Those attending: Edward Schmeltz, Aubrey Mead, Jr., Peter Finkbeiner

Town staff present: Amy Siebert, James Michel and Dana Arnold

The following summarizes the items discussed at the recent Flood & Erosion Control Board (the Board) meeting held at the Town Hall on Tuesday, February 14, 2017. 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 and the meeting minutes from the previous Board meeting on January 10, 2017 were approved with some slight changes.

**Byram River Study Update**

An update on the project status was provided. A meeting with the Army Corps of Engineers (ACOE) has been scheduled for Thursday, February 16, 2017.

The Army Corp of Engineers has sent another customer service survey to be completed by Town Staff.

Peter Finkbeiner suggested that the ACOE should investigate sediment removal near the Route 1 bridge over the Byram River as it may be constricting stormwater and could be a cost effective solution.

**Capital Projects Update**

Project updates were provided for the Church Street Drainage System Improvements, Strickland Brook Alternative Analysis, Old Greenwich Drainage System Improvements, Binney Park Pond Maintenance Dredging and Bank Restoration, and FEMA mapping revisions.

The construction documents for the Old Greenwich Drainage System Improvements have gone out to bid with construction scheduled to begin in summer of 2017. The Church Street Drainage project has progressed and will continue when weather allows. Work is continuing at the Old Greenwich Train Station. The Strickland Brook analysis is in study phase to make sure models are good. The Binney Park Pond dredging has gone out for bid.

James Michel met with the Western Connecticut Council of Governments (WestCOG) and the bridge roundabout project near Perrot Library in Old Greenwich. Mr. Michel requested to incorporate raising the bridge and the road with state funds to improve the ability for emergency vehicles to travel through this intersection. This may serve as an alternative to increasing the size of the railroad culverts (previously a top 10 project). WestCOG agreed that funding this with state
construction funds would be acceptable. The Board agreed that this was a good alternative because we could use state funds and it would still take care of the tidal backwash.

State News: The Route 1 bridge near Greenwich High School is on 2019 schedule.

Capital Budget

The Capital Projects recommended by the board that are listed in the 15 year CIP are: Arcadia, Brookside Drive, Cider Mill Railroad Culverts, Strickland Brook and Glenville Road Bridge.

New Business

Edward Schmeltz mentioned a memo from Denise Savageau, Director of Conservation, related to the erroneous statement that the FECB is in charge of the Community Rating System in the POCD. Amy Siebert confirmed that the updated version of POCD will be corrected.

Drainage on Palmer Hill Road was discussed relative to the homeowner on Apple Tree Lane who wanted the drainage funded because of flooding on Palmer Hill. The board discussed that there has been no evidence of this other than in a model. An old drain was replaced under Palmer Hill during a sewer project. A prior property owner upstream had a firewood business and large pieces of wood clogged the culvert. With that property owner no longer in business and the installation of a trash rack by DPW, the Highway Division has seen no overtopping and drains are no longer full of wood debris.

Flood Insurance Rate Maps for the Town

CDM Smith created maps comparing the FEMA 2013 map and CDM models. The CDM models show differences in the flood zone than the FEMA map. The board considered advising homeowners who are not in the FEMA flood zone but do fall under the flood zone on the CDM models that they may want to obtain flood insurance. The board requested that DPW draft a letter that would advise homeowners that they may potentially be in a flood zone. The draft letter will be prepared by the next meeting.

James Michel stated that he attended a FEMA informational meeting and supplied them with access to the CDM Studies. FEMA has requested all information with other municipalities to figure out the scope for updating the FEMA maps. They will be finalizing the scope within the next week or two. FEMA may accept our data instead of doing a new FEMA study, because the data provided is nearly equivalent to a LOMR request.

Old Business

The priority lists were refined to bring more clarity on how the projects will be addressed and the board has approved the refined lists with some minor adjustments. Once finalized the board asked that the lists be posted on the Town of Greenwich website.
Peter Finkbeiner asked for a determination on what will determine a quorum for the Flood and Erosion Control Board in light of recent information that the board is one of the few that does not require a quorum. The board was in agreement that past practice was 3 board members were required to hold a meeting and that practice will continue.

A motion was made and seconded to adjourn the meeting.