



**Town of Greenwich
Flood and Erosion Control Board
January 28, 2016 Meeting Minutes
3:00 pm – Cone Room, Town Hall, Greenwich, Connecticut**

Those attending: Edward Schmeltz, Aubrey Mead, Jr. and Robert Cenci

Town staff present: James Michel, Dana Arnold, and Cindy Baumann, CDM
Smith was also present.

The following summarizes the items discussed at the recent Flood & Erosion Control Board (the Board) meeting held at the Town Hall on Thursday, January 28, 2016. The discussion has been grouped based on the topics identified in the meeting agenda.

Call to Order and Administrative Matters

The meeting was called to order in the Town Hall. Meeting minutes from the previous Board meeting on December 17, 2015 were approved. Discussion regarding how the priorities are set with respect to the CIP ranking and the following edit to the meeting notes was suggested:

“CIP priorities are set by the Flood Erosion Control Board.”

Mr. Mead motioned to accept the meeting notes with the proposed edit. A motion was made and seconded for approval of the December 17, 2015 meeting notes.

Capital Projects Update

A discussion was held to have a mechanism and process to bring projects to RTM/BET. However, the Board will ultimately make the decision.

Mr. Michel informed the Board that his understanding was that the DPW would tackle the top 10 projects and other CIP projects would be done when other improvements were being done in that area. Flood control projects are prioritized by FECB, but the DPW’s prioritization is determined by Amy Siebert, based on input from FECB, Highway, Engineering, and other departments.

An update was provided for the following projects:

- Sound Beach Avenue: Design work continues and it is expected that construction will begin in summer 2017.
- Church Street: The easement between the gas company & the YMCA is being finalized. Construction for Phase I (Mason and Church Streets) will start this spring. Phase II (Putnam Avenue & Sherwood Avenue) will go out to bid in a few weeks.
- Nonstructural: A draft report for the nonstructural evaluation for Strickland Brook, Cider Mill Brook, and Horseneck Brook is being developed. This report will provide the nonstructural recommendations and this is beneficial to consider, but it was noted that

this type of flood protection does not address emergency access and roadway flooding. It was noted that basement living spaces should be considered when evaluating nonstructural recommendations.

- **Strickland Brook:** Three alternatives are being evaluated for the diversion culvert alternative that would alleviate flooding within the Bible Street and Cos Cob Avenue area. Mr. Mead mentioned that in all fairness to this area, the Town was responsible for filling in the area adjacent to Strickland Brook to create the ballfield.
- **Binney Park Pond:** Dredging of Binney Park Pond is currently being designed and the permitting associated with the dredging through DEEP will take approximately a year. The proposed permit will include obtaining approval for annual maintenance of the sediment forbays at the northern end of the pond.
- **Cider Mill Brook:** The proposed culvert replacement under the railroad is listed as a priority on the CIP stormwater ranking. The FECB mentioned that this project should be reviewed with respect to the criteria for ranking and re-evaluated with respect to cost benefit.

There was a discussion regarding the timing and scheduling for the evaluation and implementation of the stormwater projects. Mr. Michel mentioned that the Engineering Department has 11 people and the DPW has 55-60 people. To accelerate projects, the DPW would need additional staff in addition to more funding. DPW will look at adding staff in order to facilitate DPW's ability to work on projects.

Byram River

Not much of note has occurred with the Byram River project. The Army Corps is still deciding and discussing the EIS, including the volume of traffic, historical bridges, historical houses, and gas stations/potential contamination.

The Army Corps was scheduled to complete a technical review of the economic model by the end of February. They are supposed to make a determination of whether an Environmental Assessment (EA) or Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) is required. It is expected that an EIS may be needed now that the replacement of the Route 1 bridges is being considered for inclusion in the recommended plan. If it is determined that an EIS is needed an additional 12 months would be added to the project schedule and this would require an extension from the Army Corps of Engineers. If the determination is that an EA is justified the draft report would be expected to be completed in May/June 2016 and the project will be complete in July 2017.

Fiscal Year 16/17 Budget

DPW presented a budget to the BET for the stormwater projects. A budget meeting will be held on Monday at 6:00pm at the Town Hall meeting room. A public hearing will be held on Monday at 7:00pm. A meeting will be held on February 29th to meet with the stormwater committee.

Old Business & New Business

There was no old or new business brought up.

A motion was made and seconded to adjourn the meeting.