

September 25, 1975

TO: MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL

FROM: CITY MANAGER

FOR COUNCIL POLICY CONSIDERATION.

SUBJECT: LIGHTHOUSE MUSEUM.

For many years the City has been interested in acquiring the Lighthouse Reservation property and the Lighthouse building for City use. The City has been interested in maintaining the golf course as open space and in using the Lighthouse building as a maritime museum.

At the present time, the City has one lease with the Coast Guard for the golf course property and another lease with the Coast Guard for the Lighthouse Museum. It is anticipated that at some point in the future this property will be declared surplus to the needs of the Coast Guard and turned over to the City. Until such time, the City must work on a lease arrangement. The Coast Guard has advised us that they are very pleased with the way we are using the property and that there is no problem as far as they are concerned in renewing the leases until such time as the property becomes surplus.

In preparing this year's budget, we placed \$5,000 in the Acquisition and Construction budget for work on the Lighthouse Museum. The lease with the Coast Guard does provide that the City is responsible for all interior and exterior maintenance of the Lighthouse Building.

The Museum Director has been developing a program for refurbishing the Lighthouse to make it appear as it did in earlier times. To accomplish this task, there will be considerable work needed to bring it up to the standard we want. We anticipate that the work planned will take several years to complete. The type of projects envisioned on the building are to sandblast the exterior to expose the native stone, to replace the windows with the type of glass windows used in the 1850 to 1870 period, redo the exterior landscaping, and install a small picket fence around the building which was characteristic of this earlier period. Our thought is that once the exterior work is accomplished, the City would then redo the interior and furnish the rooms with period furniture.

We believe that this is a worthwhile program and will be something the City can be proud of in future years. However, if we proceed as planned, there will be sizeable expenditures required. It may be necessary to try to obtain some National Grant Funds for the restoration of historical buildings. Also, once the building is restored, it is conceivable that there will be additional staffing requirements.

In view of the magnitude of this program, which is probably one of the lesser known services being provided by the City, I would like the Council to be fully aware of what is planned and to determine if it is still their policy to proceed as outlined.

Before we can undertake any of the work proposed, it will be necessary for us to submit a work program to the Coast Guard and to receive their approval. I would like some direction from the Council as to its policy on this program.

Respectfully submitted,

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City Manager