



Edgartown Dredge Committee Meeting Minutes

May 7th, 2020

I. CALL TO ORDER:

The meeting of the Dredge Committee was called to order at 4:00pm on Thursday, May 7th, 2020 via Zoom Teleconference.

II. ROLL CALL:

The following persons were present:

Members: Ed Handy, Dudley Levick, Ryan Smith, Rick Hamilton, Peter Vincent

III. OPEN ISSUES:

- a) The Committee reviewed the 2/20/20 and 3/5/20 draft meeting minutes. Motion placed on the floor by Rick to approve both sets of minutes, Dudley seconds, vote taken and passed 4-0; Peter abstains.
- b) Juliet informed the Committee that due to Covid, the Selectmen and the Finance Committee voted to remove all non-essential warrant articles from the Annual and Special Town Meeting warrants. This included the \$30K (originally \$100k) request by the Dredge Committee to establish a revolving fund to conduct profit-generating dredge operations in other locations. The operating and payroll budgets are still on the warrant.
- c) Ed informed the Committee that John Crocker reached out to him with a request for the Edgartown Dredge to return to the Tashmoo Channel next fall for maintenance dredging. The Town of Tisbury already has money appropriated, as well as money from a State grant. This is a good way to generate revenue for the Town of Edgartown, during these uncertain times. The Committee discussed and authorized Ed to reach out to Mr. Crocker to pursue this. Ed will speak with John and the Committee will discuss further at their next meeting.
- d) The Committee discussed a nourishment project proposed for Norton Point, and in inquiry by the Trustees for dredged sand. There was some concern that this is not a good location to put sand as it quickly disappears. [Jane Varkonda joined the meeting.] Jane stated that the Town is also looking for sand for that area as they want to move the bathrooms back in an effort to enlarge the beach.
- e) Ryan reported that the Shellfish Committee is in favor of dredging the Great Pond next season, as long as the sand can be sold. Ed stated that the real question is whether the sand can be transported down the beach; if so, it can always be utilized for nourishment, if not sold. The ability for trucks to access the beach will have to be determined this fall.
- f) The Committee began to discuss the schedule of openings at the Great Pond. Ed stated that the GPF had sent over some info that should be reviewed before further discussion. Ryan will forward the info he received for the Committee to review and discuss at the next meeting.

- g) The Committee reviewed the invoices (distributed electronically). There was some discussion regarding the demobilization bill from Baxter: the invoice was higher than the quoted price because, due to issues with the Steamship Authority, the crane truck was not able to get to the island in time to haul the dredge at high tide. They had to return the next day to complete the task, and there were additional costs associated with the additional work. The Committee decided to authorize the payment for the additional work as it was performed, and was not the fault of Baxter. The idea of reimbursement from the SSA was floated but the consensus was that it would be a fruitless endeavor. Instead, the Committee will submit a request to the FinCom and the Board of Selectmen to allow an end of year transfer of surplus salary money to the operating budget to cover the additional expense. Rick suggested that in the future, the contract should have a clause that the Town is not responsible for additional costs such as these. Juliet will call Baxter and let them know the situation, as the bill is currently overdue.
- h) A motion to request the end of year transfer was placed on the floor by Peter, Ryan seconds. Ed added that the request should include funds to cover the purchase of a new loader bucket; this will need to be purchased for the loader to operate next season. The other members agreed and this was added to the motion. No further discussion, vote taken and passed 5-0.
- i) Ed stated that the two Ellicot bills presented both include sales tax; he asked Juliet to reach out and have the sales tax removed. The Committee also discussed a bill from the Woods Hole Group for engineering for the Lighthouse Beach project. They agreed that it should be paid with the permitting money appropriated at the last Annual Town Meeting.
- j) A motion was placed on the floor by Peter to approve all the bills as presented, Rick seconds, no further discussion, vote taken and approved 5-0.
- k) Jane asked the Committee if they approved of sand being moved from the little bridge to Fuller St. Beach. They enthusiastically supported it and told Jane to please proceed. Jane stated that the project at Left Fork is about a year out, but assured the Committee that all dredged sand can be utilized next winter.

A motion to adjourn was made and seconded. The meeting adjourned at 4:40pm.

Minutes submitted by: Juliet Mulinare