

DRAFT MINUTES
Dewey Beach Infrastructure Committee Meeting
Life Saving Station
#1 Dagsworthy Avenue
Dewey Beach, DE 19971
Friday, July 6, 4:00 p.m.

The meeting was convened by chair Rick Judge at 4:00 p.m. and was immediately followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

The roll was taken; all members were present.

Mike Harmer moved to adopt the agenda; the motion was seconded by Susan Slye. The agenda was adopted unanimously.

Mike moved to approve the minutes; the motion was seconded by Don Gritti. The minutes of the previous meeting were approved.

Following up an item in the minutes, Rick asked what the Town needs for a capital improvement plan to go forward. Mike Harmer replied that the Town needs a list of projects, their schedule and estimated cost. Mike said he would finish putting together the draft list and suggested that Rick review it and that it be taken to the Town Manager for review and comment as well as possible ideas for other projects. Mike said it's important that Dewey's capital improvement plan be formatted consistent with the State of Delaware's capital improvement program planning. Mike said obtaining that would be an action item for himself for the next meeting. The draft plan also includes some maintenance items that may be funded by other resources to be determined by the Budget and Finance Committee. Rick stated that he believes the Town will have the resources needed to meet the Town's infrastructure needs.

Regular Agenda:

1. Discuss matching grants and expectations from Cotten Engineering to recommend to Council.

Rick noted that Albert Genemans had asked about the Cotten Engineering proposal. Rick stated that the Town Manager will manage the Cotten Engineering contract. The proposal that Cotten put together -- 40 some thousand dollars -- is what Mike Cotten would like to do for his scope of work for the Town. He stressed that what is in the proposal is strictly a proposal. What the IC decides to recommend, the Town Council and the Town Manager will take into consideration. Dewey's Town Manager will provide the contract work line items and fees for what will be paid to Cotten Engineering from the funds for the Surface Water Planning Grant to Create a Master Plan for Upgrading through Best Management Practices Stormwater Discharge into Rehoboth Bay (and the Matching Grant). What will actually be done by Cotten is up to the Town Manager. Rick said he is pleased that the Council has recommended Cotten to do this study as Cotten is very familiar with the Town and what it needs, knows how the storm drains function,

and designed the Bayard project. He confirmed that Town Manager Stickels will write the contract, line by line, with price and tasks.

Rick reported a potential impediment to proceeding with the study that is supported by these grants. It is the FOIA complaint filed by James "Zeke" Przygocki some months ago questioning the authority of the Dewey Beach Mayor to sign the application for the grant. The Town Attorney gave assurances that everything is in order, that the Mayor had the authority; however, the FOIA complaint has not yet been acted on. Until it is cleared up, purchase orders cannot be signed and the project cannot move forward. The Town Manager stated it is possible that time could run out and the funding lost but that he will do whatever he can, including contacting the Attorney General. In the meantime, Rick suggested that the best thing that could happen is for James Przygocki to withdraw his complaint. Albert Genemans volunteered to contact James Przygocki to ask him to withdraw his complaint, explaining to James Przygocki that his FOIA complaint is jeopardizing the grants, which have already been approved.

The grants fund a study to create a master plan for upgrading to best management practices the stormwater discharge into Rehoboth Bay. Best management practices were applied to the Bayard project. By using best management practices, flood mitigation is also accomplished. Right now raw storm water discharges into Rehoboth Bay from every storm drain except Bayard Avenue and is not very efficient.

The hope is to incorporate Dewey's storm drains into two vault systems, using gravity flow into the vault. When capacity is exceeded, a pump engages. This approach achieves three things: it provides "green" water discharge from every drain; provides a functional storm drain system that won't back up due to gravity flow; and it eliminates tidal flooding from coming up into storm drain systems.

To address Dagsworthy Street and Sunset Park, Rick stated that taking runoff from Dagsworthy into the vault at Bayard is being explored. The drain in front of Bay Resort would be removed, and the unwanted sandbar that formed a stagnant lagoon would be reclaimed to build up Sunset Park and to build up a beach at the end of Dagsworthy, eliminating the dangerous asphalt driveway into Rehoboth Bay. Cajun Cove's expressed concern about moving additional runoff into the Bayard vault was noted. Cajun Cove has reported experiencing higher water levels coming up the wetland area since the Bayard flood mitigation project was accomplished. Rick stated that Cotten says the water volume increase would be no more than 2 percent.

Rick informed the Committee that there's an implementation grant available to do the Dagsworthy work through the Delaware Division of Watershed Stewardship's Nonpoint Source Pollution Program, which would be available for a project ready to go in 2013. It's a 60 percent grant, requiring a 40 percent local match. Rick has talked to people at DNREC and a number of the granting agencies about this, and they were interested. Rick recommended that the Town apply for this grant and look for a possible matching grant that could enable the Town to proceed at no cost to itself, in the same manner that the stormwater master plan grants were awarded. The Town would ask Cotten to put together the application at no cost. If a matching grant were not available, we would not

have to take the 60 percent grant, and this project would be covered under the overall study, covering Dagsworthy down to Collins.

Hayden Road next to the Lions Club is another natural diffusion area, similar to Cajun Cove's wetland on Bayard Avenue. A small vault could be placed there, into which flow from Hayden, Read and McKinley would go. No storm water would come up and shoot up those catch basins, and the water would be diffused before it gets into the Bay.

At VanDyke Street most of it is private. Rick proposed an area next to Rehoboth Bay Marina, where a marshland diffusion area could be built up and another vault could be placed.

Rick stated that, if found to be feasible, all of this could constitute the stormwater plan for Dewey Beach. Cotten Engineering will evaluate the approach. The project is so "green" that it is likely to be very appealing to environmental granting agencies to help us proceed with the rest of the plan.

Albert provided additional insight and charts concerning Read Street. There was consensus that a master plan will work well if it provides the solution for Dewey's storm drainage and addresses bay tidal flooding, all within an environmentally conscious context. The grant money provided by the State is what is enabling the Town to create a master plan.

Mike offered that the plan provides for good, sound management for the Town. He also recommended that we look at the public awareness aspect of Dewey's "green" approach to best stormwater management practices, e.g. how contaminants are being filtered. Rick added that these clean-water practices will lead to renewed crabbing and clamming in Rehoboth Bay.

The following motion was made by Mike, seconded by Albert and unanimously approved by the Committee that we recommend the Master Storm Water Plan for the Town of Dewey Beach go forward with Cotten Engineering working directly with the Town Manager to formulate the scope of the work on a line-item, contract basis.

2. Discuss implementation grant for Dagsworthy Street and Sunset Park for storm water discharge and park and street improvement. (Rick Judge)

This item was largely covered in discussion of Item 1. Rick recommends Mike Cotten -- if he is willing to do this on his own time -- put together the application for the implementation grant for the Dagsworthy stormwater discharge plan and the stabilization of Dagsworthy Avenue and Sunset Park. He estimated that the project is probably in the \$250,000 range. The application must be submitted by July 16. Rick noted that the application does not commit the Town; it is just getting Dewey on the record for wanting funding for this project.

3. Discuss combined flood mitigation/storm-water strategy and three-phased approach (similar to Bayard), beginning with Dagsworthy and Sunset Park. (Albert Genemans)

This item was covered under discussion of items 1 and 2 and is part of the overall stormwater project.

4. Update on DelDOT street repair work for fall 2012. (Rick Judge)

Don Gritti and Rick reported that they walked the streets of Dewey in the spring and identified road needs. DelDot is willing to perform the work if they agree, after reviewing the list, that what is listed does indeed need repair. Town Manager Bob Stickels will meet with DelDot on September 15 to set up a fall road repair schedule. It is expected that DelDot's fall engagement in Dewey will lead to their continued involvement in Dewey Beach's road repairs. The Town Manager will work with DelDot on addressing Dewey's needs. It was noted that many of Dewey's streets will get resurfaced as the stormwater management program progresses.

5. Update on Highway One street lighting. (Don Gritti)

Rick and Don reported that the Town has a grant of \$51,000 to replace highway lighting on Route 1. To simultaneously replace all the lighting on Route 1, the cost would be an additional \$42,000. Replacing at a later time the lights not covered under the current grant would cost the Town 30 percent more, i.e. \$3,000 per light instead of \$2,100. There is likely to be "returned" grant money coming available in the next few weeks from jurisdictions that were unable to use all of their grant money and are required to return what they do not use. Dewey Beach is well positioned to compete for that funding and could be awarded grant money that would pay some or all of the additional new lighting replacement cost.

Understanding the risk of potentially not receiving additional grant money, Don said that it would be useful to give Bob Stickels a "vote of confidence" to proceed with the entire lighting project, noting the Committee's strong preference to do the work at no cost to the Town. Whether money will be available or not will not be known until mid-July. Rick recommends taking on the project as a whole, while looking at the potential for grant funding. He noted that a reduction in the cost of electricity would be substantial and that there is money in the Town's Infrastructure account that could cover the remaining lights if grant money cannot be obtained.

Don reported that a change order for the lighting contractor -- the Remick engineering firm -- must be executed. DelDot will not allow the work to be done during the day in the summer season. It must be done at night. The cost to illuminate the work area is \$750, which must be written into the contract. The 100 percent performance bond should be extended to the deadline of the grant, August 24. The contractor asked for 37 additional days from the original June 30 deadline to perform the work.

The Committee agreed with the "whole project" lighting approach and with the change orders Don presented. Rick will present to Town Council at their next meeting the recommendation that they consider doing all the lights at the same time for conformity and cost saving, while encouraging the Town Manager to diligently pursue any remaining grant funds. Rick will also recommend the contract change orders that Don outlined.

Don stated that the Town would be paying for six new lights and three new poles beyond Collins Avenue into the part of Route 1 that goes through Indian Beach. He questioned why Dewey Beach would be paying for Indian Beach's extra lights and electricity. This represents a cost of \$6,300 in light fixtures and perhaps \$100 a month in electricity. Electricity is charged on a tariff basis, so the cost per fixture for electricity is easily computed by dividing the monthly electricity fee by the number of fixtures.

Rick said that at the next Council meeting on July 13 during his update from the Infrastructure Committee, he will recommend that the Town proceed with all 44 lights and will ask the question why Dewey Beach is paying for replacement lighting and electricity for fixtures south of Dewey Beach, not located in our jurisdiction.

6. Discuss long-term infrastructure budget requirements.

Rick reported that David King, chairman of the Dewey Beach Budget and Finance Committee, has asked the Infrastructure Committee for its ten-year program requirements for infrastructure for the Town. Rick noted that the Infrastructure Committee has survived for a long time on the 20 percent permit fees allocated to it. Mike said that giving Budget a plan would be helpful -- a plan not etched in concrete -- but a document that would assist in planning. The capital improvement plan discussed earlier would be helpful. The Infrastructure Committee could put the project ideas onto paper and then look at a five-ten year capital improvement plan. Each year the Infrastructure Committee would look at the next five years (i.e. adding a year at a time). It would be well vetted, being reviewed annually by both the Infrastructure and Budget Committees. A brief discussion of what would be defined as "infrastructure" for the Infrastructure Committee's purposes followed. The draft capital improvement plan that Mike is bringing to the next program will include a first-draft look at cost estimates.

7. Discuss safety street lighting for residential areas

Rick reported that Delmarva Power is willing to come in and install normal street lights on telephone poles. Bob Stickels is going to walk with Delmarva on July 13 and look at the need for extra lights on many of Dewey's bayside streets. Dewey would pay for electricity, but very little for light fixtures. Don distributed a spreadsheet laying out the work that Bob is trying to do with Delmarva. Delmarva recommended that 37 175-watt light fixtures be added to 14 blocks at an estimated monthly cost of \$500.

Rick cited a number of violent crimes that happened over four weekends before the summer began. Among them was the rape of a woman by several men captured on video from a business establishment's security camera. The business owner found the woman's clothing and wallet the following morning. She had no recollection, and the crime was not reported to the police.

Rick noted that he had received communications from homeowners expressing concern about too much lighting and the type of lighting being considered for residential blocks in Dewey. As an alternative to the large Delmarva Power lights, Rick suggested considering "decorative," 12-foot, low-use electricity, "gentle lights" at a cost of \$100 per pole could be a good choice for some areas of the Town. Perhaps volunteer/residents

could be interested in installing such lights that could be put on a timer system. The Town might consider giving homeowners who install them a credit on their beach replenishment tax. Maybe a sample/pilot block could be considered. Rick said that he would do a little more research on the "decorative" lamps, including cost. The consensus of the Committee is that certain busier streets that are heavily traveled are more appropriate for the telephone-pole type light; others are more appropriate for the lower intensity "decorative" type.

Overall the Committee is supportive of increased lighting for safety and has a concern for ambiance as well -- retaining a sense of being able to enjoy a nice evening walk in the neighborhood as opposed to walking on a highway. Rick said he would speak with the Town Manager about this.

Photo examples of "decorative" lights pictured in the brochure that Rick passed around at the meeting:



Examples are the Granville:
Wattages: 50, 70, 100, 150



And the Granville with Ribs:
Wattages: 70, 100

<http://webapps.delmarva.com/dp/lighting/decorative.cfm>

Committee Comments:

Mike stated that the Filtrex "green" water system is working well.

Susan questioned the status of the additional eight-foot fence extensions for security at the Bayard Avenue storm water vault as well as the privacy fence that Cajun Cove has

requested to help camouflage the vault view from their homes -- the privacy fence being paid for by Cajun Cove depending on its cost. Rick replied that he spoke with the fencing contractor and also received permissions necessary to attach fencing anchors to the vault. The estimate is expected to be received by the Town next week.

Mike moved to adjourn the meeting; Don seconded it. The Committee unanimously approved the motion, and the meeting was adjourned at 5:50 p.m.