

## Duxbury Seawall Committee Minutes – September 21, 2021

TOWN CLERK

2021 NOV 30 PM 1:00

Present: DSWC Members: Alicia Babcock, Steve Callahan, Arthur Haley, Candace Martin, Don Norris, Mary Shiebler. BOS Liaison: Ted Flynn. Valerie Massard-Town Planner

DUXBURY, MASS.

1. The meeting was called to order at 6:03 PM.  
The Zoom Preamble was read by Alicia.

2. The minutes of 08/12/21 meeting were approved as presented.

### 3. OLD BUSINESS

- 3.1 *Update on FEMA Reimbursement*-Alicia reported she had email update from Chris Spilman. Nancy O'Connor and Chris have been finalizing the reimbursement package for submission to MEMA. He expects it to be completed by end of this week or early next week. MEMA will review and if accepted they will send on to FEMA. Chris feels very confident that if it passes MEMA then there is a strong chance that FEMA will pay the full claimed amount of \$866,626.03. He will reach out to John Adams as the tax rate will be set 10/01/21. There was discussion on impact to rate which would include betterments, and whether betterment would be set at higher rate. Members of committee had recalled a conversation with Mr. Adams around a 12/1/21 date.
- 3.2 *Review Seawall Replacement Plan Option*- Candy received an email from Pete Buttkus stating he would review but has been tied up with Budget. No response from Rene Read. Committee discussion that this plan needs to move forward to get on agendas for BOS, Fin Com and Fiscal Advisory as a high priority Capital Project. It has been 10 years since Woods Hole studies from 2010-2012 documented in critical condition. We need to be proactive to secure properties and prevent damage to Duxbury Bay. Despite mild winters over the last two years, the Bay Ave area sustained severe wall damage which has created an urgent situation
- 3.3 *DSWC Charge*- Ted approved forwarding the redraft of Committee charge to BOS.
- 3.4 *Beach Nourishment and Easement*- New easement forms were sent to the 65 oceanfront residents. Valerie reported that those who signed the original easement can have it returned to them if they request it from the Town. Second revision copy should be signed and returned to Town Planner office. Candy spoke with Nancy O'Connor (Executive Asst. to Town Mgr.) She is a Notary and is willing to assist local efforts to get forms notarized either by scheduling a time to come to the beach neighborhood or for people to go to her office at Town Hall. Local banks also have notaries. Val noted that Town will not release names of who has/has not signed easements. Committee will work with all 65 to ensure that easements get signed. Val also explained that we can apply for the nourishment permits (though difficult) without all signed easements. Until we have all signed, we will not be issued permits. Signed easements are in a file at Town Planning department but NOT recorded til end of permitting process.  
Val reported that the final Wood's Hole report was mailed along with easement plans. Once initial beach nourishment is completed, the nourishment would need to be topped off every 5 years. The final report to MEPA was submitted and MEPA has requested more shoreline impact information. There will be more drilling down with State and local officials as project moves forward.  
Nothing to report on a replacement for the open position of Duxbury Town Planner. Job description is being rewritten. Val will still work with Duxbury in a limited capacity to coordinate with Marshfield on nourishment project.

#### 4. NEW BUSINESS

4.1.1 *Committee Membership*- Nothing to report.

4.1.2 *Grant Investigation*- Steve met with our State Representative Josh Cutler regarding State grants and Duxbury seawall funding. Steve relayed our thanks for his support and assistance in obtaining funding for phase I of seawall. Steve explained that we need his continued support and assistance in obtaining ongoing funding. Josh explained there is plenty of money available but Duxbury (the Town) must be the entity that applies. Duxbury did not apply. Forms are easy to complete and do not require a grant writer. The nourishment project must be funded **prior** to funding/constructing new wall. Marshfield and Duxbury are applying for permitting together.

Don reported there are no grants for grant writers. Marshfield submitted a Citizen's Petition for \$25,000 for part time grant writer. This was approved and the expense paid for itself in the amount of grants Marshfield obtained. DSWC supports submitting a Citizen's Petition for grant writer OPEN DISCUSSION- Nothing to report.

#### 5. ADJOURNMENT-The meeting was adjourned at 7:00PM.

#### ACTION ITEMS

3.1 Candy will follow up with John regarding date setting/tax rates/betterments and how follow up will proceed if/when FEMA responds positively to our claim. Alicia will forward Chris Spilman reply to Candy.

3.2 Ted will review plan with Rene. Ted agreed that DSWC should send plan "As is" to FinCom, Fiscal Advisory and BOS. Candy will forward to groups.

3.3 Alicia to send new Committee charge to BOS for agenda.

3.4 Alicia to send reminder to neighborhoods regarding original easement return request and availability of Notary at Town Offices. Mary will coordinate with Nancy on local set up for notary signing easement.

4.1.2 Alicia will follow up with Chris Spilman about a cost proposal for writing grants (which would not be limited to seawall items).