

Open Work Session

FY20 Budget Amendment Request for Renovation of Bathroom Facilities at the Cedar Hill Marina December 17, 2019

Mrs. Pam Oland, Deputy Director of Recreation, Parks, and Tourism came before Council and said in the 2019 budget they started the process of looking at renovating the bathroom facilities over at the Cedar Hill Marina. She said the building itself is in desperate need of renovation, it is falling apart, and, in some cases, in desperate need. She said they looked at the overall facility, and the septic system is a sufficient size for the use they are planning to attend, so they are not investing any money in upgrading the septic system. She said, when they bid this project out, it came in significantly higher than what they thought it would be. She said they had applied for Program Open Space to help with the renovations. She said they also were going to do some tiny houses at this location, but, in discussion with the Administration, they have decided that tiny houses are not best suited for that location, so those are not going to be considered, and they are pulling that out of this project, and the only thing they would like to do is renovate that bathroom. She said, as such, there is sufficient funding in the Recreation and Parks fund balance to be able to transfer this with no additional funds coming from the general fund. She explained, these monies have been generated over time from the fees associated with the boaters at that facility, so they are asking for those funds to be moved into this project to allow for this renovation.

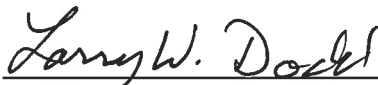
Mr. Dodd said Mrs. Oland said the building is in bad shape and dilapidated. He then asked if they have to follow any codes, to which Mrs. Oland responded, with this building they would have to get a building permit and follow the code associated with it. Mr. Dodd asked, what about with the current building, to which Mrs. Oland responded, no. She said, if they do not touch the current building, nothing would need to be done, but if they touch the building and renovate, they have to bring it up to code. Mr. Dodd said he was wondering about safety issues. Mrs. Acle asked if it is up to code now as is, to which Mrs. Oland responded, no. Mr. Dodd said it does not sound like it. He then asked if that is why they are moving forward with this project, to which Mrs. Oland responded, yes. She said this facility is the one facility that has electric and water, and also has a bathroom facility. She said their other boating facility only has porta potties, so this is the one they are asking to upgrade and bring back into alignment. Mr. Dodd said it is definitely needed because people from all over come to that marina, and that is what they see, and the image they will think of for Wicomico County, so they do need to do something about it.

Mr. Cannon asked if the total revenue they are looking for is \$250,000 from the prior year and the transfer, to which Mrs. Oland responded, \$230,000. She said there is \$105,000 currently in the project, and they are asking for a transfer of \$125,000, which would take the total up to \$230,000. Mr. Cannon said he has concerns, as he shared with Mrs. Oland earlier today, but, publicly, he has concerns with the initial planning. He said, of the \$105,000, \$75,000 of that was supposed to be only for the bathrooms, and the other \$35,000 was supposed to be for the cabins, and he just finds it disconcerting when a \$75,000 cost goes to \$250,000, to which Mrs. Oland responded, they found it disconcerting as well, honestly. She said they had gotten some estimates, and that is how this number was created at the \$75,000. She said, unfortunately, they have had projects go both ways where they have come to Council saying they have had savings, but this is one where they do not have savings, they have an additional need, and this is one way to fulfill that need without having to go to the general fund. She said the boaters have paid, and they have funds sitting in the fund balance of Recreation and Parks, so they are asking to utilize those funds to upgrade the facility used on a daily basis. Mr. Cannon said Mrs. Oland's Department always does a great job, and he thinks Recreation, Parks, and Tourism is fantastic. He then asked what she thinks significantly changed that price tag from \$75,000 to \$250,000, to which Mrs.

Oland responded, handicapped accessibility, shoring up the foundation, and replacing all of the fixtures in the building. She said, basically, the building is going to be stabilized, and all of the fixtures inside are going to be renovated, so the appearance of the building will no longer look like the age it is, but will look like a brand-new building without them building a brand-new building.

Mr. Cannon said originally \$60,000 of this was pay-go. He then asked if that is not happening anymore, to which Mrs. Oland responded, the money has already moved over, so that money is in the project. She said that money was in the project, so, if they go into Munis, this money still sits there.

Mr. Dodd asked Mrs. Hurley if Council needs a consensus on this, to which Mrs. Hurley responded, they do not. She said it is going to be a budget amendment, so it will come back before Council in the form of a Bill for introduction. Mr. Dodd asked if there are any objections, to which there were none. There was no further discussion.




Larry W. Dodd, President, District 3



John F. Cannon, Vice President, At-Large



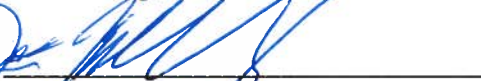
Ernest F. Davis, District 1



Nicole Acle, District 2



Josh Hastings, District 4



Joe Holloway, District 5



William R. McCain, At-Large



Laura Hurley, Council Administrator