# MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING OF MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF THE BOROUGH OF STONE HARBOR HELD IN THE MUNICIPAL BUILDING, December 13, 2022

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Davies-Dunhour at 4:30 p.m.

#### ROLL CALL

**PRESENT** 

Councilmembers

Judith M. Davies-Dunhour, Mayor
Kim Stevenson, Borough Clerk
Marcus Karavan, Solicitor
Robert Smith, Borough Administrator
Lisa Marcolongo, Ass't Administrator
Megan Brown, Deputy Clerk
Robin Casper
Jennifer Gensemer
Frank Dallahan
Reese Moore
Charles Krafczek
Bunny Parzych

# FOR THE RECORD, THIS MEETING WAS HELD VIA VIDEO/TELEPHONE CONFERENCE IN A ZOOM FORMAT

Mayor Davies-Dunhour announced that the meeting was now open. Adequate notice of the meeting was provided by posting a copy of the time and place on the Municipal Clerk's bulletin board and mailing a copy of same to the Press and the Cape May County Herald on November 29, 2022.

#### **SALUTE TO THE FLAG**

Review of Coastal Feasibility Study presented by Doug Gaffney, Coastal Engineer, Mott MacDonald Engineering.

Mr. Gaffney explained the purpose and need of the Feasibility Study. The study reviews the long-term effects of erosion of the beachfront and reviews the options that the Borough can take to improve the sand stabilization along our beach. In addition, the need for additional permitting, if any, can also be planned and reviewed.

Mr. Gaffney explained the importance of resiliency and reviewed different measures that are in place to assist with keeping our beaches stable and also the need to update those measures and maybe make changes based on past storms and the history of erosion along the beachfront. The current groins are old and in need of upgrading and/or replacement. The option to modify those structures to improve the beachfront is considered within the study presented. Mr. Gaffney showed the effects that beach renourishment has had in the past and future predictions of renourishment and its effects. In addition, the changes to Stone Harbor Point were also presented.

Potential alternatives to provide long term maintenance are as follows:

- Refurbish or add groins
- Dredging
- Beach Management: Beach Harvesting & Beach Scraping
- Adding Breakwaters

Wave Modeling; shoreline morphology modeling; alternative analysis were reviewed to determine outcomes of waves along the beachfront.

Shoreline morphology shows how the sand is transported by wave action after a beach renourishment project. Several alternatives of sand placement was completed to determine how sand morphology works best – providing the best plan for resiliency. Mr. Gaffney reviewed plans at the 127<sup>th</sup> Street groin area and how Stone Harbor can best improve this area. He determined that somewhere within the 75-to-150-foot extension range looks like the best alternative.

Mr. Gaffney explained each option available to Stone Harbor based on this study and the benefits and details. There is a need to repair the groin at Stone Harbor Point however this project will require considerable review to determine the best options.

The Feasibility Report should be in draft form in late January with final report ready soon after.



## **Discussion:**

Mayor and Council reviewed the different options and the details. There was considerable discussion on operating our own dredge which would allow Stone Harbor to pull sand from Hereford Inlet. In addition, there would be an opportunity for other communities to share in the cost of the dredge and therefore not have as much need to wait on Army Corp beach renourishment.

Permitting, dredge cost and how to man the dredge, and other details would have to be reviewed in more detail. A discussion on competing with local dredge companies was also completed.

The groin at 127<sup>th</sup> Street must be considered carefully since improving too much could have alternate effects on Stone Harbor Point.

### **Public Comment:**

Geoff Woolery, SHPOA Member: Stone Harbor should be careful to consider how much we are undertaking. Jeff felt that there was a great discussion on the jetties and their impact along the beachfront. He further noted the differences in a beach scraping project in Stone Harbor in comparison with Avalon project for the same. Geoff reviewed the two past storms (Mother's day and Hurricane Ian) and the impacts which lead to sand availability right offshore, however not accessible without proper dredging. Geoff feels it is very valuable to have Stockton Coastal Research completing bi-annual reporting of the beachfront for continual review in determining the best options for replenishing out beachfront. SHPOA is looking forward to reviewing the presentation and the draft of the feasibility study. Geoff has concerns with the 106<sup>th</sup> and 122<sup>nd</sup> Street beaches and the impacts that storms have on these areas and noted that there should be particular concern in those areas. He further stated that modeling is very important to ensuring that whatever option the Borough chooses to advance our beachfront is most appropriate.

Justine Herzog, 10215 Sunrise Drive: Excellent presentation and glad to see progress in a more quantitative direction. Comments on the borough purchasing a dredge: Ms. Herzog asked if there is any opportunity to contract someone in the private sector dredge business to handle some of the options available instead of the borough purchasing their own dredge. Ms. Herzog thinks this option should be pursued.

Mayor Davies- Dunhour closed Public Comment and advised both Council and the public that the presentation is available on the Borough website.

The entire presentation will be posted on the Borough website for review.

# MOTION TO ADJOURN

Upon motion of Seconded by

Councilmember Frank Dallahan Councilmember Jennifer Gensemer

That the Work Session Meeting of Mayor and Council be adjourned at 5:58pm

APPROVED: December 20, 2022

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