**FLOOD & EROSION CONTROL BOARD**

**REGULAR MEETING MINUTES**

**December 12, 2023**

The Flood and Erosion Control Board held its regular monthly meeting on Tuesday, **December 12, 2023**, via Zoom teleconference. Vice Chairman Bevilacqua called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m.

**I. Roll Call**

Board Members Present Also Present

Andy Bevilacqua, Vice Chairman S. Johnson, Asst. Public Works Director

John Casey Chris Saley, Public Works Director

Thom Bach

Ray Manzouri

Board Members Not Present

Michael Zabinski, Chairman

**II. Public Participation**

Dave Deluke-27 Point Beach Drive, continue to have flooding in Point Beach Drive area due to drainage issues. 25 Point Beach Drive does not maintain seawall contributing to additional flooding. Requests road closures by city when there is going to be a flood. Cars continue to speed down streets causing damage to personal property. Emergency Service Vehicles cannot come into the area and cannot leave for work. Flooding at high tide.

Rob Villodas- 23 Point Beach Drive- Was away this past storm. He has personal property that can be damaged with these storms which require additional assistance from neighbors. Would like to see the new mayor get involved. Also concerned about 25 Point Beach Drive, believes that there is an act which allows the municipality to step in regarding the damaged wall.

Donna Blake- 21 Point Beach Drive- Was away this past storm. Could not get back due to water level. New owners within 6 months. Concerned about 25 Point Beach Drive and the City’s approach to the issue. Wondering how and when the city will step in to address the seawall.

John Rallo- 21 Point Beach Drive- Reiterating what has been said by others. Concerned about flood waters and debris in the road as well as the high costs on the homeowner to clean up after these storms. Can see the undermining of the neighboring seawalls due to the 25 Point Beach Drive dilapidated seawall.

**III. Correspondence**

No correspondence

**IV. Consideration of Minutes- November 14, 2023**

Fix typo in agenda item #3, from reward to award. Mr. Bach motioned to adopt minutes, Mr. Casey seconded motion. Adopted unanimously.

**V. Unfinished Business**

Asst. Public Works Director Steve Johnson provided updates of the following projects:

A) Update: RE: Drainage Projects and CDBG Projects

1. Point Beach-

Steve invites residents of the neighborhood to reach out to him directly.   
There are projects the city is looking to get some bids on that will include a rebuilt outfall at Morehouse Ave and Richard St. Both projects are permitted through DEEP.   
There are other related projects including upgrading the Elaine St and Atwater St outfall, to prevent intrusion from the high tides.

Chris Saley is working with Wastewater Division and is piggybacking the pipe lining bids for both wastewater and drainage to assist in the upgrades to these systems at Point Beach.

There are no updates regarding the 25 Point Beach Drive seawall. Steve will look into this, but the Flood and Erosion Board has no authority with this type of damage.   
Regarding the road closures, Steve is working with the fire department and police departments to provide some measures of safety. Public works does not have the ability to shut roads down. Chris Saley reiterated that Public Works cannot block a road entirely.

Mr. Bevilacqua wondering if the FECB has any ability to work with the city to assist in the issue at 25 Point Beach Drive. Chris Saley confirmed that the seawall at 25 Point Beach Drive is private property, and the City has limited ability in stepping in.

Discussion ensued regarding 25 Point Beach Drive.

Chris Saley spoke with City Attorney during the meeting and came back with information regarding 25 Point Beach Drive being a civil issue among neighbors and does not include the city’s involvement.

2. Milford Point Road-

Received approval from Board of Aldermen to accept the bonding award. In-process of completing that paperwork. Still planning on having this project commence in late winter early spring. Department of Housing permit has extended through December 2024.

3. Morningside Road-

No Updates. Continue with vegetation management. Certificate of Permission has been extended through December 2024 to make additional repairs to Morningside seawall.

4. Gulf Street/Welches Point Road/Bluff area-

No Updates. Steve had a brief discussion with Chief of Staff, Justin Rosen, regarding this project. Funding would be through grants.

5. Wildemere/Walnut Beach-   
Steve still working on executive summary timeline to address the city. Brief discussion with Chief of Staff so he is aware of this project. Mr. Bach is concerned about the lack of time Steve has, to complete this summary. Steve is still planning to complete this request for the city’s review. Discussion ensued.

6. Crescent Beach-   
No Updates. Nothing moving forward. Reduction in scope of project for permitting.

7. Red Bush-

Pertains to Whole Foods Complex as well- Coincides with CT DOT- Chris Saley was onsite during the Sunday – Monday 5” rainfall amounting to. He saw firsthand some problems that were affecting this area. The Boston Post Road was shut down due to flooding this past storm. Pipe is undersized for drainage. The city is trying to get DOT to address.

8. Rowe Ave-   
No Updates. DOT claiming that the area is overdeveloped. No significant flooding this past storm in this area.

9. Whole Foods Complex-   
See agenda item # 7 Red Bush

10. Bayview-

Received approval from Board of Aldermen to accept bond from State. Allows City to purchase portable pumps to assist with flooding.

11. Laurel Ave-   
Has gone out to bid. Has not been awarded.

B) Update: Program for Public Information (PPI)-   
 Steve thanks board for their input

C) Update: Resiliency Plan-

Mr. Casey wondering about the Plan of Conservation and Development and how the city is addressing coastal resiliency. The recently approved POCD will be reviewed and compared with the 2012 version to confirm any updates.

Looking at independent issues such as dilapidated seawalls, as well as what is the big picture plan with the city, and how it will move forward in solving larger and long-term flooding and erosion issues within these neighborhoods especially when there are larger impact storms.

**VI. New Business**

Mr. Bevilacqua would like to discuss creating a to-do list and prioritizing the items.

**VII. Adjournment**

Being no further business to discuss, Mr. Bach and Mr. Casey made and seconded a motion to Adjourn. Motion carried unanimously. Vice Chairman Bevilacqua adjourned the meeting at 7:54 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Jessica Davidson