

**FLOOD AND EROSION CONTROL BOARD
REGULAR MEETING
JULY 8, 2014**

The Flood and Erosion Control Board held a meeting on Tuesday, July 8, 2014 in Parsons Government Complex, Conference Room A. Vice Chairman Tokarz called the meeting to order at 7:01 p.m.

I. Roll Call

Board Members Present

Patrick Tokarz
Thomas Bach
John Casey (7:04 p.m.)

Also Present

Gary Wassmer, City Engineer
Ald. Michael Casey (7:06 p.m.)
Chris Saley, Public Works Director

Excused: Michael Zabinski, Drew Berndlmaier

Note: At the start of the meeting a quorum was not present. At that time Vice Chairman Tokarz proceeded to Public Comment.

II. Public Participation

Michelle Moffo – 7 Ann Street – stated she came tonight to find out the status of what is happening and will be happening in their area. She spoke of the conditions in the area which she called “awful” conditions. She cited the open pipes on the beach, the condemned house, which smells with animals living in the house. She also spoke of the cement blocks in front of the restaurant (Costa Azzurra) and that they can no longer use that area. She stated since storm Sandy they have received some support, but they are looking for more.

7:04 p.m. Mr. Casey arrived making a quorum.

Doreen Moffo – 5 Ann Street – echoed the comments of Michelle Moffo.

Julie Wiles – 42 Wood Avenue - stated she is President of the Wildemere Beach Association. She reported she is in the process of creating a list of the other beach associations in Milford with their contact information. She stated they all have a common goal regarding work on the coastline and she would like to speak with other folks to discuss their needs and come together with solutions. She stated she is also interested in the proposed RFQ.

Ms. Doreen Moffo questioned why the condition of the beach areas differ so greatly, i.e. Walnut Beach, Laurel Beach.

III. Consideration of Minutes – June 10, 2014

Mr. Casey and Mr. Bach made and seconded a motion to approve the minutes of the June 10, 2014 meeting.

Mr. Bach stated the last name of the individual that spoke last month is Riggi, who resides at 162 Shorefront.

Motion carried unanimously as amended.

IV. Correspondence – None.

V. Unfinished Business:

A) Update - Drainage Projects – Mr. Wassmer, City Engineer reported he is working with the Public Works Director and asked him to attend tonight to provide an update on the work going on.

Mr. Saley thanked everyone for coming out. He stated he has spoken with some of the members of the various beach associations. He stated there is no quick fix and that they want to get the best value. Mr. Saley stated they are looking at design professionals and solutions. Regarding Ann Street, he acknowledged that particular house is an issue but unfortunately it is a legal matter and it is going through the process which takes time. As to Laurel Beach he stated that is a private beach and they have stabilized their beach areas through three groins. He also stated their work is done in-house. He also spoke of the Point Beach and Bayview areas, both of which have some private areas and also “fingers” of those beaches that are private. Mr. Saley stated work is currently being done at Gulf Beach where they are putting in a groin/break water. He stated it would help that area greatly. He stated they are still targeting areas they want to work on. Mr. Saley also pointed out that unfortunately over the last few years they have seen more and more flooding in these areas. He stated they just don’t want to do a quick fix, but want to look at the future and part of that process is the feasibility study.

Mr. Wassmer explained the scope of services for Merwin Avenue, Red Bush Lane and Burnt Plains Road.

B) Update –Coastal Resiliency – Mr. Wassmer spoke of three grants Milford will receive. The first in the amount of \$150,000 for a coastal resilience plan for Branford, Madison and Milford; a second grant in the amount of \$503,500 for the public facility repair of the Gulf Beach Breakwater which received damage during Superstorm Sandy; and a third grant in the amount of \$780,480 for the reconstruction of Morningside Revetment also damaged by Superstorm Sandy. Mr. Wassmer stated they continue to look at beach stabilization and not just beach renourishment, where basically you are dumping the sand into ocean.

Mr. Saley went on to explain the work at Gulf Beach. A brief discussion ensued.

Mr. Wassmer reiterated it is a process and takes time which at times can certainly be frustrating.

Mr. Saley also commented with Milford having the largest shoreline in the State there is the potential for more money.

Mr. Bach stated this Board is taking the first steps and moving in the right direction. He also expressed his appreciation of Milford residents coming out to these meetings.

Mr. Casey asked the status of the projects.

Mr. Wassmer stated Coastal Consultants is working on the Gulf Beach breakwater. He also stated they continue to work with DEEP.

Mr. Casey asked if they are at the point of a design or concept study.

Mr. Saley stated 3 years ago they moved 10 yards and there was a 360 ft groin. He stated Mike Ludwick continued the study.

Mr. Casey asked the current status.

Mr. Saley stated they are in the design and application phase, but not permit as yet.

Mr. Casey asked about Morningside.

Mr. Wassmer explained the revetment stopped at the edge of the Boynton property. He stated there is a great deal of erosion behind the seawall. He stated the monies will repair the City's portion in that area. Mr. Wassmer stated the drawings are done, permits and the consultant was hired by the property owner. He stated once the money is in place they will go out to bid.

C) Update – Bylaws for the Board – Mr. Bach recalled this Board talked about looking at other cities.

Mr. Wassmer stated he would contact the city attorney for some direction.

D) Update - RFQ – Study of Milford's entire oceanfront.

Mr. Casey asked about the process at this point.

Mr. Wassmer explained Milford is part of a consortium and that any money would be split. He stated an RFQ was done for the three towns. He also pointed out there would be a regional grant as well.

Mr. Saley stated he believed this would be a substantial overlap. A brief discussion ensued.

Mr. Tokarz spoke of the ponding on Richards Street and suggested the drainage flap could be on backwards.

VI. New Business:

None.

Being no further business, Mr. Bach and Mr. Casey made and seconded a motion to adjourn. Motion carried unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 7:32 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathleen K. Huber
Recording Secretary