**FLOOD & EROSION CONTROL BOARD**

**REGULAR MEETING**

**November 10, 2020**

The Flood and Erosion Control Board held its regular monthly meeting on Tuesday, November 10, 2020, via Zoom teleconference. Chairman Zabinski called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m.

**I. Roll Call:**

Board Members Present Also Present

Michael Zabinski, Chairman Mr. Johnson, Asst. PW Director

Andy Bevilacqua Ald. Connie Gaynor

Megan Sloan

Thom Bach

Excused: John Casey

**II. Public Participation:**

Carole Klingele - 160 Broadway – she stated she is still looking for an update on Wildemere Beach and the replenishment of the beaches. Ms. Klingele stated she had three (3) specific questions: 1) how the minutes of this meeting are relayed to the Mayor; 2) has the mayor been asked about having elected officials attend a meeting; 3) and has the board asked any legislative officials for their input.

Guadalupe Garcia-Tsao - 38 Hilldale Court - asked about Morningside revetment and if the bid has gone out.

**III. Correspondence**

None.

**IV. Consideration of Minutes.**

Mr. Bach and Ms. Sloan made and seconded a motion to approve the minutes of the October 13, 2020 with two typographical corrections. Motion carried unanimously.

**V. Unfinished Business.**

A) Update: Drainage Projects and CDBG Projects:

Bayview Beach – Mr. Johnson reported this project has proved to be very successful. He stated the performance of the backflow preventors is all they had hoped for. He added the system has even been tested with some tidal events however, no storms to date. All the streets in Bayview are dry since the installation of the backflow preventors. He explained it was a complicated project and that the timing of the project coincided with a water main project (RWA) and city work on Welch’s Point Road. Repaving of the road is scheduled for next week, weather permitting. Mr. Johnson stated they would be meeting with the pump manufacturer to go over specifications and then go out to bid. He stated they monitor the backflow preventor valves and have noted a significant amount of algae growth. He stated he will be recommending a low tide monitor, doing an inspection to open the valve to make sure the valve is free of algae and other growth. Mr. Johnson stated it would be important make this recommendation for the other projects, so they continue performing.

Point Beach – Mr. Johnson reported the only remaining item for this project is the fall treatment of phragmites along the wall. He explained it is a onetime treatment. He explained since it is not within the recommended time frame, it would be done in the spring. Mr. Johnson noted the work overall is functioning well. He stated there is the recommendation to put an interior sleeve and have it protected with a backflow preventor. He also reported regarding the valves and the hope they will be successful following up with details from DEEP and Race Coastal.

Calf Pen/Beachland Avenue – no updates to share at this point.

Milford Point Road – nothing to report.

Morningside Revetment – Mr. Johnson reported the paperwork has been submitted to the city’s purchasing department but has not gone out to bid. He stated once he has confirmed dates, he will notify the residents of Morningside. Mr. Johnson stated the hope is to accomplish this work in late fall or early winter.

Gulf Beach/Welches Point Road/Bluff Area – no updates.

Wildemere/Walnut Beach – Mr. Johnson reported he has had no contact with Army Corp other than the email he shared with the Board a few weeks ago. He stated he has not circled back.

Crescent Beach – Mr. Johnson reported he sent an email reporting they have been given the green lighted by DEEP, but there still was a question with Army Corp regarding the scope of the project.

Mr. Bach commented it seems it should be up to the company this Board hired to do that research and report back to this Board as to whether or not to move forward with the project, and whether or not is it worth the cost etc.

Mr. Bevilacqua asked if there is a construction cost on the project.

Mr. Johnson recalled the cost of $250,000-300,000.

Mr. Bevilacqua expressed his disappointed regarding this project and how it is progressing. He stated a little protection is better than nothing, especially if it provided some resiliency.

Mr. Johnson spoke of the challenges and frustration of the permitting process, specifically when it came to the various agencies, i.e. DEEP v. Army Corp, v. US Marine Fisheries, etc. A brief discussion ensued.

Chairman Zabinski reiterated what he has said at previous meetings that it is time to bring together the government agencies and engineering firm for the project and sit at the same table and discuss the project and what design is feasible and plausible so the project can finally move forward. Discussion resumed.

Crescent Beach – No update.

Pelham Street – No update.

Gulf Beach Breakwater – No update.

B) Update: Resiliency Plan – Mr. Johnson reported he would send out the information to the Board members regarding the Resiliency Connecticut Virtual Summit being held in November. He stated the Summit will look at local flooding issues and being a repository. He stated the Summit would also focus on the relationship with equity, environmental justice, and climate change. Mr. Johnson stated they have also offered to present to local boards and commissions. He stated he would send the Board the Zoom link.

C) Update: Program for Public Information (PPI) – Mr. Johnson stated he had nothing to report this evening. He stated he would have information for the December meeting.

**VI. New Business**

None.

Being no further business to discuss, Mr. Bach and Mr. Bevilacqua made and seconded a motion to adjourn. Motion carried unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 7:44 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathleen A. Kennedy Recording Secretary