

The Board of Mayor and Aldermen of the City of Waveland, Mississippi, met for a workshop session at Waveland Civic Center located at 335 Coleman Avenue on June 14, 2011 at 6:30 p.m., to discuss proposed Tidelands projects for the 2013 Tidelands Grant funds.

Present at the meeting were Mayor Garcia and Aldermen Stahler, Geoffrey, Lafontaine and Kidd.

Also present at the meeting were City Clerk Lisa Planchard and City Attorney Gary Yarborough

WORKSHOP/TIDELANDS

Re: Mayor Garcia opened the workshop to discuss the Tidelands Funding; proposed projects for the 2013 grant year.

Ms. Regina Bello and Mr. Jim Heinzl, of Compton Engineering and representing Mr. Mickey Lagasse, were present to discuss the City's available funds with the Tidelands. Mr. Heinzl said there might be enough money for at least two projects between \$100,000 and \$150,000 each. Mr. Heinzl requested the Board make a list of the projects that they would like to have done, in order of their priority. Regina Bello explained that this funding is for projects that the Board may possibly want to have in the City and some of that funding will be allocated to other projects that were possibly done under 2010 and 2011, such as the Pedestrian Pathway. Alderman Lafontaine said what needs to be discussed is what the City will do with the funds left over and what the current funds (discussed tonight) will be used for in the future. Alderman Stahler said the existing funds are already allocated to a project, but the Board can change the project. Mayor Garcia said the Board is will change the purpose of the project when they are ready to use the funds for a particular project. This is trying to get the application put together for what the City would want to do with the 2013 funds. City Attorney Yarborough asked if this application was to obtain the money and then the funds will it be set aside until the City is ready to use it. Mayor Garcia said yes and reminded everyone of phone calls he had with Senator David Baria and Representative J.P. Compretta questioning Waveland for not spending all of the Tidelands Funds. He said he hoped this did not hurt the City, even though the City is in the process of spending the funds because The State has warned that if municipalities do not spend the Tidelands funds, they may well be taken back by the State. Mayor Garcia said that Parks and Receptions Director Chris Johnson presented the Board with a list of needs for the Pier. The Mayor said in addition, it would be nice to see sheet piling around the rocks, then fill in, and sod around the Pier. He said this would get rid of a potential hazard and people could actually fish off this area. The area could be used for Fishing Rodeos and essentially providing more usable space and at the same time tying in the newest Tidelands Project, the Waterfront Recreation area. Alderman Stahler asked about the completion date of the Pier and is the City not allowed to 'do anything to the pier' for 3 years. Ms. Bello told the Board she is not sure about doing anything to the pier; because of it being FEMA allocated money that paid to build the pier. Mr. Yarborough said the pier was completed in April 2010 and because there are restrictions to what the City can do. Alderman Stahler brought up about the restriction of "no referring to 'Rangers' or 'Ranger Station'" for 3 years. Mayor Garcia noted the Pier would not be touched, just the jetty area. There was further discussion between Mayor Garcia and Ms. Bello of Compton regarding the cost of sheet piling for the Pier and asked whether Mr. Lagasse had come up with a cost estimate for the sheet piling? Ms. Bello said other Tidelands grant monies can be re-allocated to a project. Mayor Garcia said the Board even spoke about coordinating projects and the idea to bid simultaneously in an effort to obtain better construction pricing. Alderman Lafontaine recommended parking bays at the beach. He said there is no parking and noticed cars being 'bogged down' in the sand on the north side of Beach Road. He suggested building parking bays at Sears Avenue, Nicholson Avenue, Coleman Avenue, Waveland Avenue and possibly others. Mayor Garcia said he would call Supervisor David Yarbrough and ask him about the possibility of parking bays. He said that he has noticed more sand coming off the beach with the new curbs. Alderman Lafontaine said that he did speak with Supervisor Yarbrough approximately 1 month ago and the beaches will be the same as they are near the Silver Slipper Casino. The only way to fix the problem is to dig the

sand out of the north side of the Beach Road; the sand is just that deep. He said people can't come to the beach with no parking available. Mr. Yarborough asked Ms. Bello about the restrictions on the use of Tidelands Funds. Ms. Bello said parking can be done, basically Tidelands monies can be used for anything connected to or affiliated with the water; there must be a water benefit. Mayor Garcia said that Supervisor Yarbrough did tell him the road should be completed in late August or mid September. Mr. Heinzl gave the Board a list of the possible enhancements of public access that could be made with Tidelands Funds, including piers, marinas, boat ramps, sidewalks, bathrooms, parking areas, harbor improvements, waterfront parks, beach access, etc... these would all fall under qualified projects. Alderman Kidd named educational projects, public outreach, habitat learning center, a museum. Mr. Heinzl asked the Board to discuss and decide on a list of about 4 projects. Mr. Yarborough asked about the period on this. Ms. Bello said Compton needed the information by next Friday. Mr. Yarborough asked if they could place the item on the agenda. Mr. Yarborough said one issue is as much as I understand it, "The larger you can make the project and obtain the funds, you can change it into something later if you want to. If you have 2 projects with the potential to obtain \$300,000; if you can find something larger and more expansive in scope it might help you secure the funds and you can use them on something else later by combining them." Mayor Garcia said the City does not need to sit on these funds, he said both Senator Baria and Representative Compretta said these funds need to be spent. Alderman Kidd said he agreed, he said we have money there and we need to allocate it. Alderman Lafontaine asked about a dollar figure that the City has left over (unspent); he said that is the first thing the Board should know and get that spent. City Attorney Yarborough asked Ms. Bello if she could get this number for the Board by the Wednesday, June 22nd Board meeting. Mayor Garcia said he has all of the Tidelands funding paperwork showing grant amounts scanned in his computer. Ms. Bello indicated that at present the City has approximately \$229,112 available in Tidelands grants to complete portions of the Waveland Pedestrian Pathway. Ms. Bello said there are an additional \$250,000.00 in approved Tidelands grant funds 2010 and 2011. Ms. Bello said that Mr. Lagasse said that everything the City had applied for (\$170,000 for 2012) had been approved; this just happened in the last few days. Ms. Bello told Board members that the 2013 applications are due by July 30, 2011. Mayor Garcia asked if Mr. Lagasse could break, the Tidelands grant monies down further by placing the information in a spreadsheet showing the year and how each year's funds were allocated. Ms. Bello said, "So what you would like him to prepare for Wednesday is a spreadsheet for Tidelands monies for what's been given, what's been spent and what we have left for each year by project and show what year's funds that project came from". Alderman Kidd said there are so many people that come from out of state, using the area (beach) for tourism; he has received many positive comments about the pavilion. Alderman Kidd liked the ideas presented by Mr. Chris Johnson, Pier Director who would like to see barbeque pits, water and electricity accessible to beachgoers. Mayor Garcia said the water is possible, but the electricity is impossible unless we install it above the BFE (base flood elevation) and that means the outlets would have to go on top of the roof of the pavilion of the pier, which may still not be high enough and would not be feasible. Alderman Stahler said if there is a 3-year restriction, by 2013 the City could use the funds on the Pier, as the City will no longer be under the FEMA restrictions. Mr. Yarborough will review the restrictions. Mayor Garcia asked about number 19 (selling beer on the pier) on Mr. Chris Johnson's list; Mayor Garcia and City Attorney Yarborough said this idea has already been scratched and is not permissible. Alderman Lafontaine agreed with Alderman Kidd about the groups using the pavilions, recommending barbeque pits to the side of the pavilions (under is a fire issue). Mayor Garcia asked the Board if they agreed with putting the piling around the pier, fill in with landscaping, and adding picnic tables and barbeque pits. This would use some of the old money allowing for a clean slate for 2013. Alderman Lafontaine again said he recommends parking at main streets north of Beach Boulevard; saying he did not feel the County would go any further with parking. Mayor Garcia asked, "So you all would like them (Compton) to look at those for priorities?" The Board members said yes. The Mayor noted the city was trying to bring this entire area together from the Pier to the Recreational project area. Mr. John Schagnard (Schag) said he would like to see the monument shored up; the end of the Veterans Memorial is deteriorating and eroding. He suggested the drainpipe be repaired and extended beyond the rocks for improved drainage, but added the City also needs to install sheet piling to stop erosion in that location. Mayor Garcia asked Mr. Brian Mollere to come forward and

give his input, he works on the beach every day. Mr. Mollere works for Hardies Construction to maintain beaches/walkways everyday. He said the current problem is Lane construction dumping mud there right now; they are even getting bogged down. He said what most needs to be done is to lay limestone that will pack down (north side of Beach Blvd.); the sand blows across the street so this is a continual problem on the north side of Beach Boulevard. Alderman Lafontaine suggested putting the parking bay up to the top of the curb. (inaudible, too many voices at once) Mr. Mollere concurred with Alderman Lafontaine suggesting a shoulder 3 feet back from the curb, however the sand will blow on top of the limestone creating another maintenance issue. Alderman Kidd suggested placing asphalt over the limestone. Mayor Garcia asked Mr. Mollere if he's seeing more of a sand problem than we used to have. Mollere said definitely yes. He said sand will be 50 ft out and further along the beach; they are hauling it in now from Vacation Lane to Washington Street. Mollere said, "It will be an on going battle with the sand". Mollere said what is really needed is parking bays, noting every major street should have one. Mr. Mollere reminded everyone of the beachfront owners' property issues and individuals parking in front of their property to go to the beach. Mayor Garcia asked Mr. Mollere, "With the way the sand is building up on Beach Blvd, would Hardies be responsible for cleaning the sand build up. Is the County addressing this issue currently?" Mr. Mollere said they are responsible for cleaning the beachfront and walking trail and not the north side of the street. He said the County will respond if someone complains. Mollere said parking is the major problem along the beach in Waveland; that's our biggest drawback. Alderman Stahler and Mayor Garcia complimented Mr. Mollere and his co-workers for a job well done. Schag said he has spoken with the contractors and the parking bays can be done; other cities to the east have had this for years, Pass Christian, Long Beach, Gulfport, etc... Mayor Garcia said the sand problem is worse now than ever in the past. Mr. Mollere discussed the process of building the sand dunes by placing fences to allow the building of dunes with sea oats growing in them. Mayor Garcia asked if the plan was to let the dunes build or take the sand that has built up along the fences and push it back out. Mr. Mollere said the plan is to allow the dunes to build; not disturb the dunes that have taken hold. Another issue that Mr. Mollere mentioned is that at Lafitte Drive, all the drainage is all coming across the road toward the Beach too. He said the problem is that the sand (as with Terrace Avenue) is building up because the outfall is not far enough out (into the sound). Alderman Lafontaine asked about the sand down by the Silver Slipper Casino and noted the lack of sand build up on the north side of the road there; he asked if our problem here the sand that washed up from Hurricane Katrina and never removed. Mayor Garcia said it is the wind direction. Mr. Mollere said it is the curvature of the road and the berms and the sea oats with building up very high and is so bad on the north side of the road. Alderman Lafontaine said that he never remembered seeing so much sand on the north side of the road; adding that if people come to visit and stuck in the sand once, they probably won't be back. Mr. Mollere said it would be ideal to move the sand from the north side back to the beach side of the road, but a major concern is regarding drainage out there and becoming clogged with sand, stating there should be some type of a wall to stop the sand from flowing back into the drains. Mayor Garcia said when we do the letter of support to Mr. Ziegler in support of adding the three fishing reefs, we need to make sure we add parking bays at each location of the reef along Beach Blvd. The Beach Front Recreation/Improvement Project should take care of the lighting problems. Mr. Mollere said that he agreed with Mayor Garcia regarding the green space where people can park, if we can get the parking bays, the tourists will be much more likely to visit and stay and the bike path should be continued all the way to the Casino. Ms. Bello said the Hancock County Board of Supervisors has agreed to build the pedestrian all the way to the Silver Slipper Casino. Mayor Garcia asked Mr. David Yarborough to pursue the proper easements to build parking bays. Mr. Mollere said the county needs a vacuum to remove the sand. (Inaudible) Ms. Connie West asked about providing tables and chairs at the pavilions or anywhere along the beach. She said her friend came last week and they were not able to find chairs or tables to have a picnic anywhere along the beach. Mayor Garcia said that is why the Board changed the project form a Marina to a recreation area to draw the tourists and provide these kinds of things for families. Mr. Brian Mollere said that Parks and Receptions Director, Chris Johnson, is doing a great job. Alderman Lafontaine asked Mr. Johnson how the fresh water (from the spillways being open) is affecting the Pier. Mr. Johnson said this has greatly affected the pier attendance; there are very few fish being caught now, mainly croakers, black drum and Garr fish, that's it.

Mayor asked about turtles being caught. Mr. Johnson said there have been no turtles since May 27, 2011. Alderman Lafontaine asked about this affecting our current revenues on the pier. Mr. Johnson said that actually our revenues are up, higher than this time last year. He said as of June 1, 2011, the Pier has sold 558 annual passes (3 times higher than before Katrina); fishing has fallen off in the past month, but the annual passes are still up. Alderman Lafontaine asked Mr. Johnson what was the biggest thing the pier needs to keep the sales up. Mr. Johnson said it would be 'picnic tables under the pavilions'. Audience members broke into laughter. Mayor Garcia asked about the light poles requested by Mr. Johnson and those acting as lightening rods. Mr. Johnson said the light poles are made of fiberglass and would not act as a conductor. Alderman Lafontaine again asked what would be the biggest thing that would help to continue to bring people to the pier, would it be live bait? Johnson said, "I really don't think live bait would be a big draw; it would be very costly for us. There could be one mistake or power outage and the City could lose thousands of dollars. It's important, but right now not at the top of the list. Barbeque pits, picnic tables, and surveillance cameras are essential. We have a lot of things disappearing... hoses." Mayor Garcia asked if surveillance cameras could be purchased with Tidelands Funds? Ms. Bello said that she would check into this request. She did say there would be security cameras on the Lighthouse. Mayor Garcia said that during the recent meeting with MDA, there was discussion about giving Mississippi Emergency Management access to the cameras during hurricanes as long as power and lines stayed up, so that they could view the gulf. They would be recorded onto a hard drive according to Mr. Heinzl. Alderman Kidd said that he would like to see benches all along the beach, for those walking, jogging or watching their children. Alderman Lafontaine asked if there were benches prior to Hurricane Katrina. Ms. Bello said yes. Mayor Garcia and Alderman Lafontaine discussed the benches and their locations prior to the 2005 storm. Mayor Garcia suggested putting at least 1 bench by the each parking bay. Alderman Lafontaine confirmed that the Board's two major projects (Tidelands) they are looking at is: 1) parking bays and sheet piling around the pier jetty. Mr. Yarborough asked about specific requests for the pavilions. Alderman Lafontaine said that he and Mark (Alderman Kidd) discussed the possibility of placing a pavilion at each parking bay. Mayor Garcia said another suggestion is what Henderson Point did with the small pavilions on the beach side, benches built under the pavilions. Mayor Garcia said yes, we need to start and complete one area and from that area we should spread out to connect the artificial reef areas with parking where people will be reef fishing and continue on to other beach venues. Ms. Bello said with the Lighthouse Project, there will be a lot of initial parking added. Alderman Geoffrey recommended volleyball on the beach. Alderman Stahler said it would be nice to have some sort of lighting and possibly provide a switch to allow nighttime volleyball; person would obtain a permit for use. Mayor Garcia said Mr. Lagasse has already discussed this with him about once the south side of the beach between the pier and Coleman Avenue is complete, perhaps the City could concentrate on the west side of the pier with volleyball and tournaments. Mr. George McCann came forward to say that he is concerned about parking on the beach. Mayor Garcia explained the Board had been talking about this and there would be parking bays on the north side of Beach Boulevard, this of course, would be pending County approval, authority and access to make these improvements on their right of way. Alderman Lafontaine made review; Mickey Lagasse (Compton) to put together some prices and come back to the Board with what the City actually has (Tidelands monies by year). Mayor Garcia said that he felt the parking bays and sheet piling should be priority and possibly the city could start the sheet piling, and hopefully CDBG will provide funding for the remainder of that project. Alderman Kidd asked about plans or the possibility of repairing drainage problems at Terrace Avenue at the same time Tidelands projects will be working. Mayor Garcia asked about Mr. Johnson's inclusion of a drainage plan on his list of Pier needs. Mr. Johnson said it was, in part, to keep the children from playing in the ditch that drains into the Mississippi Sound. Mr. Chris Johnson said that the Terrace drainage ditch needs to be extended further into the Sound (along the pier south); it was noted that the Terrace ditch drains a majority of Waveland. Mr. Mollere suggested a baffle of some sort to prevent high tide water from backing up onto Terrace Avenue. Members of the audience concurred with Mr. Johnson's concerns. They agreed and have witnessed that many parents look at the drainage area as a wading pool for children.

The foregoing Record of Tidelands Projects Workshop was presented to Mayor Garcia on July 8, 2011.

Lisa B. Planchard
City Clerk

The Record of Tidelands Projects Workshop of June 14, 2011 has been read and approved by me on this, the 8th^{day} of July 2011.

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