

Minutes for the April 30, 2012 Shore Drive Community Coalition General Meeting
submitted by Todd Solomon

Meeting Location: Ocean Park Volunteer Rescue Squad Meeting Hall

Meeting Start: Called to order at 7:30 pm by David Williams. 45 attendees.

Special Presentation - Representatives from Ocean Park Volunteer Rescue Squad were welcomed, thanked for their commitment to the community and then presented with a donation of \$300 from the SDCC.

Special Guests: **Vice Mayor Louis Jones and Councilman Jim Wood** were present to talk about local and citywide issues.

Louis Jones – City Tax Increase/Budget – There will have to be an increase this year. The shortfalls are too great. The State is requiring the localities to fund their employee retirement plan at 1%/year increase for a 5% total increase. No State funding this year for construction of new roadways or maintenance of old ones. Healthcare cost increases are unsustainable. Employees will have to pay more and City has to include \$11mil. increase into plan. Schools need \$18mil. Average assessments down \$5.7%. Final shortfall about \$35mil. City Manager proposed a 4 cent increase and Council is looking at a 6 cent. About \$5mil revenue per 1 cent

Jim Wood – Lesner Bridge design is at 90%. VDOT approval underway. Early 2013 release for bid date. Oct/Nov 2013 release for build date. 30 month construction. Shore Drive improvement from Lesner to State Park is delayed 6 months for storm water designs. Est. construction start Jan 2014 with a 24 month duration. Chesapeake Beach fire station is using a design build process (same company does both actions) to save money. Site is located at corner of Shore and Grendwell (old Texaco station). July 2013 construction start.

Louis & Jim – Both oppose construction of new coal plant in Dresden. Pollution from plant will increase TMDL levels in VB which we will have to pay to clean up. Both support neighborhood dredging project. Project will provide credits to the new TMDL process. Both are opposed to a City Council Ward system.

Louis Jones – Crab Creek spoils site is permitted for all operations (hydraulic and mechanical). The City will not officially rule out the use of this site for the Neighborhood Dredge program. However, the transfer sites will be selected on a neighborhood by neighborhood basis and the Crab Creek site may never be needed. Haul seine fishing issues on local beaches. State permit issue and City's hands are tied.

Q&A Session:

Q1 – What are the two biggest City issues? **A1** - per Louis Jones #1 – Uranium mining (VB water source contamination), #2-Waste Disposal. SPSA contract to end in 2016 then we are on our own to dispose of garbage.

Q2 – Does VB have a health saving account? **A2** – Yes, however VB's plan is worst in Hampton Roads.

Q3 – Does VB retirement pay include overtime worked in last 5 years? **A3**- No, VB uses only base pay and process is set by the State.

Q4 – Can the Maple Street transfer site be used for private dredging projects? **A4** – No, that location is only for hydraulic dredging of Long Creek. Alternate site identified by Beaches & Waterways (behind O'Leary's) will be used when appropriate neighborhood program projects are identified.

Officers Reports:

President David Williams – No report.

Vice President – Position is still vacant. Somebody needs to step forward please.

Treasurer Carol Collins – Total balance \$6,261.09 Special Accounts balance \$1,561.99

Secretary Todd Solomon – March passed out. **A motion to approve minutes without changes was made by Empsy Munden and 2nd by Andy Barnett. Motion passed unanimously.**

Next SDCC General Meeting – May 21, 2012 at OPVRS at 7:30pm.

Meeting Adjourned – 9:05pm **Motion to adjourn made by Andy Barnett and 2nd by Todd Solomon. Motion passed unanimously.**