

Heather Finnell

From: Carlton Pittman <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, September 14, 2026 8:15 PM
To: Alan Holden; Bryan Chadwick; Sylvia Pate; Robert Brown; Tom Myers; Commisioner Dyer; Keith Smith; Christy Ferguson
Cc: Heather Finnell
Subject: Public Comment - September 2026 BOC Meeting

Canal Dredging - Agenda Item #8

I would respectfully request the board allow public comment **after** the presentation on canal dredging, but **before** you take any action.

There are over 800 canal houses and lots on the island – more than a quarter of all houses on the island. Would seem proper to at least have public comment **after** the presentation.

I would ask is deferring until next year to save money? That is just rolling the dice. There is no guarantee dredging or diesel fuel prices will be less next year.

Per the 2026-2027 budget, there is \$5.25 million in all 3 dredge funds. At the highest current estimate to dredge now, (\$40/cubic yard) – a full dredging now would cost us \$1.2 million assuming the 30k cubic yards of material is accurate, AND there are no other unaccounted for costs. Is the \$40/cubic yard an ALL IN number?

Why would we differ dredging now with plenty of available money (with or without the grant) to complete it this fall/winter?

As for the lot owned by the town on Heron Landing noted in the grant application – that was slated to be a dog park a couple of years ago, until the dog park money was cut from the budget. I do feel bad for all the dog owners on the island – we lost the last dog park on island to dredging off of Scotch Bonnet for the 2019 dredging cycle. The town owns close to 50 lots on the island by my count. It would be nice at some point to have a dog park, and it would not cost much other than the cost of the land, which the town owns numerous suitable parcels.

I should know this after 30+ years at canal house – how are the canal dredge fees held by the town held? – Interest bearing savings account? Other investment account?

Thank you for your time.

Carlton Pittman

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