



The Town of Fenwick Island

800 Coastal Highway, Fenwick Island, DE 19944-4409

302-539-3011 ~ 302-539-1305 fax

www.fenwickisland.delaware.gov

INFRASTRUCTURE COMMITTEE MEETING

August 13, 2024 at 10:00 a.m.

Town Hall

MINUTES

Members Present: Jay Ryan, Tim Leahy, Susan Brennan, Larry Bortner, Richard Benn (Zoom), Tim Bergin (Zoom), Geri Verlaque (Zoom), Jon Miller (Zoom), Nuwan Seneviratne (Zoom), Jack Armstrong (Zoom)

Others Present: Natalie Magdeburger, Janice Bortner, Ann Riley (Zoom)

Staff Present: Lori Dabbondanza, Kathy Grab, Mike Locke

Flag salute and call to order at 10:02 am

1. Approval of prior minutes:

- The minutes from the July 9, 2024 meeting have been approved on a motion from Susan Brennan/Tim Leahy.

Motion passed unanimously.

2. Resiliency Working Group Update

- Tim Leahy reported that Ed Bishop who was the chair of the resiliency working group has stepped down.
- Tim Leahy provided more updates:
 - a. GIS data was delivered from AECOM yesterday and he and Lori Dabbondanza had the chance to look at the data they provided. That data was shared with Tim Leahy via Sharepoint. Going forward we will use Sharepoint to share files. Tim Leahy is proposing to create a town database to store, share, and update data.
 - b. Continuing to collect data on tides, bulkheads, winds, etc.
 - c. Preparing for the August 30 Resiliency workshop from 3:00 – 5:00 p.m. Zoom will be available for most of the workshop, if needed. Susan Brennan will share a flyer that is being created with Natalie and the rest of the committee members.

- d. Natalie Magdeburger encouraged the committee to nominate a new chair for the working group.
- e. Susan Brennan motioned to replace Ed Bishop as chair of the working group to Tim Leahy. Seconded by Larry Bortner.

Motion passed unanimously.

3. Summary of Task One Report from Straughan

- Tim Leahy provided a summary of the task one report from Straughan Environmental. He will be reviewing the town data and making recommendations on how to improve our data.
- Discussion regarding changing our naming standards so they align with industry standards. He recommends using the old name along with the new name to alleviate confusion.
- There is an existing spreadsheet at Town Hall that can be expanded upon.
- Straughan will begin walking the streets in town to gather data and would like a member of the public works to join them.
- Tim Leahy recommends expanding the survey to include stormwater information as well. We currently do not have a record of groundwater sources.
- Their first report was able to provide us with added information that we don't currently have.
- Tim Leahy will circulate the report.
- Natalie Magdeburger stated it is important to explain to the public why we are continuing to collect more data and what our plan is for this information. She suggests Tim Bergin share the information in a "non-engineer" way with the public.

4. Update on Resiliency: Information and Discussion Session hosted by Infrastructure Committee on Friday, August 30, 2024 3 - 5 p.m.

- Tim Bergin shared information about the session and reviewed what they plan to present during the session.
- Tim Bergin reviewed the BRIC grant process and noted the importance for everyone to understand that this isn't a quick process, and the work now will assist with the bigger picture once we receive the grant.
- He stated they wanted someone from DE Sea Grant to speak but due to the holiday weekend she was unable to do so.
- What are the elements that a professional engineer will need to perform this task for Fenwick Island. It is important that we are "speaking the same language" so we can use this information and share it with other towns more broadly. Is there a software package that is used up and down the coast?
- Jon Miller noted the importance of conveying to the public the importance of this project.

- Susan Brennan indicated fliers advertising the event will be posted soon. The Zoom meeting will be from 3 - 4:30 p.m., but the meeting is scheduled from 3 – 5 p.m. Informational posters will be placed around the room, there will be a speaker from Straughan available. They will also have a PowerPoint available soon for review and input in advance of the session.

5. Public Participation

- Natalie Magdeburger asked Jay Ryan if there has been any further data collection on the tides. Jay Ryan stated that the month of July was low. He is looking into ways of getting older data. Natalie Magdeburger suggested he should connect with Sea Grant as they also do a lot of research and will help with the research as well. Jay Ryan noted they are also looking at ways to gather historical wind data. We may need to look to Ocean City for that information.

6. New Business

- None

7. Old Business

- None

8. Next Meeting

- September 10, 2024 at 10 a.m.
(Due to Town Hall being reserved as a Delaware State Primary Election Polling Place, the Infrastructure Committee meeting has been moved to September 12, 2024 at 10:00 a.m.)

9. Adjournment

- Motion to adjourn at am on a Tim Leahy/Geri Verlaque Motion at 10:51 am

Motion passed unanimously.