



The Town of Fenwick Island

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INFRASTRUCTURE COMMITTEE MEETING

April 14, 2026, at 10:00 a.m.

Town Hall

MINUTES

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

Others Present: Michael (Zoom), Ann Riley (Zoom)

Staff Present: Kathy Grab

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

1. Approval of prior minutes from March 24, 2026.

Motion: Approve Minutes from March 24, 2026.

Moved by: Geri Verlaque

Seconded by: Vicki Carmean

Motion Carried Unanimously.

2. Update from Straughan

- a. Tim Leahy Advised the committee is in a pause phase, no new deliverables.

- Committee to review and prioritize projects before next steps.
- Discussion needed to identify top priority projects.
- Additional information forthcoming on methodology used to determine target elevation levels, including reference to the Delaware Climate Action Plan.

3. Discussion of Fenwick Island Resiliency and Flood Mitigation Presentation Friday, May 29, 2026, 1:00 PM Town Hall and via Zoom

- a. Tim Leahy sent a draft of the PowerPoint he created based on the prior meeting and shared it.

- The purpose of the May presentation is to educate the community, share updates, gather feedback, and promote the August meeting.
- Define flooding as a public safety issue and highlight the increasing flood frequency.
- Outline current strategy (barriers and drainage on public and private properties), including potential future regulations.
- Provide background on Town efforts, grants, and regional partnerships.

- Straughan Environmental will present and will include maps of 21 focus areas and a toolkit of solutions (stormwater management, living shorelines, dunes/levees). Real-world examples to be presented.
- Anticipate 1–2 projects per year over the next 2–3 years.
- Prioritizing based on properties impacted, location, type, and evacuation routes.
- Emphasize overall Town benefit and safety.
- Address anticipated concerns regarding project selection.
- Costs and needs will vary by property.
- Most owners will need to implement some level of mitigation.
- Straughan developing a “toolbox” of options; guidance will be provided.
- A break during the presentation was suggested.
- It was recommended to enlarge the charts to display on the easels.
- Tim Leahy will refine the draft with Committee suggestions for the meeting on the 28th. He will also look for more photos.

b. Marketing

- Susan Brennan, Vicki Carmean, Ann Riley, and Natalie Magdeburger are coordinating the marketing aspect.
- Updates to be provided at the next meeting.

4. Old Business

a. None.

5. New Business

a. MARACOOS Presentation.

- A grant opportunity that may provide tide gauge and/or camera for data collection for accurate, real-time data.
- Minimal cost to the Town (Wi-Fi).
- Tim Bergin suggests collecting data from nearby areas as well.
- Susan Brennan will review details and bring to Council.

Motion: Infrastructure Committee take the possibility of engaging with MARACOOS.

Moved by: Susan Brennan

Seconded by: Tim Leahy

Motion Carried Unanimously.

b. WRDA & Federal Engagement.

- Tim Leahy advised the meeting planned with Senator Lisa Blunt Rochester was cancelled.
- Natalie Magdeburger had a separate meeting with Senator Lisa Blunt Rochester via Zoom, WRDA and potential U.S. Army Corps of Engineers involvement discussed (Seal Island project).

- The Senator was invited down to Fenwick Island for a boat tour.

6. Public Participation

- a. None.

7. Date of Next Meeting

- a. April 28, 2026, at 10:00 a.m.
b. May 12, 2026, at 10:00 a.m.
c. May 19, 2026, at 10:00 a.m.

8. Adjournment

Motion: Adjourn at 10:40 a.m.

Moved by: Vicki Carmean

Seconded by: Tim Bergin

Motion Carried Unanimously.