**FLOOD & EROSION CONTROL BOARD**

**REGULAR MEETING**

**AUGUST 11, 2020**

The Flood and Erosion Control Board held its regular monthly meeting on Tuesday, August 11, 2020, via Zoom teleconference. Chairman Zabinski called the meeting to order at 7:04 p.m.

**I. Roll Call:**

Board Members Present Also Present

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

John Casey Joseph Griffith, DPLU Director

Megan Sloan MaryRose Palumbo, Inland/Wetlands

Thom Bach Compliance Officer

Andy Bevilacqua

**II. Public Participation:**

David DeLuke - 27 Point Beach Drive - urged the Board to work with the City of Milford to give Point Beach Drive priority to resolve the drainage issues. He stated when you combine high tide and a full moon, a vehicle cannot go up and down the street. He stated at this point it is a safety concern. He stated he is concerned emergency vehicles would not be able to pass through. He asked the Board to please do all they could to help adding it would be much appreciated by this community.

Carol Klingele - 160 Broadway - drainage pipes that are broken (at Wildwood, buried at Laurel Beach, Grant Street). These drainage pipes were reported long before the COVID-19 pandemic and Isaisis. Urge the City of Milford to look at this and resolve the issue with these broken pipes. Also, she stated she has never received an answer as to the City of Milford’s budget for the continued repair of the shoreline. She expressed her hope that question would be answered.

Frank Smith - 232 Second Avenue – stated he supported some of the things Ms. Klingele had mentioned regarding the storm drainage issues at Wildemere Beach. With a strong tropical season still to come, there will continue to be issues.

Chairman Zabinski stated he would entertain a motion to re-order the agenda and bring forward item IV-C Program for Public Information (PPI).

Mr. Bach and Ms. Sloan made and seconded a motion to re-order the agenda and bring forward item V. - C. Motion carried unanimously.

C) Update: Program for Public Information (PPI)

Chairman Zabinski thanked Mr. Griffith for being present.

Director Griffith stated he is the City’s DPLU director as well as the flood plain manager. He stated Milford is scheduled to resubmit for its CRS certification. He explained Milford currently has a score of 9, but the goal is to lower it. Director Griffith stated the hope is to have all the information in the city’s data base. He explained what CRS is (Community Rating System) how a town/city is rated and incorporating data.

Mr. Bach asked if the discount to homeowners goes up with a lower score.

Director Griffith shared on the screen the 5-year flooding map, with explanation of the history of flooding on those streets.

Chairman Zabinski asked about any upcoming events this Board will be participating in.

Director Griffith stated yes, he would expect there to be opportunities for this Board, however nothing is scheduled at this point. He explained the focus for the last month or more has been getting the data inputted.

**III. Correspondence**

None.

**IV. Consideration of Minutes.**

Mr. Bach and Mr. Casey made and seconded a motion to approve the minutes of the March 10, 2020 meeting.

Mr. Bach stated he had one correction. He stated the minutes should reflect at the March 10th meeting, Chairman Zabinski was excused and Mr. Bach served as chairman in his capacity as Vice Chairman.

The motion carried unanimously was the corrections as noted.

Mr. Bach and Mr. Casey made and seconded a motion to approve the minutes of the May 12, 2020 meeting as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Bach and Mr. Casey made and seconded a motion to approve the minutes of the July 14, 2020 meeting as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

**V. Unfinished Business.**

A) Update: Drainage Projects and CDBG Projects:

Mr. Johnson stated there has not been a lot done this past month since he was out 2 1/2 weeks.

Bayview Beach – Mr. Johnson reported the Bayview Beach project was originally awarded and expected to be substantially complete by July 2020, however they ran into critical material shortages. He stated they are waiting on the critical backflow preventer valve that is likely to be in by September. Mr. Johnson explained they would then mobilize for the Bayview project in late August with a substantial completion date in November 2020. He stated the hope with the Bayview project is that it will lead us into the other drainage projects that need to be completed.

Point Beach – Mr. Johnson stated they are still working on design refinements. Mr. Johnson also stated he would get an update on the drainage/resiliency budget.

Mr. Bach asked how a maintenance line could be put into the budget.

Mr. Johnson explained the capital improvement budget.

Mr. Casey asked about the consultant for the Point Beach Drive project and where they stood with the project. A brief discussion ensued.

Calf Pen/Beachland Avenue – Mr. Johnson reported there still is some landscaping to get done. He explained as part of the Beachland project, an establishment of native salt grasses and vegetation. He stated the hope is once the final treatments are completed, they would plant that salt marsh as part of the Army Corp.

Milford Point Road – Mr. Johnson reported this is the next project to actively get on the drawing board. He stated Malone and McBroom are the consultants and they hope to go out to bid this fall, which includes the road elevation project.

Morningside Revetment – Mr. Johnson reported they have had production conversations with RACE Coastal and that they are finalizing bidding specifications. He pointed out for are complicated for this project.

Gulf Beach/Welches Point Road/Bluff Area – Mr. Johnson reported they are fully permitted with DEEP with some preliminary grant applications out.

Wildemere/Walnut Beach – Mr. Johnson reported they are working to get DEEP, Army Corp and fisheries back to the table. He explained the permitting, design and scale and scope of the design need to be addressed as well as private property for those coastal residents in the project area.

Crescent Beach – Mr. Johnson reported they reduced the scope and scale of this project. CT Deep and CT Fisheries did not agree with Army Corp and US fisheries. He asked the Board to forward their comments and concerns along to him.

Mr. Bevilaqua asked about the 10% protection.

Mr. Johnson stated to his knowledge nothing was quantified. He explained the importance of protecting the toe of the seawall from further erosion. He stated he would reconfirm with Malone and McBroom.

Mr. Bevilaqua asked about a maintenance plan in place.

Mr. Johnson - there is a maintenance component. He stated he would check the numbers. He stated he would clarify the funding in the Capital Improvement projects.

Chairman Zabinski asked if it would make sense to consider public ownership, i.e. Wildemere and Walnut Beaches. He also asked if it could be done in parallel.

Mr. Johnson stated he believed it could be done in parallel. He explained the path forward and identifying what they are looking for. A brief discussion ensued.

Pelham Street (stairs) – no update.

Gulf Beach Breakwater – no update.

Mr. Bach asked for a list of those people who live along the shoreline in Wildemere Beach and Walnut Beach to get some initial support.

Mr. Johnson stated a list could likely be obtained from the Assessor’s Officce. Discussion ensued.

B) Update: Resiliency Plan – no update.

**VII. New Business**

None.

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

The meeting adjourned at 8:19 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathleen A. Kennedy Recording Secretary