

**FLOOD & EROSION MEETING  
MINUTES OF MAY 15, 2013**

The Flood and Erosion Commission of the Town of Fairfield held their meeting Public Hearing Meeting on, May 15, 2013 in the First Floor Conference Room of the Honorable John J. Sullivan Independence Hall, 725 Old Post Road, Fairfield.

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Rick Grauer, Chairman, Tim DeBartolomeo, Vice Chairman, James Baum, Secretary, David D'Ausillio

**ABSENT:** William Kenny

**ALSO PRESENT:** Joseph Michelangelo, Director of Public Works, Scott Bartlett, Superintendent of Public Works, Laura Pulie, Engineering, Tom Steinke, Director of Conservation

**CALL TO ORDER:** The Public Meeting was called to order at 7:30 p.m. by Chairman Grauer.

**A. UPDATE ON STATUS OF INFRASTRUCTURE REPAIR PROJECTS**

Mr. Michelangelo gave a brief overview of the following items to the Commission, which relates to the damages from Storm Sandy:

**1. Penfield Pavilion Foundation Repair/Raising, Building Repair, Bulkhead Modification \$1,000,000**

The Town has contracted with a firm with knowledge of coastal issues and expertise in soils, foundation and structural repairs. The building will be redesigned and most likely lifted above the flood plain elevation. They will also be looking at the protective bulkhead that was installed after Irene to review what improvements can be made. Also, the access stairs will also need to be modified. The design alternatives will be presented to Town Boards & Commission at various times this summer, with conceptual plans available next month.

Mr. Grauer noted discussion was addressed at the last meeting on raising the Dyke on the north side of Pine Creek. He would like to receive a copy of the easement to see what was granted. Mrs. Pulie suggested that he stop by her office and she will provide him with a copy the easement.

**2. Penfield Beach, Jennings Beach, Sasco Beach, Southport Beach Replenishment \$ 700,000**

The Jennings Beach, Sasco Beach, Southport Beach was replenished with plenty of sand. The Town obtained approval from environmental agencies, such as DEEP, US ACOE and FEMA to allow the removal of sand from the navigational channel that got filled in during the storm. Penfield Beach still needs to be replenished with sand, pending DEEP concurrence and FEMA participation.

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### **3. Fairfield Beach Road Drainage, Road base, Asphalt** **\$ 370,000**

The section of Fairfield Beach Road from Reef Road cul-de sac was severely affected. The repairs will consist of a 36" drainage pipe, which will preserve the sub-base. A full permit application was sent to the DEEP. The Shellfish Commission and Harbor Commission have responded with their comments. FEMA has not yet approved the repaving of the entire road as an eligible project.

### **4. South Benson Navigation Channel Re-establishment** **\$ 400,000**

The South Benson Marina dredging was completed March 31<sup>st</sup>.

### **5. Southport Harbor Navigational Channel Re-establishment** **\$ 400,000**

The Town will utilize a large crane type excavator to perform work on the Fairfield side, and have a long enough reach to accomplish the entire excavation. It will be screened, trucked, and spread on Town beaches (mostly Penfield) which will be subject to approval of FEMA and CT DEEP. This may result in cost savings with other planned beach replenishment projects.

### **6. South Benson Fishing Pier Repair** **\$ 300,000**

The pier stone caps have been completed as well as the new side walk.

### **7. Southport Beach Seawall/Breakers Repair** **\$ 350,000**

The seawall next to the bridge got totally destroyed and this is the number one priority to get done; number two is the retaining wall; number three is the wave breakers.

### **8. Pine Creek Navigational Channel Re-establishment & Debris Removal** **\$ 400,000**

Engineers from GZA are evaluating the work to be done at Pine Creek navigational channel, which will help many homeowners. All work will be done per CT DEEP and US ACOE. FEMA funding will be provided for this project.

### **9. Fairfield Beach Road Cul-de-sac Seawall/Bulkhead Repair** **\$ 150,000**

Due to water from the Sound crossing the road and washing into Pine Creek it carries and deposits sand along the way. Protection needs to be constructed on the south side of the road and a bulk head along Pine Creek on the north side. A stone or concrete wall will be constructed on the south side of the road.

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### **10. Pine Creek Dike Elevation Increase & Revetment Repair** **\$ 125,000**

The Town is looking into areas along Pine Creek and Old Dam road from flooding along Long Island Sound. This will provide increased protection to homes in the area. The top of the dike will be elevated approximately two feet in height.

### **11. Fire Training Center Dike** **\$ 75,000**

The Town is installing a structure to bypass flood waters of the existing 36" tidegates. A 48" pipe with flap gate limits backflow to the marsh. The system will be redesigned to complete block and back flow of water.

### **12. Southport Beach Building Replacement** **\$ 70,000**

The concession stand and lifeguard building was dislodged and rotated due to wave forces. The entire building needs to be rebuilt on a foundation, along with a new septic system.

### **13. Sasco Beach Building** **\$ 70,000**

The concession stand and lifeguard building was dislodged and rotated due to wave forces. The building will be rebuilt on a 12x12 wood pile foundation and will help store beach equipment and mechanicals.

### **14. Ye Yacht Yard Building** **\$ 65,000**

The lavatory and storage building was completely destroyed during the storm. This will be rebuilt on a foundation.

### **15. The Miscellaneous Dike & Tide Gate Improvement** **\$ 65,000**

The South Benson marina that regulates Clinton and Oyster Road was repaired. This project cost approximately \$12,000.

### **16. Sasco Beach Wall/Drainage/Lot** **\$ 65,000**

There is a seawall on the eastern property line of the beach (past the guard shack). There is a storm drainage outlet along property line; soil has been completed in this area.

### **17. Penfield Pavilion Parking Lot Repairs** **\$ 50,000**

The parking lot was designed to promote infiltration in the soil, and opposed to impervious grid pavement. The quality of stormwater will be addressed. Many of the open concrete grid units were dislodged and the impervious pea stone in the grids got washed away.

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**18. Perry Green Bulkhead** **\$ 50,000**

The wall on the on the southern end of the green facing Southport Harbor sustained damage to many of the members during the storm.

**19. Pequot Avenue Bridge Repair** **\$ 30,000**

The bridge over Sasco Creek sustained some pavement damage where the road meets the bridge. Much of the stone which protects the abutment foundation from undermining was washed away during the storm. This has been repaired.

**20. Smith Richardson Golf Course Maintenance Building** **\$ 12,000**

The building sustained damage to the roof and siding, which will be re-shingled and siding repaired.

**21. Trez Wooden Fishing Pier** **\$ 10,000**

The side supports needs need to be reconnected to the pole piers; decking and railing will be replaced.

**22. WPCF Compost Shed Repair** **\$ 10,000**

The biosolids composting requires wood chips will be used as part of the compost process and as a filter for odor control. The fabric in the large hoop house where this is stored was completely damaged.

**23. Bowman's Way Boat Ramp** **\$ 10,000**

The paved surface to the public boat ramp at Pine Creek suffered considerable damage in the storm.

**B. FLOODING DISCUSSIONS**

The commission questioned and briefly discussed flooding issues at Fairfield Beach Road.

**C. HAZARD & COMMUNITY RESILENCE WORKSHOPS 06/21/13 & 06/28/13**

Mr. Michelangelo reported that there will be two meeting in June specifically to address future storm events in Fairfield. A report will be generated and this will be an important first step in formulating future Town policies and action plans. F&E Chairman is scheduled to attend, as well as numerous Town Staff and Board & Commission members.

**D. REVIEW OF THE JANUARY MEETING**

No discussion heard.

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There being no further business to come before the Commission, David D'Ausilio adjourned the meeting at 9:25p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Josephine M. Keogh

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