

TOWN OF FAIRFIELD
FLOOD AND EROSION CONTROL BOARD
Special Meeting, November 22, 2022 5:30pm

A recording of this meeting can be found here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WWnW6Z17VKY>

MINUTES

MEMBERS PRESENT: Chair Becky Bunnell, Secretary Richard Dmochowski, Paul Landino, Peter Wiswell (joined at 6:13pm)

MEMBERS ABSENT: Vice Chair Don Lamberty

1. Call to Order

Chairwoman Becky Bunnell called the meeting to order at 5:36pm.

2. To Hear, Consider and Act Upon Draft Minutes of the September 20, 2022 meeting

Richard Dmochowski made a motion to approve the minutes of 9/20/22 as written. Paul Landino seconded the motion which carried unanimously.

3. Final discussion and vote on the FECB proposal to establish a Resiliency Fund for Fairfield

Chairwoman Becky Bunnell wrote a draft letter to the Board of Selectman to establish a Resiliency Fund. Chairwoman Bunnell sent it to the Flood and Erosion Control Board and asked the members if they had any suggestions or edits.

Richard Dmochowski made a motion to approve the edited letter and authorized chairwoman Bunnell to send the letter to the BOS. Paul Landino seconded the motion which carried unanimously.

4. Discussion on evolving plans for Penfield Pavilion 'rebuild'

Richard Dmochowski and chairwoman Bunnell met with Tom Bremer for an update on the Penfield pavilion project. The current approach is to leave the pavilion in place and remove contaminated fill pile dirt and grade the beam section by section, testing each section as they go. The FECB is worried that this might jeopardize future flooding in the area. The RFP does contain a note for a resilience measure that will be part of the project. The FBRA and the FECB are aware of the reduction of the sand under the pavilion. The 10/23/22 letter from the FECB supports the fact that they are concerned about this. Clearing the FEMA violation is the number one priority for the Town and improving resiliency for the neighborhood and beyond is second. Project Engineer Elias Ghazal is aware of the risk and the board's desire to improve resiliency. The Town first must be within FEMA regulations. Paul Landino would like to see the resiliency plans built into the pavilion plan so that the measures will be taken. There was further discussion about getting this project in the budget and agreed to for fiscal year 2024. The letter to the BOS was discussed and revised.

Paul Landino made a motion to send the additionally edited letter to the BOS. Chairwoman Bunnell seconded the motion which carried unanimously.

Richard Dmochowski made a motion to copy the letter to the BOF, RTM D-9, DPW Director John Marsilio, Engineering Manager Bill Hurley, and Project Manager Elias Ghazal. Paul Landino seconded the motion which carried unanimously.

5. Review any updates on status of current 'projects'

Chairwoman Bunnell and Richard Dmochowski had a meeting with Engineering Manager Bill Hurley regarding grant money for studies the FECB is trying to get done. Chairwoman Bunnell will fill out as much of the applications as she can. They are trying to find grant writing resources, especially for studies in the flood plain areas.

Projects discussed:

- Perry's Green – Proceeding, conceptual idea
- Rooster River – ACOE seems to be the hold up although plans proceeding.
- Downtown Infrastructure- reviewing recommendations
- High Intensity Wave Study- nothing has happened yet.
- CIRCA- Three cost benefit analysis projects. Expected to be done by April 2023.
- Underpass Study- initial study
- RACE- section along FBR, Jennings, Penfield was expanded to look into Penfield resiliency. Jennings to Ash Creek berm study.
- Pine Creek Dredging- Outside consultant to collect additional samples.
- Fairfield Beach Road Elevation- stopped for funding but still on list.

6. Any additional business that may properly come before the Board.

Special meeting does not allow additional business.

7. Public Comment

Alyssa Israel, 679 Rowland Road – expressed concern with flooding in Penfield area. There was a discussion about the process.

8. Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 6:35pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Pru O'Brien
Recording Secretary