



Village of Bald Head Island

NORTH CAROLINA

Memorandum

Date: December 15, 2023
To: Mayor & Village Council
From: Chris McCall, Village Manager
Subject: Manager's Report*

Representative Miller's Visit – Representative Charlie Miller visited the island on November 28, 2023. He toured the island, which started out on the beach at the terminal groin to discuss the Village's shoreline concerns. Village officials discussed our efforts on the hardened structure bill that is drafted and ready to go when it can fit in the General Assembly's schedule for passage. We stopped at Village Utilities and discussed the utilities and wastewater treatment plant and had an opportunity to thank him for his support and Senator Rabon's support for the \$965k in grant funds in the state budget to fund the ongoing engineering and design work. We stopped at the Department of Public Safety where we again thanked Representative Miller in cooperation with Senator Rabon for the \$150,000 to go toward the purchase of the Viper radios. The last stop was the Shoals Club where Miller got to see firsthand the beach conditions on that stretch of shoreline. Over lunch, we discussed County-wide initiatives on affordable housing and coming up with creative ways to address it, as it affects the Village and almost every business on the island when it comes to staffing needs.

Badwater Cape Fear Race Coordination Meeting w/ Chris Kostman – Josh Gibson and I met with Chris Kostman on 11/28 to go over plans for the 2024 Cape Fear Badwater Race scheduled for Saturday March 23rd, 2024. Details remain consistent with prior races although there was some discussion on the route in recognizing the conditions in/around the Cape Fear point. This will be looked at more closely as we approach race day but will not have any impact on how we support the race.

In addition to the Badwater Race, we also discussed the addition of a marathon to be held in the last week of October 2024 (on a Sunday). Kostman provided details of the planned route, potential numbers of runners, timing, and anticipated duration, among other items. As we get closer to that event, we will have additional coordination meetings with Kostman to be better prepared to provide any required support but based on initial thoughts the race, on a Sunday starting at 10:00 a.m. with runners on island for about 6 ½ hours, should not pose any challenges.

Ladder Truck Status Update* –We received a letter from Fire Connections indicating E-One, the manufacturer of the ladder truck, had provided a letter confirming ongoing delays with unprecedented global supply chain challenges effecting their operations and despite best efforts to remain fully operational they have invoked force majeure. In our phone call with the CEO (Travis Mayo) earlier this

week, he indicated they would and are doing everything they can to expedite completion of the vehicle by December 17th, 2024, but acknowledged some improvements with the schedule to be expected.

Vehicle Name	Start Dates	Latest Change Orders Dates	# of Days until Delivery	Expected Delivery Dates	Latest Vehicle Price (w/ change orders)	Add'l Equipment Costs	Total Costs
2024 E-ONE 100' Custom Aerial	4/20/2022	7/20/2022	480-540	12/19/2024	\$1,162,035.00	\$125,181.15	\$1,287,216.15
E-ONE Custom Pumper	5/22/2023	None	825-850	4/23/2025	\$814,227.00	Unknown	\$814,227.00
Ambulance 1	6/16/2023	10/11/2023	85-120*	Summer/Fall '24	\$401,915.00	N/A	\$401,915.00
Ambulance 2	6/15/2023	8/4/2023	85-120*	3/15/2024	\$363,900.00	N/A	\$363,900.00
2023 Toyota Tacoma (QRV 1)	7/3/2023	11/17/2023	60-90**	Unknown	\$33,724.00	\$9,453.65	\$43,177.65
2023 Toyota Tacoma (QRV 2)	9/21/2023	11/17/2023	60-90**	Unknown	\$33,724.00	\$9,453.65	\$43,177.65

* Upon receipt of chasis from Ford

** Upon receipt of ALL parts at Dana Safety Supply

Date Dropped off at Upfitters

Per Fire Connections, truck was put into production on 7/20/22 - expected delivery will be well outside of 540 day window.

Note – Timing of the tentative receipt of the two ambulances, one in early spring 2024 (the other later in the summer -July) will require us to plan for obtaining financing for the “bridge loan” we had previously discussed to fund the purchase until such time the Village will receive the FEMA PA reimbursement. Mr. Hewett has already prepared and sent out a Request for Proposals to receive from prospective lenders which we will come back at a follow up meeting to present and make recommendations.

2025 CSDR Project Permitting Update* –Staff has received public comments on the project through the State’s permit review coordinator. Comments were received from various regulatory agencies and others (including neighboring municipalities of Caswell Beach and Oak Island). Erik Olsen and our environmental consultants are presently working to respond to those comments with follow-up submittal to the State & Corps as requested.

Davey Group/LMG Update on Environmental Assessment Progress* – NMFS/DMF (National Marine Fisheries Service and Division of Marine Fisheries) requested additional information on the physical monitoring of the Jay Bird Shoals borrow area that analyzes filling rates based on the data collected. The good news we’ve been told is that they do not require an updated EFH (Essential Fish Habitat) and no new data collection which saves time & money to produce.

However, with the first 75-day review period with Division of Coastal Management (DCM) ending December 18th, the State has extended that review period to include an additional 75-days (March 2024), but it is to be determined if they will need all that time to make a permit decision.

Federal Lobbying Effort/Smith & Ward Update* – As referenced in the December monthly report Jae forwarded to Council all (on 12/5) from Mike McIntyre of Ward & Smith, the status of the outcome of the Village’s congressional “earmark” for the beach nourishment project may be known by/on February 2nd when Congress has to pass the remaining spending bills that were not included in the recent Continuing Resolution (CR) approved by the House and expected to be passed by the Senate at which point the President will sign into law.

Corps-VBHI Long-Term MOU Effort* –The Village has formally requested the Corps Wilmington District for a meeting to discuss the process for drafting of a long-term MOU (Memorandum of Understanding) for contributing funds as was discussed in concept at the September 13th, 2023, meeting

with the Corps. The MOU would allow for “contributing funds” by the Village to pay the “delta” costs for additional sand as part of a future Corps Channel Maintenance project (tentatively 2027).

(12/15 Update – Mr. Kim is still waiting to hear back from the District/Bob Keistler in response to his initial request sent both by e-mail and a hardcopy by certified mail and then a subsequent follow up e-mail after seeing each other at the NCBIWA’s conference)

BHI Conservancy Property Acquisition Request Discussion Update –Staff is working with legal counsel on setting up the process to convey the Village owned area to the Conservancy as shown on the survey. Staff hopes to have the process initiated at the January 2024 meeting.

*Items marked with an asterisk were not orally reported during the Village Council meeting but were prepared by the Manager in preparation for the meeting. Some items are not mentioned in the interest of time or may have been covered in the Assistant Manager’s report.