



The Town of Fenwick Island

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INFRASTRUCTURE COMMITTEE MEETING

June 10 2025, at 10:00 a.m.

Town Hall

MINUTES

Members Present: Jay Ryan, Tim Leahy (Zoom), Geri Verlaque, Susan Brennan (Zoom), Tim Bergin (Zoom), Jack Armstrong (Zoom),

Others Present: Vincent Sanzone, Ann Riley (Zoom)

Staff Present: Kathy Grab

Flag salute and call to order at 10:03 a.m.

1. Approval of prior minutes from May 13, 2025

Motion to approve May 13, 2025 minutes on a Tim Leahy/Susan Brennan motion.

Motion passed unanimously.

2. Update From Tim Leahy Regarding Flood Resilience and Mitigation with Discussion.

- a. Planning for the August Meeting.

- A draft of an agenda is in progress and needs to be finalized.
- Speakers are nearly confirmed.
- Publicity needs to begin.

- b. Master Planning Efforts.

- Tim Leahy shared his spreadsheet of the Flood and Stormwater Resiliency Comprehensive Plan that he produced.
- The chart tracks key activities: public engagement, drainage improvements, regional studies, and beach replenishment are ongoing. Committee-led items are marked in blue; those to be led by Straughn in green.
- Tim Leahy provided a statement of work outlining key areas and they met with Larry Trout, awaiting cost estimates for a Master Engineering Plan with project designs to begin in late 2025.
- Work on resiliency funding and grants has not started.

- Next step: receive estimates from Larry Trout and begin contracting with Straughn.
- c. Farmington Street.
- Mike Locke and Public Works are ready to begin.
 - Tim Leahy reported the south side's existing Artesian pipe and crate made the sandbag berm plan unfeasible. A concrete flood wall was proposed as a simpler, staff-built alternative.
 - Jay Ryan asked about the size of the wall, and Tim Leahy stated 6" wide x 14 high. Jay Ryan asked about the type of footing and was advised by Tim Leahy using rebar to anchor it. Jay Ryan thought that the committee was working on a design that could be replicated on other streets. He was under the impression that the sandbag berm would be effective and economical and could be replicated elsewhere. Jay Ryan asked what the next step would be if this doesn't do the job. Jay Ryan stated he wanted to know what the goal is with Farmington Street. Tim Leahy stated that any solution during any regular high tide is prevented from going up the street.
 - Jay Ryan emphasized the importance of a replicable solution for other streets and potentially private property.
 - Geri Verlaque (on behalf of John Verlaque) supported Jay Ryan's stance and using Farmington as a test case.
 - Susan Brennan stated after visiting the site and taking measurements, the concrete wall appeared more practical than the original sandbag concept, which may not be suitable for this location. Further evaluation is needed. Jay Ryan agreed.
 - Tim Leahy noted the alternative is adding more riprap and a berm water-side of the traffic barrier.
 - Geri asked about testing berms elsewhere. Tim Leahy suggested Georgetown Street as a possible location.
 - Jay reiterated berms are cost-effective and easier to promote to residents.
 - Tim Bergin agreed, suggesting the committee revisit the berm and riprap option.
 - Tim Leahy advised that he and Susan Brennan will go back and meet with Mike Locke and to proceed with the original berm/riprap plan.

Susan Brennan left at 10:29 a.m.

- Vince Sanzone asked about the specifics of the wall and advised that it wouldn't be flexible for all situations.

3. Update on Infrastructure Committee's Presentation Slated for Thursday August 21, 2025.
 - a. Agenda is in the draft stage with two speakers.
 - Geri Verlaque asked about publicity. Tim Leahy will send her the event info to create flyers for the website, Facebook, and local stores.
4. Road Paving and Maintenance Update.
 - a. Paving project is complete.
 - Minor driveway-end flooding reported due to raised roads.
 - b. Maintenance.
 - No updates at this time.
5. Old Business.
 - a. None.
6. New Business.
 - a. None
7. Public Participation.
 - a. Ann Riley asked about the Town Council's resiliency funding discussion, which was tabled. She emphasized keeping momentum. Tim Leahy noted Susan Brennan would need to bring it back to Council.
 - b. Ann Riley supported returning to the original berm plan at Farmington Street if it meets engineering standards. She advised on relying on Straughn for even small things as well.
 - c. Ann Riley proposed promoting the August meeting with a sign on a boat traveling through the canals to raise awareness.
8. Date of Next Meeting.
 - a. July 8, 2025 at 10:00 A.M.
9. Adjournment.

Motion to adjourn at 10:44 a.m. on a Geri Verlaque/Jay Ryan motion.

Motion passed unanimously.