MINUTES OF JOINT WORKSHOP TOWN OF SOUTH PADRE ISLAND BOARD OF ALDERMEN AND THE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 13, 2008

I. CALL TO ORDER

The Board of Aldermen held a Workshop on Wednesday, August 13, 2008 at the Municipal Complex Building, 2nd Floor, 4601 Padre Boulevard, South Padre Island, Texas. Mayor Pro-tem JoAnn Evans called the workshop to order at 10:00 a.m. Those present were Alderman Courtney Hayden, Kirk Mills, and Alita Bagley. Mayor Robert Pinkerton was absent due to a conflicting meeting and Alderman Rick Ridolfi was out of town.

Town staff members present were Town Attorney Paul Cunningham, City Manager Dewey Cashwell, Public Works Director Scott Fry, Public Works Supervisor Ray Moya, Town Planner Cate Ball, Technology Director Chuck Zebrowski, Public Information Officer Gary Ainsworth, Executive Services Coordinator- Customer Relations Manager Minerva Lopez and Assistant City Secretary Susan Hill.

Those present from the Economic Development Corporation were Board Directors Richard Franke, Peggy Trahan, Mary Phillip, Marvin Herschberg, Stacie Sutter (Citizen Volunteer) and Darla Lapeyre.

II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE.

III. PUBLIC COMMENTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS.

IV. PRESENTATION BY HDR SHINER MOSELEY REGARDING PHASE 2 OF THE OFFSHORE SAND SOURCE STUDY INCLUDING FIELD INVESTIGATIONS. (CAMERON PERRY)

Cameron Perry, Coastal Project Manager for HDR Shiner Moseley and Associates, Inc. was introduced and proceeded to inform the Board and public the status of the Offshore Sand Source project. Mr. Perry first explained that we are now in Phase II of the multi phased project. Phase I consisted of a review of historical data and reports in the vicinity of South Padre Island. Phase II consists of a series of sand source investigations using bathymetric surveys, geophysical (seismic) surveys, and vibracoring field studies. HDR Shiner Moseley contracted with Alpine Seismic Survey who took a series of core samplings in March. Unfortunately, during these tests, they found a very small layer of sand, then clay and silt – not much good for beach renourishment.

Additional areas were tested just north of Town, which proved to be not very useful. Then core samples were taken from Irene's Ridge and Mansfield Ridge further north. These samples proved to be an excellent match to our sand. It was also noted that this was a large pocket of sand that could put approximately 1.2 mil cubic yards of sand on our beaches. The drawback to this find was that the ridges were located 15 to 20 miles away and were in deeper water. Cost would be a factor if this avenue is pursued.

V. PRESENTATION BY GENERAL LAND OFFICE REGARDING FUTURE STEPS FOR BEACH RENOURISHMENT. (MATTHEW MAHONEY)

Matthew Mahoney and Eddie Fisher of the Texas General Land Office were introduced. Matthew turned the discussion over to Eddie Fisher.

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Mr. Fisher stated that first off the GLO is very supportive of the Town's beach renourishment project. GLO wants to see fewer, but bigger projects in the future and would like to work toward as big a project that we can do together. It is important to the GLO to get these big projects built as they last a long time. Eddie stated that funding sources through CEPR and CIAP are extremely important to the viability of this type of project. Mr. Fisher added that the Town usually scores quite well when applying for the CEPR funds as the Legislature notes that we get a lot of out of state and international tourists. He stated that although it is not a requirement, the best way to get a better score for the CIAP money is to show them our money, adding that this is a very competitive funding source. Eddie also stated that another issue is having to work around the sea turtle nesting restrictions. The only time they can nourish the beach is from October 1st through March 15th noting that it was too late to do anything for this year. Mr. Fisher stated that in all probability they are looking at 2009-2010 to be the when this project can be done.

VI. COMMENTS FROM THE BOARD MEMEBERS.

No comments.

VII. ADJOURN.

There being no further business, Mayor Pro-tem Evans adjourned the meeting at 11:12 a.m.

Susan M. Hill, Assistant City Secretary

APPROVED:

IoAnn Evans Mayor Pro-tem

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