CBJ DOCKS & HARBORS BOARD
CIP/PLANNING COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES
For Thursday, May 20, 2010

I. Call to Order.

Committee member Mr. Williams called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m.

II. Roll.

The following members were present: Mr. Williams, Mr. Kueffner, Mr. Preston, Mr. Wostmann, and Mr. Donek.

Also in attendance were: Mr. Stone – Port Director and Mr. Gillette – Port Engineer.

III. Approval of Agenda.

MOTION by Mr. Kueffner: ASK UNANIMOUS CONSENT TO APROVE THE AGENDA AS PRESENTED. The motion passed without objection.

IV. Public Participation.

There was none at this time.

V. Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes.

MOTION by Mr. Donek: ASK UNANIMOUS CONSENT TO APPROVE THE PREVIOUS MINUTES OF April 22, 2010. The motion passed without objection.

VI. Items for Action.

1. Discussion and Direction Regarding Application for Municipal Harbors Matching Grant in the Amount of $2.9M for Statter Harbor Improvements.

Mr. Stone stated that the State of Alaska Department of Transportation has the municipal harbor matching grant application period open right now. We have applied for several of these. With regards to Statter Harbor what we are doing is putting in an application for the maximum amount of money that we have available for the match, which is a 50 % requirement. We have about 2.9 million dollars available for this match. It would ultimately be part of the total rebuild of this facility. It is Mr. Stone's recommendation that we submit an application to DOT and also ask the Assembly for a resolution of support that would be included with the application.

Further discussion took place among the committee members and Mr. Stone took place at this time.

MOTION by Mr. Wostmann: ASK UNANIMOUS CONSENT TO FORWARD THIS TO THE FULL BOARD TO SUBMIT AN APPLICATION FOR MUNICIPAL HARBORS MATCHING GRANT IN THE AMOUNT OF $2.9M FOR STATTER HARBOR IMPROVEMNENTS AND ASK THE CITY ASSEMBLY FOR A LETTER OF SUPPORT.

The motion passed without objection.

2. Discussion and Direction Regarding Application for Municipal Harbors Matching Grant in the Amount of $2M for Aurora Harbor Re-Build.

Mr. Stone stated that this is the same type of application but this one would be for Aurora Harbor and what we are doing is about 4 years ago the Assembly appropriated the half million dollars of passenger fees to rebuild the tug spot on A float in Aurora. Because it is hard to rebuild one stall we have been holding off hoping that someday we would have enough funds to rebuild basically all of A float all at one time. Over the past few years we have built up some reserves in our retained earnings and so what Mr. Stone is doing is taking one and a half million dollars of retained earnings plus the half of a million dollars in the marine passenger fees and calling this the local match and applying for as much as we can under the State Harbor Grant Program to start rebuilding Aurora. This would be about 20% of the funds for the rebuild. He went on to explain to the committee what was in our retained earnings and what is the amount required to be kept in it.

Further discussion among the committee members and Mr. Stone took place at this time.

MOTION by Mr. Wostmann: ASK UNANIMOUS CONSENT TO FORWARD THIS TO THE FULL BOARD THAT WE SUBMIT AN APPLICATION FOR MUNICIPAL HARBOR GRANT IN THE AMOUNT OF TWO MILLION DOLLARS. The motion passed with out objection.

3. Discussion and Direction Regarding the Acquisition of a Portion of Archipelago Property (South of Marine Park Parking Garage) for the Purpose of a Pedestrian Promenade Connection Between South Franklin and the Seawalk and to Develop a New USS Juneau Memorial.

Mr. Gillette stated that the project that is down by the tram, which is the visitor's center and port customs building, will remove the existing USS Juneau Memorial. Mr. Gillette described the current memorial and stated that this is a pretty minimal memorial for the status of the USS Juneau and over the years we have had comments that it was sort of a sad one. Since we are removing this it is nearly impossible to relocate the existing one because it is a poured in place concrete structure.

He stated it would be nice to develop something a little nicer and more fitting. So coincidently we are also looking at some options to work with the Archipelago property owners to obtain some of that property for widening of South Franklin Street and potential of other uses and meeting with them and seeing what their preliminary development plans were. It looks like it would be a nice fit to have the City obtain a little more easement through the property. We had Chris Mertl draw up some sketches and also met with Mr. Simpson, who represents the property owners. What Mr. Gillette would like to do for the committee this evening is to present this to them and see if it is something they would like to further pursue? He went over what amount of land we are looking at purchasing (See attached concepts).

Mr. Mertl went over more details regarding the area proposed for the USS Juneau Memorial.

Further discussion among the committee members and Mr. Mertl took place at this time.

Mr. Simpson, who is the representative of the property owners, clarified a few issues with the committee members at this time.

The general consensus of the committee members is to have staff bring this to the Full Board at Thursday nights meeting with a rough cost estimate and some suggestions on funding sources of the project.

VII. Items for Information/Discussion.

1. Project Updates:

A. Auke Bay Loading Facility II.

Mr. Gillette stated that the draft contract for the Tiger Grant was received a few days ago and they are going over it right now. Mr. Gillette said at this point we probably won't be getting a lot done this summer, but if we can get the contract under way we can get it designed and out to bid such that some of the components can be completed this fall/winter then finish up next spring.

B. Douglas Harbor Re-Build.

Mr. Stone stated that we are on hold at this point, there are four things going on. First, Mr. Stone is working with the DEC lobbyist to get a project submitted by congress in the next years waters resource development act that would direct the Corp to dredge the harbor and dispose of the sediments. Second, the Corp called Mr. Stone and said that they have $200,000.00 to study dredging of the harbor and this would be a ten year project. These are both long term solutions. Third, the State has started the consistency review on the permit, which is going to get interesting because the State is ready to move forward but the Federal permit is not ready to move forward. Mr. Stone stated on the Federal permit he has met with the EPA and they said that they want an ecological and human health risk assessment if we were to move forward with disposing of the lower composite in Gastineau Channel. Mr. Stone has not spoken to anyone on what it would take to do this as of yet.

Mr. Stone is also looking at some other shore based disposal options. They may pan out and they may not. He has been working with our engineer and DEC to find some low cost shore side area that we could fill fairly easily and maybe this would be okay.

Further discussion among the committee members and Mr. Stone took place at this time.

C. Statter Harbor EA.

Mr. Stone stated that the comment period closed Monday and they are assembling all the comments and will be meeting with the project team next Monday. He will bring all the data and the analysis back to this committee next month.

Further discussion took place at this time.

D. Cruise Ship Berth Enhancement.

Mr. Gillette stated that we are waiting on the Governor to make a decision and sign it. Once that happens we will move forward and get the Assembly to make their final decision of whether they are going for concept 16B project.

E. Port-Customs-Visitor Center.

Mr. Gillette stated we got through the PLA issue last week and at the Assembly meeting last night there was no testimony about it. We are moving forward on the new bid date which is June 10, 2010.

Further discussion took place at this.

F. Flex Engineer Position.

Mr. Stone explained to the committee that what they are thinking of doing is if we do the birth enhancement project we would like to hire an additional engineer. We already have a PCN created and have been holding it in a vacancy status. We would like to get someone up to speed on the projects and help with the workload. A flex engineer would allow us to basically hire an unregistered or registered person and can work up the rank through time.

B. Member & Staff Reports.

Mr. Stone stated that the Corps of Engineers is here tomorrow to do the newest latest study of a new breakwater out at Statter Harbor. This is a multi year project to look at the costs and benefits and if there is a Federal interest in this project.

Mr. Wostmann expressed his concerns at this time regarding the recent letters that we have received from the different agencies particularly the Statter Harbor EA.

More discussion among the committee members took place at this time.

IX. Committee Administrative Matters.

The next meeting is scheduled for June 17, 2010 at 5:00 pm in the City Chambers.

X. Adjournment.

MOTION by Mr. Donek: ASK UNANIMOUS CONSENT TO ADJOURN THE MEETING. The motion passed without objection.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:00 p.m.