotiating next steps.

Mr. Doody explained he had been in contact with the Deerfield Beach City Attorney and stated formal action would be coming before the Commission as soon as possible. He discussed the components of the Interlocal Agreement to be negotiated with Boca Raton and stated a proposal with a lender would also need to be accepted.

Consensus was to move forward with option B2 as recommended.

Mr. Serda pointed out that regardless of which option was selected, the cost per cubic yard ranged from \$25.61 to \$31.59 and while the cost per yard for a truck haul was

estimated at \$60 to \$65, the bid which had been received was \$125 per cubic yard. He noted whichever option the Commission selected, the Town was maximizing its dollars.

Mayor Tarrant asked how likely it was that the regional sand management mentality being utilized here would continue on a structured basis every five (5) years. She noted Boca Raton needed to keep its inlet open, so an ongoing schedule and plan for use of the sand seemed to make sense.

Ms. Brenner stated everyone she had spoken with was excited to see this project move forward, including locally and in Tallahassee. Thomas Pierro, PE, D.CE, Principal Engineer, CPE, provided additional detail. He stated while they could not speak for other agencies, there was a lot of excitement for this approach to regional sand management. He added that once the concept was proven, it would be an objective to create a more programmatic management of the inlet.

Mayor Tarrant reiterated her appreciation and discussed the hundreds of people at different levels of a number of agencies that had come together to make this happen.

Commissioner Baldassarre asked how often the cost-sharing funds utilized were available. Mayor Tarrant explained the funds were available annually but were divided up around the State based on need and projects planned. Discussion ensued regarding past use of the funds.

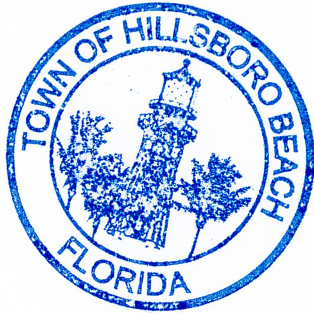
Vice Mayor Kirdahy asked about the timeline. Mr. Doody stated he hoped the documentation would be ready for approval at the February meeting, and mobilization was expected in March. He noted there was ample opportunity to call a special meeting prior to the election if needed.

Commissioner Reiser stated based on everything discussed, beach access was not needed for this project. Mayor Tarrant confirmed it was not needed for this project, but the agreement with Deerfield Beach did not exist in perpetuity. She noted it was her hope that everyone saw the benefit of regional sand management as a result of this project and would continue to pursue similar projects rather than relying on truck hauls.

Mayor Tarrant opened the meeting to public comment, however there being none to speak, she closed the public comments.

III. ADJOURNMENT

Motion made by Commissioner Baldassarre, seconded by Commissioner Feaman, to adjourn the meeting at 11:08 a.m. In a roll call vote, the **motion** passed unanimously. (5-0)



ADOPTED THIS 7TH DAY OF FEBRUARY, 2023

By:

Deborah L. Tarrant

Deborah L. Tarrant, Mayor

ATTEST:

Sherry D. Henderson

Sherry D. Henderson, Town Clerk
Town Clerk