Those attending: Edward Schmeltz, Aubrey Mead, Jr., John Stankunas, Peter Finkbeiner, Robert Cenci

Town staff present: James Michel, Amy Siebert, Dana Arnold, Dawn Zimmerman and Cindy Baumann, CDM Smith

The following summarizes the items discussed at the recent Flood & Erosion Control Board (the Board) meeting held at the Town Hall on Tuesday, September 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. It was noted that Peter Finkbeiner is up for reassignment and he should talk to John Eddy on the RTM Appointments Committee. John Stankunas is also up for reassignment on September 26th.

The meeting minutes from the previous Board meeting on May 16, 2017 were approved.

Palmer Hill at Apple Tree

Dan Abaroa, P.E. provided a summary of the drainage issues in the Palmer Hill Road area at Apple Tree Lane. He proposed replacing the existing culvert with one that would satisfy the 25-year storm event. FECB Board members advised Mr. Abaroa that studies were completed to prioritize and rank all of the CIP projects. The Board suggested talking to his neighbors (especially those downstream) and mentioned that a study would be needed to show that the culvert replacement that he is recommending would not increase impacts downstream.

Byram River Study Update

It was reviewed that the nonstructural improvements resulted in the lowest benefit cost ratio (BCR), followed by the bridge replacement alternative. These are the only two alternatives that are currently under consideration by the Army Corps of Engineers. The proposed work associated with the Route 1 bridge replacements requires an Environmental Impact Study (EIS) and a NEPA scoping meeting with the public is being scheduled to discuss the EIS. A tentative date of October 26th has been selected for the Public Meeting.
Capital Projects Update

Project updates were provided for:

- Church Street Drainage System Improvements – this project is currently under construction with Phase II substantially completed within the next 2 months.

- Strickland Brook Alternative Analysis – CDM Smith is evaluating various alternatives and the DPW would like to have a public meeting after the first of the year.

- Sound Beach Avenue Drainage System Improvements – this project is currently under construction with work substantially complete on the school property and the contractor is moving onto Park Avenue.

- Additional Railroad culvert study in conjunction with the Sound Beach Avenue bridge replacement – this study is moving forward and certain aspects of the design are currently being re-evaluated based on input from the public.

The Board expressed concern regarding the budget and stormwater CIP projects being pushed out due to lack of funding.

New Business

No new business was discussed.

Old Business

No old business was discussed.

The next FECB meeting will be held on Tuesday, December 12, 2017 at 3:00 PM.

A motion was made and seconded to adjourn the meeting.