Manager’s Report – February Special Meeting

Beach Renourishment

Phase 5 Matthew Project

This project was previously approved by FEMA for damages sustained by Hurricane Matthew. If you recall, it is placing 168,000 cy of sand for dune restoration.

The Project started on Monday December 2nd. They have completed almost 12,000 linear feet. We are posting periodic updates for property owners and other interested parties on Facebook.

TI Coastal is completing the modification we need to continue the project north for approximately another 4,000 linear feet adding approximately another 52,000 cy of sand.

Florence Project

Fran, Caitlin, Laura, Scott and I met with State and Federal stakeholders to discuss concerns they have with the offshore borrow site for our proposed FEMA Florence project. FEMA requested the meeting during their environmental review based on concerns with the offshore borrow area. The concerns all stem from the rocks on the beach from our last 2015 Phase 5 project. The primary agencies with the concerns are the U.S. Fish & Wildlife and NC Wildlife Resources Commission, but the USACE and DCM also stated concerns with compatibility and potential mitigation.

This is on tonight’s agenda.

US Army Corps of Engineers

NTB/SC Federal Project

Congress passed a supplemental disaster relief bill that included over $700 million to the USACE. The Corps has determined the significance of this law to mean that 100% federal
disaster financing will be used for the top projects. We recently received word our project was funded $237 million.

We are obviously very excited about this project. We recently had our first meeting with the Corps and Surf City. The project’s time is being accelerated, so we are ready to dedicate whatever resources are needed to accomplish the Project’s goals. Initially, the Corps only requested an updated beach survey. We provided our post-Dorian data and are awaiting further direction. Surf City has proposed a Committee to oversee and manage the project. It is on tonight’s agenda for the Board of Aldermen to discuss.

**USACE Dredging ICW/New River Inlet Crossing/Channel to Jacksonville**

As of Monday, Brennan Dooley with the USACE reported the project is still scheduled to begin in approximately 2-3 weeks.

I previously reported that the USACE may want to move the dredge pipeline. They want to allow for a pipeline route down River Drive, crossing New River Inlet Road and running to the beach between two house parcels. This will give the contractor an option to avoid running the pipeline against the sandbags coming around the inlet. The contractor has not fully decided which route they will take.

We do want to remind everyone from St. Regis to the north to be aware of this project. There will be pipes, equipment and people moving throughout the area. It is important for their safety and the safety of others to not get in their way during this process.

We will post periodic updates on Facebook as they complete the Project.

**Possible Day for Federal and State Officials to Visit Topsail Island**

The TISPC has been advised that federal and state officials will visit Topsail Island on March 19, 2020. They will view the dredging projects at Topsail Beach, as well as, other projects happening in Surf City and North Topsail Beach.

Once we have a schedule from Mike McIntyre and Stephanie Missert, we will let you know. We have offered having a meet and greet in NTB.

**Town Park Repairs**

Jim Stumbo will be here to discuss the Town Park Project.
**Town Hall**

Jim Stumbo of Stewart, Cooper and Newell is currently working on the specifications to repair town hall as is.

I do have some news on the FEMA front concerning Town Hall. We originally didn't believe we qualified for funds for the building. We have since found out the project may result in approximately $125,000 to cover what may not be covered.

**Terminal Groin**

Dial Cordy sent a proposed Plan of Study to Mickey Sugg and the Army Corps of Engineers. The USACE are analyzing the plan. Mickey informed Dial Cordy to make a few additions. Mickey will be in touch to discuss possible dates for our initial interagency/scoping meeting. Just to remind you, the USACE is now in the driver’s seat for this process. We are now working on their timetable for this process.

**Jeffreys Lease and Parking**

SP+ is the contracted company currently issuing driving permits on the North End. They are working on options for the Town to consider for possible paid parking. They will be at our planning retreat to discuss.

**Financial**

As I reported in an earlier report, I contacted Andrew Carter with DEC Associates to go through our financials to check the financial health of the Town. I want them to take an in-depth look at our financials to help with plans and projects for the future.

Andrew Carter has reported back to me that he wants to wait until any leadership changes are made before they perform this task.

This is separate from our audit. The audit, which is still being completed, is meant to ensure we are meeting goals and policies.

**Human Resources**

**MAPS Study**

As you will recall, we are working with the MAPS group to update our job descriptions, personnel policies and salary surveys.
Laura, Caitlin and I have had multiple meetings with MAPS to discuss. As you can imagine, this is a time-consuming process. This has taken dozens of hours to review and complete. I am happy to say we should only have one more conference call to wrap this up.

Our plan is to make a presentation to the Board at the Board Retreat. We will come with recommendations on implementation of the study.

**Bike NC**

We were approached by Bike NC to be the final stop in their annual bike trip across North Carolina. They will have had anywhere from 600 to 1,000 participants in past events. This is exciting news for the North Topsail Beach, and we look forward to working with them and the other partner organizations from Onslow and Pender Counties.

**Sledgehammer Run**

This past weekend was the Sledgehammer Run in North Topsail Beach. The mission statement of the "Sledgehammer Race Series" is: To Honor the memory of Sledgehammer and All Combat Veterans." Because of our history, we are excited that one race is here. Because part of the run is on the beach and we have the truck haul project on the south end of Town, the course had to be altered this year to the north end.