

The Voter

Virginia Peninsula MAL Unit Of The League Of Women



LEAGUE OF
WOMEN VOTERS®

Issue April 2010



Hampton City Council Forum

7 P.M. April 15th at Council Chambers

Voter Services are one of the core goals of the League of Women Voters. This is a two part task. The first is to get people to turn out and vote. The second is to give the citizens the needed information on all candidates so they can make an informed decision. Being non partisan insures citizens that the League is giving non bias factual information. Our Peninsula League does this by publishing our questionnaire, in this newsletter, to the candidates to the public. We also have a forum where the citizens supply the questions asked by the moderator.

We all have busy lives now days. For some it is impossible to make it to a forum due to work, family or other obligations. This is one reason why the League had originally planned to have the debate re aired on the city channel 47. Unfortunately this was not an option available for this election. Therefore the League has decided to post the video of the forum on our website the week after the debate. We will also be posting smaller clips of the debate on YouTube. While we are very disappointed that we cannot reach the television viewing audience we hope that people will view the debate on-line.

The League is working to make sure that hopefully for the next election residents will be able to view the debate on television. Please pass the word about the questionnaire and the forum. Bring a friend or neighbor with you to the forum. If you can't come send two friends to the forum. We are lucky enough to have 6 excellent candidates with various ideas and goals, please come to the forum and hear their plans.

NEXT MEETING

April 29, 2010 6:30

Hampton Main Library

Speaker FM-FADA

We will be discussing Flooding and Munitions Issues on Fort Monroe. For more information on these research groups see:

www.lwvpeninsula.org

Our Research Groups

Voter services is just one area the League focuses on. Our League has three other areas of focus.

Flooding in our Area- The flooding in our localities has increased. Everyone seems to know someone who is affected. Will it stop at these areas? What can we do to lessen the flooding?

Underwater Munitions— Overall, the response to ordnance lying on or buried within underwater sediment lags behind land-based munitions response. The requirements are less defined. The technology is less developed. The magnitude of the problem is unknown.

Transparency in Government – This group watches localities and tries to ensure that the public has access to decisions and information on projects going on with our cities.

Being involved in a research group can involve as much or as little times as members feel they can spare. They involve tasks such as : reading papers, research on the internet, commenting on ideas, going to lectures or meetings, or just giving suggestions. The groups communicate by email and soon will work on an area on our website. If you know anyone who has an interest in these areas bring them to a meeting. Our guest speakers often address our research areas. Our meetings are open to the public and anyone is invited to attend and hear a speaker or just check out the



Hampton Council Candidate Questions

The candidate questionnaires are enclosed in this newsletter. On some questions you will see a // . This symbol indicates the candidate went over the allotted word count for the question.

Virginia Peninsula League of Women Voters MAL Unit



Larry Gwaltney

Email: lsgwaltney@cox.net

What is your Educational background? What experience do you have with city government, boards, or other qualifications?

Educated in Hampton Public Schools. Graduated from Hampton High in 1967. Graduated with Honors, from Hampton University in 1996 with a BS in Fire Administration. Received Honors Council Award for Outstanding Achievement. Completed Executive Fire Officer Program at the National Fire Academy. Served on Governors Medal of Valor Review Board. President & Treasurer of Va. State Firefighters Association. Have dedicated over 43 years of service to the Citizens of Hampton through the Wythe Volunteer Fire //

Recently the council rejected a proposal to change the charter to restrict the ability of council members to interact with staff without the approval of the City Manager. What is your opinion on this issue?

I, in fact took the opportunity to speak to the City Council to opposition to this issue. The Council is elected by the citizens to be their representative and liaison with City Staff. There should be no obstacles to interfere with that process.

Last November, the Fort Monroe Authority unanimously resolved to request a self-sustaining national park for at least the moated fortress at Fort Monroe. The discussion became how large should the self-sustaining national park should actually be? Should just the areas set aside already be enough of a national park and should development occur on the rest. The council appoints members to the FADA.

The leagues question to you is what is your vision for Fort Monroe? What percentage /areas would you like to see as a park? What kind of building do you think should occur?

The recent action taken by the General Assembly (SB315&HB1297) will set Fort Monroe up as a separate Commonwealth owned village, replacing The FMFADA with the Fort Monroe Authority.

As one of Virginia's most important cultural treasures, it must be maintained as place that is a desirable one in which to reside, do business and visit all in a way that is economically feasible and sustainable.

I support a larger portion of the property outside of the Moat be set aside for Park purposes.

Recently, City Council reduced the number of meetings they hold per month, drawing criticism from the public. Do you feel that one evening meeting per month is sufficient or should the council hold bi-monthly meetings? Do you feel there are adequate opportunities for council members to hear input from the public?

I believe that the Citizens of Hampton deserve to have an opportunity to meet with and interact with the Council more than once per month. Most Citizens are not available to attend afternoon sessions and therefore left out of the process. I will support adding a second evening session of the Council.

I will also advocate holding Town Hall Meetings to give Citizens a chance to talk with members of Council. These meetings need to be held in places and at times that are convenient for the citizens to attend.

Closed door meetings were recently a problem in Gloucester. In regards to Hampton, how do you think the current council fairs on this issue? What changes, if any, would you recommend?

Closed sessions should be kept to an absolute minimum and be the exception rather than the rule.

There must be sunshine in ALL aspects of our government. The very foundation of civilized society hinges on a system of checks and balances and citizen participation. This cannot be accomplished behind closed doors. Too much time in closed session gives the appearance of inappropriate behavior. If the council wants less public criticism of their decisions then they need to get out in the open and do their business in the light of day for all to see and judge.

Due to the current economy the budget cuts to the city seem inevitable. What cuts do you propose, what services do you think should be maintained, and what additional revenue

The core services of Public Safety, Public Works and Education as well as assistance to our seniors need to be maintained. All City functions, services and programs need to reviewed to ensure that they are operating as efficiently as possible. All proposed expenditures and Capital Improvement programs should be reprioritized based on needs. Reduce our dependency on outside consultants.

What do you think should be done with the flooding issues in the city?

The flooding issues that many of our citizens are experiencing are certainly having a negative impact on their quality of life. All efforts need to be made to mitigate the causes of this flooding. We need to ensure that we have a very strong Storm water waste management program. That we have an ongoing program to keep all of our outflow ditches clear and clean. We also need to partner with the Federal Government to obtain their assistance in these efforts.

Virginia Peninsula League of Women Voters MAL Unit



Will Moffett

website: www.moffett4hampton.com

What is your Educational background? What experience do you have with city government, boards, or other qualifications?

BA in Theology-North Carolina College of Theology, Completing BA in Business, St. Leo University. Vice Chair - Hampton Redevelopment and Housing Authority, Co-Chair of Hampton's 400th Anniversary Committee, Former Chair of Hampton's Neighborhood Commission, Past President of Hampton Communities in Schools Inc., Past President of the Volunteer Center of the Virginia Peninsula, Member of the Hampton's Unity Commission-ad hoc Leadership Group, Former member of the National Points of Light Neighboring Task Force, board directors of several //

Recently the council rejected a proposal to change the charter to restrict the ability of council members to interact with staff without the approval of the City Manager. What is your opinion on this issue?

I think that it is important that Council members have the opportunity to interact with staff. However the City Manager is accountable to the Council and the City Manager provides direction to the staff.

Last November, the Fort Monroe Authority unanimously resolved to request a self-sustaining national park for at least the moated fortress at Fort Monroe. The discussion became how large should the self-sustaining national park should actually be? Should just the areas set aside already be enough of a national park and should development occur on the rest. The council appoints members to the FADA.

The leagues question to you is what is your vision for Fort Monroe? What percentage /areas would you like to see as a park? What kind of building do you think should occur?

My vision would include open access for the public, A National Historic Park inside the moat. Outside the moat I would like to see parks and green space. Likewise, We should also acknowledge historical structures outside the moat such as the Light House, Battery Parrot, residential homes on Generals row, the Chamberlin Hotel and any building over 100 years old. I envision some restricted residential and commercial development. Modern facilities could be used for high paying jobs such as technology, modeling and simulation, homeland security etc. the hospital can be used as a transitional housing home disabled war veterans.

Recently, City Council reduced the number of meetings they hold per month, drawing criticism from the public. Do you feel that one evening meeting per month is sufficient or should the council hold bi-monthly meetings? Do you feel there are adequate opportunities for council members to hear input from the public?

I support two meetings a month and I support full access by the public to ask questions of City Council. I also believe that we should continue to explore ways to increase citizen engagement and encourage citizen feedback to include use of technology and social media. Likewise I would encourage council members to schedule a few additional "town hall" meetings in the community to engage the public.

Closed door meetings were recently a problem in Gloucester. In regards to Hampton, how do you think the current council fairs on this issue? What changes, if any, would you recommend?

I am not aware of the content of the closed-door meetings of the current Hampton City Council. However closed door meetings should only be authorized for certain limited purposes in accordance with the Virginia code 2.2-3711.

Due to the current economy the budget cuts to the city seem inevitable. What cuts do you propose, what services do you think should be maintained, and what additional revenue sources would you suggest?

We must fund the core services of Public Safety, Education, Health and Human Services and Public Works. We must right size local government by restructuring and consolidating city departments and functions. We must reduce or eliminate noncore services not mandated by the Commonwealth of Virginia. A few recommendations include reduction or eliminate funding to non revenue generating festivals/ events, consolidation of Information Technology and the two government television stations of the School Board and City of Hampton. I have also recommended that the Information Technology Department remotely shut down all non essential computers to realize a savings in utilities.

What do you think should be done with the flooding issues in the city?

This issue is critical to both the short and long term sustainability of Hampton. As a member of council one of my first priorities would be to call for a strategic plan and funding at the local state and national level to address the issues of flooding, storm water maintenance, dredging and shoreline protection.

Virginia Peninsula League of Women Voters MAL Unit



Theresa Sellers

website: theresasellers.com



What is your Educational background? What experience do you have with city government, boards, or other qualifications?

I have been a Hampton resident since 1970. I am quite familiar with the history, demographics and regions in Hampton. I possess a Bachelor of Science degree in Management Information Systems/Management from Christopher Newport. This degree combines computer science with management giving me an excellent foundation for performing my duties as a council member. I have an extensive work background which gives me valuable insights into how government and corporate Hampton function.

Recently the council rejected a proposal to change the charter to restrict the ability of council members to interact with staff without the approval of the City Manager. What is your opinion on this

I firmly believe that Council should have direct access to any city staff person. Restricted access to city staff would violate the checks and balances inherently in place to verify actions of the City Manager. Restricting direct access could cause unintended miscommunications between Council and City Staff, and put an undue burden on the City Manager.

Last November, the Fort Monroe Authority unanimously resolved to request a self-sustaining national park for at least the moated fortress at Fort Monroe. The discussion became how large should the self-sustaining national park should actually be? Should just the areas set aside already be enough of a national park and should development occur on the rest. The council appoints members to the FADA.

The leagues question to you is what is your vision for Fort Monroe? What percentage /areas would you like to see as a park? What kind of building do you think should occur?

Fort Monroe has been a valuable asset to Hampton. All of Fort Monroe should be preserved. Realistically, the State has to provide funding to allow this, or some portion of Fort Monroe will need to be designated for private use. The ratio of public to private use will, unfortunately, be a financial decision. Sadly, preserving Fort Monroe is not an essential function of the State. In this poor economy, recent state budget cuts, and the state takeover of Fort Monroe, saving all of Fort Monroe may not be feasible. Unfortunately, Hampton now has little influence in Fort Monroe's outcome.

Recently, City Council reduced the number of meetings they hold per month, drawing criticism from the public. Do you feel that one evening meeting per month is sufficient or should the council hold bi-monthly meetings? Do you feel there are adequate opportunities for council members to hear input from the public?

The city performed research on the amount of time used during the public comment periods, and determined that reducing the public comment period to an hour a month was sufficient. However, I think the citizens of Hampton should have time at every council meeting to express their views. If the current public comment period stays as is, I would like to see the time limit per speaker be increased from 3 minutes to 5 minutes. I would like to point out the Council is also available by phone and e-mail, not just at Council meetings.

Closed door meetings were recently a problem in Gloucester. In regards to Hampton, how do you think the current council fairs on this issue? What changes, if any, would you recommend?

Closed door meetings are a concern for me with the current City Council. There are instances where perceptions of impropriety have arisen. City Council needs to support open and transparent government to the extent allowed by law. I feel closed Council meetings should be recorded, sealed and archived to allow review later, if needed, by a competent authority.

Due to the current economy the budget cuts to the city seem inevitable. What cuts do you propose, what services do you think should be maintained, and what additional revenue sources would you suggest?

Budget cuts are never popular at any time, and are especially difficult when the economy is poor. It is well established that governments should be doing the opposite types of spending than the economy dictates. For example, when the economy is poor, and citizens need more support, the city needs to pour as much money as feasible into creating new jobs and services. The city should cut back its support when the economy is doing well, with the understanding that core services should be provided at all times.

What do you think should be done with the flooding issues in the city?

Flooding is a serious concern in Hampton. A recent study by VIMS states how a sea-level rise might increase the vulnerability of people and infrastructure to hurricane storm-surge flooding over the next century. Based on the projections made by this report, a major portion of Hampton will be under water by the next century. Hampton needs to act now if we wish to preserve our city and its rich history. Hampton needs to perform modeling studies, investigate sensible options, and select a strategy **NOW**.



Chris Stuart website: stuartforcouncil.com

What is your Educational background? What experience do you have with city government, boards, or other qualifications?

B.A & M. A.-Old Dominion University, Career Certificate in Acquisitions & Procurement-TNCC, Vice President-Top Guard Security, a Hampton-based service business with 550+ employees (and Hampton Roads' largest Woman-owned business), approx. 15 years experience managing commercial, municipal, state and Federal contracts, TNCC Board, Old Dominion University Alumni Association Board, Virginia Air & Space Center Board, Hampton Social Services Board, Rotary International, Past President-Virginia Security Association, Virginia's DCJS Private Security Section Advisory Board.

Recently the council rejected a proposal to change the charter to restrict the ability of council members to interact with staff without the approval of the City Manager. What is your opinion on this issue?

Hampton has a City Manager form of government. The most efficient manner for a City Councilperson to communicate is through the City Manager, who will not only determine the best method for proceeding on an issue, but will follow up as well. If an alternative method of self policing to ensure Council members follow proper protocol does not exist or has proven ineffective, I would consider voting for a change to the charter.

Last November, the Fort Monroe Authority unanimously resolved to request a self-sustaining national park for at least the moated fortress at Fort Monroe. The discussion became how large should the self-sustaining national park should actually be? Should just the areas set aside already be enough of a national park and should development occur on the rest. The council appoints members to the FADA.

The leagues question to you is what is your vision for Fort Monroe? What percentage /areas would you like to see as a park? What kind of building do you think should occur?

Inside the moat, gun embankments, and Civil War era housing should be placed in National Park status. Other office space and residential housing on base is due to be refurbished (per the current FADA plan), but not radically modified in any way. Most importantly (besides National Park status for the historical areas), the beach area needs to be made available to the public as soon as circumstances allow. Any "vision" for Fort Monroe must first take into account establishing a revenue neutral municipal services contract and addressing the massive infrastructure investment required to bring the Fort up to code.

Recently, City Council reduced the number of meetings they hold per month, drawing criticism from the public. Do you feel that one evening meeting per month is sufficient or should the council hold bi-monthly meetings? Do you feel there are adequate opportunities for council members to hear input from the public?

Council currently holds two monthly meetings. Recent City Council business meetings have ended at approx. 9 PM. Given the second meeting's purpose (proclamations and awards), it is not an appropriate setting for open-ended civic engagement. The current three (3) minute per citizen rule is certainly open for modification, with the most progressive option being a "minimum" time to speak, but also an expandable amount of time if only a small number of citizens sign up to speak. The last two City Council meetings have ended with civic engagement taking 42 minutes each session.

Closed door meetings were recently a problem in Gloucester. In regards to Hampton, how do you think the current council fairs on this issue? What changes, if any, would you recommend?

In my experience serving on the Thomas Nelson Community College Board, closed door sessions are rare, and are conducted with a distinct, specific purpose. Historically, those purposes included either real estate purchases or high level personnel matters. Non-specified subjects are not discussed in such meetings. It is my expectation that should Hampton's City Council find the need to hold a similar meeting, it would follow the same guidelines. My research shows that Hampton has most routinely met in private for the following of the 40 allowable reasons (provided numerically for brevity): #1, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, and 29.

Due to the current economy the budget cuts to the city seem inevitable. What cuts do you propose, what services do you think should be maintained, and what additional revenue sources would you suggest?

Massive shortfalls occurred (approx. \$17,000,000) in 2009 and (approx. \$19,000,000) 2010. Hampton must redefine and reorient itself to providing Core Functions as its primary responsibility; Public Safety, Education, Sanitation, and Road Maintenance. Virtually every other activity falls under the heading of secondary functions, making it an area that in all probability will be trimmed, slashed, or completely defunded. My goal is to identify those areas that provide the city with long-term savings through current "investment," such as Healthy Families, and seek to maximize the support available. Savings could also be found through privatization, regional cost savings, etc.

What do you think should be done with the flooding issues in the city?

Flooding and storm water issues are arguably the single most important long term issue facing Hampton. I intend to immediately request that the City combine the separate tasking that is currently spread amongst a minimum of three departments into an Office of Flood Mitigation Services. This allows the city to create job descriptions requiring expertise in flood mitigation issues, empowers OFM employees to pursue specialized training and most importantly-to establish accountability. No one single solution exists for the problem, therefore, an Office of Flood Mitigation tasked with pursuing, researching and enacting various solutions is essential.

Virginia Peninsula League of Women Voters MAL Unit



Donnie Tuck

website: www.tuck4hcc.com



**What is your Educational background?
What experience do you have with city government, boards, or other qualifications?**

I have a BA in Public Publicy Studies from Duke University and a Master of Public Administration (MPA) from Old Dominion University. I have over eight years of employment experience in municipal government, including eight with the City of Norfolk.

I served on the Parks and Recreation Planning Commission and the Planning and Zoning Commission in two different North Carolina cities. I also served on the Ft. Eustis Environmental Task Force.

Recently the council rejected a proposal to change the charter to restrict the ability of council members to interact with staff without the approval of the City Manager. What is your opinion on this issue?

I was opposed to the charter change and publicly informed the Council about my opposition. The proposed charter change was extremely punitive when compared with similar statements by other localities, and seemed targeted toward one or more individuals.

In my former position as a division manager with the City of Norfolk employee, I was frequently tasked by members of the Council to either a contact a citizen regarding a concern or to ensure that the matter was addressed by my department. In fact, I was encouraged to establish a relationship with Council members so that they would contact me with //

Last November, the Fort Monroe Authority unanimously resolved to request a self-sustaining national park for at least the moated fortress at Fort Monroe. The discussion became how large should the self-sustaining national park should actually be? Should just the areas set aside already be enough of a national park and should development occur on the rest. The council appoints members to the FADA.

The leagues question to you is what is your vision for Fort Monroe? What percentage /areas would you like to see as a park? What kind of building do you think should occur?

I believe the whole area should be established as a national park. Most of the existing housing will need to be rehabilitated and additional housing needs to be built. However, a recent *Daily Press* article stated that there are some who envision 1100 total housing units. That is too much. I envision that some of the buildings would be occupied, possibly, by defense contractors or research companies.

Recently, City Council reduced the number of meetings they hold per month, drawing criticism from the public. Do you feel that one evening meeting per month is sufficient or should the council hold bi-monthly meetings? Do you feel there are adequate opportunities for council members to hear input from the public?

I believe that the Council should return to the twice a month, public meeting schedule. I do not believe that one evening meeting per month is sufficient for public input. It has presented that with email, the public has other opportunities to contact the Council members. However, my sentiment is that one of the ways to gauge public opinion regarding a concern is to speak publicly before the Council.

Closed door meetings were recently a problem in Gloucester. In regards to Hampton, how do you think the current council fairs on this issue? What changes, if any, would you recommend?

I think the Hampton Council complies with the law regarding open and closed meetings. However, the concern I have is that I have attended the work session and evening session and what is printed in the paper the next day was not discussed during either session. It suggests that the information was made available by a different means. With respect to changes, I would hold separate monthly or every other month public meetings to engage the public.

Due to the current economy the budget cuts to the city seem inevitable. What cuts do you propose, what services do you think should be maintained, and what additional revenue sources would you suggest?

Reduce the Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) budget. The City has a mandate to transfer a minimum of 2 to 6 percent of the General Fund to the CIP budget. In FY10, this amount was \$8.5M. A moratorium on the purchase of land would save another \$2-3M. Before services have to be cut, there are outside consultants, equipment leases and purchases, travel, gas cards, etc. that should be reduced or eliminated.

What do you think should be done with the flooding issues in the city?

Addressing the City's flooding issues rates a higher priority. Over the past five years, the City has only appropriated about \$585,000 annually for storm water maintenance. The City needs a comprehensive plan to address the flooding. It may begin with the restoration of Factory Point. However, it is my understanding that additional breakwaters are needed along Buckroe Beach. We need to determine how many are needed, if indeed they will be effective, and then begin the permitting process.



Paige Washington

website: www.paigewashington.com

What is your Educational background? What experience do you have with city government, boards, or other qualifications?

Educational background encompasses a BS in Business and Management Behavior and is currently pursuing my M.B.A. at Hampton University. I have twelve (12) years of experience in city government as a city councilman and during this period I was Vice Major of the City of Hampton during the years 2002-2004. I am familiar with the different departments within the city governance and have several dealings with each of them. I have served as the Vice //

Recently the council rejected a proposal to change the charter to restrict the ability of council members to interact with staff without the approval of the City Manager. What is your opinion on this issue?

Currently the city has a practice and policy of allowing individual council members to make direct contact with the staff of any department to secure information on a given matter or to get clarification of the position of the city concerning an issue. It does not allow the council member to direct or instruct a council member to give a staff member orders or directions to perform any duties over and above what is described in their job description. The responsibility of the City Manager is to manage the staff under his or her responsibility and not have council members //

Last November, the Fort Monroe Authority unanimously resolved to request a self-sustaining national park for at least the moated fortress at Fort Monroe. The discussion became how large should the self-sustaining national park should actually be? Should just the areas set aside already be enough of a national park and should development occur on the rest. The council appoints members to the FADA.

The leagues question to you is what is your vision for Fort Monroe? What percentage /areas would you like to see as a park? What kind of building do you think should occur?

First I believe that there are areas of the Fort Monroe properties that are historic in nature and must remain that way. The moat area should remain historic even though there are properties inside that moat that do not meet the criteria as historic. Those properties could be revitalized to fit into the historic motif of the historical designated area and preserved for all times.

The areas outside of the moat that are impacted by environmental restrictions and some are to be abated to remove the munitions that are buried in the areas where target practice was performed. Still other //

Recently, City Council reduced the number of meetings they hold per month, drawing criticism from the public. Do you feel that one evening meeting per month is sufficient or should the council hold bi-monthly meetings? Do you feel there are adequate opportunities for council members to hear input from the public?

With all new mayors, councils or city managers there are areas where their will be experimentations to hopefully help make the process smoother or more user friendly with citizens and with the practice of governing. Not all of the changes are right or the best practice to accomplish the results that one desired. Now that the implementation of this action has taken place and the citizens have spoken, my position is that we should return to a two times a month meeting schedule. Not that we don't have those meetings in place now at twice a month, but we have //

Closed door meetings were recently a problem in Gloucester. In regards to Hampton, how do you think the current council fairs on this issue? What changes, if any, would you recommend?

Closed door meetings are held for the purpose of discussing property matters that may be impacted in a negative manner or may be harmful when negotiations are taking place to secure a deal with a vendor. The second purpose is when the discussion has to deal with personnel matters that may be adverse to the employee(s) and to the city. The third matter would be security, which deals with locations or areas of the city that may be vulnerable to attacks or other breaches. That is why the General Assembly authorized this means of transaction business for the city.

Due to the current economy the budget cuts to the city seem inevitable. What cuts do you propose, what services do you think should be maintained, and what additional revenue sources would you suggest?

This year is the most difficult budget that has come along in the twelve years that I have been on council and I do not see any easy solutions to the difficulty that we face. The core services that are the most difficult to trim are the police department, fire department and insurance premium cost. These are the back bone to the city because they are the first responders to keep the citizens of Hampton safe and secure in their neighborhoods and homes. Also, insurance cost is getting higher and higher for the city and the employees and we do //

What do you think should be done with the flooding issues in the city?

The city is currently work with the core of engineers to get the appropriate permits to perform the dredging that is required to eliminate some of the flooding problems that we experiencing. Factory Point is currently being rebuilt to prevent the flooding in the Back Bay area and new jetties are being built to slow the erosion activities in that area as well. Dredging is taking place in the Back Bay area and the spoils are being used to rebuild the Factory Point Island and to slow the volume of water that is entering through the breach in that area. //