

TOWN CLERK  
2019 FEB 25 AM 10:25  
DUXBURY, MASS.

Duxbury Seawall Committee Minutes- January 17, 2019

In Attendance: Alicia Babcock, Candace Martin, Don Norris, Steve Callahan, Paul Brogna, Dimitri Theodossiou (via phone)

1. Call to Order: Meeting was called to order at 6:08 PM in the Ellison Room, Duxbury Senior Center.
2. Town Manager Update-
  - a. Rene Read briefed on his meeting with FEMA on January 14, 2019. Options included the wall (1) like it was before and (2) upgraded design. He also discussed the separate but related revetment costs.
  - b. He discussed the temporary borrowing costs with possible funding sources.
  - c. He briefed on his betterment plan- residences within 300' of the seawall.
  - d. Provided/discussed handout "Funding the Sea Wall", a power point presentation made by John Q. Adams to the Board of Selectmen at their January 14, 2019 meeting. This document to be used at the Annual Town Meeting as well.
  - e. Briefed on the delay with the soil borings because the contractor is behind schedule and now the winter weather conditions.
  - f. Discussed the proposed betterments and the affected properties within 300' of the seawall. He continues to review this for possible improvements. Chapter 80 of the General Laws states that betterments must provide a betterment to the property values.
  - g. Beach ownership- no change. Still open item.
3. Open Forum
  - a. Betterments- Discussion on the \$16/family (average) if betterments were to be implemented town wide versus the plan to assess the betterments exclusively to the Gurnet Road residents.
  - b. Abatement discussion from the recently mailed real estate tax bills.
  - c. Concerns on flooding on the bay side of Gurnet Road.
4. Dimitri signed off at 7:25 PM.
5. Minutes- Reviewed and approved minutes of the November 28, 2018 meeting (5-0-0).
6. Next Meeting- February 6, 2019 at 7:00 PM.
7. Meeting adjourned at 7:33 PM.



Action Items from 17Jan19:

1. Funding – Option 1 (betterment for revetment) noted impact to average taxpayers at \$16.58. Is this option within the levy limit? (R. Read)
2. Implementation Plan for all phases of the seawall replacement to be developed. Committee reviewed proposed phasing plan at the October meeting. Efforts will need to be coordinated with Town for grant applications/design estimates. (R. Read)
3. Seawall Committee to be notified of meetings to discuss Seawall funding with Finance/FAC. (R. Read)
4. Grants - need to research grant opportunities (R. Read/Town Planning Staff)
  - a. Revetment Hazard Mitigation measures
  - b. Next phase of seawall construction
  - c. Evaluation of flooding of area roadways - New FEMA flood maps shows bay area is now a VE zone. Gurnet Road floods at every astronomical high tide. Horseshoe area now floods since Beach Reservation raised parking lot and roadway.
  - d. Drainage at Hummock Lane – area residents are not able to access homes for days when area floods.
  - e. Restoration of dunes at Plymouth Ave (allowed under Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act for property owners).
  - f. Grant Writer - Suggestion to request grant for a part-time grant writer is recommended by the Seawall Committee. (Open from previous meetings)
5. Betterments were proposed for properties within 300' of the seawall. Request was made to assess betterments for all residents. Need to research the betterments that were previously assessed. Did this apply to all residents in the neighborhood? (R. Read)
6. Easements - Cover Letter for easements was drafted by Town Council. Additional questions/comments will be forwarded. (C. Martin to R. Read).
7. Permit – update on next steps for review and approval. (Amory)
8. Construction – proposed to start in June. Need estimate of construction duration. (Amory)
9. Boring Tests have not been scheduled and will need to be completed as soon as possible (especially to avoid busy spring season). Notice to be sent to Committee when dates have been confirmed. (Amory)
10. Beach Ownership – discussed at November meeting. Left as open issue that may be needed to address for annual Town Meeting.
11. Next Meeting will be February 6th. Committee members to forward availability to attend these dates. (A. Babcock to confirm with R. Read).