

FRIPP ISLAND PUBLIC SERVICE DISTRICT

Minutes: Commission Meeting on July 10, 2007

Present: Richard S. Combes, Edward F. Hroncich, William N. Woodward, and Patrick A. Reilly

Absent: Gary C. Bond, James L. Parks

Staff: Marion E. Wilson, Manager
Joshua E. Horton, Fire Chief
Angie Hughes, Recorder

Consultants: Margaret Pope (Haynsworth, Sinkler, Boyd, P.A.)

Guests: Rita Riley, Jimmy Wham

1. Chairman Combes called the meeting to order at 9:30 a.m.

2. Chairman Combes immediately convened the public hearing for objections to the second phase of the Sewer Assessments, reviewed the letter mailed to all property owners affected by the assessments (*Att A*), and turned the floor over to Ms. Margaret Pope, of Haynsworth, Sinkler, Boyd, P.A. Ms. Pope stated that the purpose of this hearing is to provide an opportunity for the owners of the lots being assessed to object to the assessment, prior to the assessment roll being confirmed by the Commission. She noted that the deadline for filing an objection was Friday, July 6, 2007. Chairman Combes reviewed four written objections to the assessments that were received in the District office prior to the deadline (*Att.B*), stated that another owner wishing to object was in attendance, and distributed copies of the new objection (*Att C*). The Commission agreed to hear the late-filed objection, by motion of Mr. Woodward. Mr. Combes recognized Mr. Jimmy Wham, who explained that his lot has been deemed unbuildable by OCRM, and requested that the Commission consider excluding his lot from the assessment roll. Ms. Pope stated that, if a lot has been deemed unbuildable by OCRM, it should not be assessed for sewer, since it cannot benefit from the sewer system. Mr. Wilson stated that a representative of OCRM has confirmed that lots 3 and 4 of parcel ID R400-040-000-0397-0000, and parcel ID R400-039-000-0058-0000 are unbuildable, and that it is unlikely that anyone could ever build on parcel R400-039-000-0031-0000. There being no further questions, comments from the floor or written comments submitted, Chairman Combes closed the public hearing, by motion of Mr. Reilly.

3. The Commission agreed to proceed out of order with items 3 and 4 under New Business, by motion of Mr. Woodward.
 - (a) Sewer Assessment Objections
 - 1) The Commission excluded lots 3 and 4 of parcel ID R400-040-000-0397-0000 from the sewer assessment roll, by motion of Mr. Woodward.
 - 2) The Commission excluded parcel ID R400-039-000-0058-0000 from the sewer assessment roll, by motion of Mr. Woodward.
 - 3) The Commission confirmed the assessment on parcel ID R400-040-000-0371-0000, by motion of Mr. Woodward.

4) The Commission confirmed the assessment on parcel ID R400-040-000-0141-0000, by motion of Mr. Woodward.

5) The Commission excluded parcel ID R400-039-000-0031-0000 from the sewer assessment roll, by motion of Mr. Hroncich.

Ms. Pope suggested that the letters written to the homeowners of the lots excluded from the assessments should notify the owner that if the lots ever become developable, the Commission will determine and assess a fair share of the cost of the sewer system construction at that time. The Commission concurred.

b) Ms. Pope outlined the following changes to the draft copy of the Resolution Confirming Sewer Assessments (*Att D*):

- 1) The number of objections received added to Sections 1.02 and 3.01.
- 2) Each objection and determination entered in Section 3.01.
- 3) The wording of the first sentence of Section 3.02 changed to “The assessment roll is hereby confirmed as amended by the determinations in Section 3.01 and the amount of each annual assessment is \$496.66.”

The Commission adopted the Resolution Confirming Sewer Assessments, as modified, by motion of Mr. Woodward.

4. The Commission returned to the order of the agenda, by motion of Mr. Woodward.

5. The Commission approved the minutes of the June 12, 2007 Commission meeting, upon motion of Mr. Hroncich.

6. Committee Reports

(a) The Commission reviewed the Manager’s Report for June (*Att E*).

(b) In the absence of the Bridge & Erosion Committee Chair, Mr. Wilson informed the Commission that the District received a letter from SCDOT Commissioner Taylor declining the transfer of ownership of the Fripp Inlet Bridge from the PSD to the SCDOT (*Att F*). He also stated that the bids for performing maintenance on the bridge will be reviewed under New Business.

(c) The Budget & Planning Committee did not meet.

(d) The Commission reviewed the Fire Department monthly report for June (*Att G*). Chief Horton requested permission to remove the line item for Blood Pressure checks from the monthly report. The Commission agreed.

(e) The Regulations and Policies Committee did not meet.

(f) Mr. Reilly, the Water Committee Chair, reviewed status report no. 2 for the Alternative Water Source study (*Att H*). He stated that the capital and maintenance costs for an alternative water source appears much higher than originally anticipated, and that it may not be a feasible option.

(g) The Wastewater Treatment & Collection Committee did not meet.

7. There was no Old Business.

8. New Business

(a) Mr. Wilson reminded the Commission that the one-year grace period for tying in to the vacuum sewer system is expiring on July 12, 2007 for the homes located in Divisions 1 and 2 (*Att I*), and stated that there are still a few individuals who have not completed the connection. The Commission authorized the District manager to extend the deadline for termination of water service for homeowners in Divisions 1 and 2 who have not connected to the vacuum sewer system for a period of 90 days, and directed him to discontinue water service to those homes not connected to the vacuum sewer system at the end of the 90-day time period, by motion of Mr. Reilly.

(b) The Commission denied Mr. Thompson's request for postponing the connection of his 723 Marlin Drive home to the vacuum sewer system (*Att J*).

(c) The Commission reviewed the bids for the Fripp Inlet Bridge maintenance contract and an email discussion regarding the dolphins (*Att K*), and agreed to table the matter until additional information is obtained from the engineers. A special meeting was tentatively scheduled for July 24, 2007, at the discretion of the Chairman.

9. Questions and Comments from Visitors

(a) Ms. Riley asked if the planned Fripp Inlet Bridge repairs would bring the bridge up to the level of the SCDOT's requirements. Chairman Combes informed her that they would not, because the bearing plates still need to be replaced. Ms. Riley asked if the District planned to do any landscaping around the lift station located at 1 Pelican Cove. Mr. Wilson informed her that he has looked at the lift station, and that, due to site limitations, it would be very difficult to effectively screen it from view. He suggested that the owner should consider some plantings around the station to mask it from view.

(b) In the absence of a FIPOA representative, Mr. Wilson informed the Commission that the District has a 6" force main attached to the foot bridge across Blue Heron Lake, and that the FIPOA is considering demolition of the bridge in lieu of repairing it. Ms. Hines asked Mr. Wilson if he thought the PSD would consider sharing the cost of repairing the bridge. Mr. Wilson informed her that he would pass the question on to the Commission.

10. There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 1:43 p.m., by motion of Mr. Woodward.

Marion E. Wilson
Secretary