



Minutes of Flood & Erosion Protection Committee
Tuesday, September 20, 2011
7 PM

1. Roll Call: Here: Robin Walton; Sue Lopes; Ric Murray (alt); Charles Gardner. Absent with no notice: Darrel Adams; Chris Heid; Bill Gardner.

Sue introduced and welcomed James Stewart an attorney from Kotz Sangster of Detroit. She had invited him to observe our meeting. Jim is interested in working for the City on FEP issues. Sue will be meeting with him to discuss.

2. Approval of:
 - A. Minutes of August 16, 2011 Motion by Ric, second by Robin
 - B. Approval of Consent Agenda Motion by Robin, second by Charles

3. Public Hearings: None this month

4. Guest Speaker: None this month

5. Reports on identified issues:

- A. Administers report See submitted report below
 1. Memo C-1 Pumps repaired/replaced
 2. Memo C-3 concrete dike repairs
 3. Memo C-4 earthen dike repairs
 4. Memo C-5 dredging;
 5. Venice Canal Gates; written procedure pending
 6. Earthen Dike specifications by DPW
 7. Earthen Dike research (Doug Barry issue) City approved
 8. Army Corp of Engineers dike walk written report status

Lakeside Drain Project

- Received Drain Commission assessments on Lakeside Drain Project
 - A 2.1 million dollar project
 - \$59,000/yr. on the City of Luna Pier
 - 1/3 of residents will see assessment on their winter property taxes
 - Effects the majority of the South side of Luna Pier (200 properties)
 - A LaPointe Drain project is to follow

DPW:

- DPW is currently working on public and private property removing trees. As of 9-1-11 on Harbour Club property
- Pest control is an ongoing issue, is currently being addressed in Southwest area.
 - Expansion of these projects will come from Flood Protection fund

FEMA/CRS flood insurance audit

- Prepared for and Participated in the CRS/FEMA, insurance discount audit
- Appears our discount (10% prox) is safe as we finish our outreach in the Newsletter
- Future discount opportunity if FEMA/CRS gives credit for Dike
 - Potential future savings and what FEP could do to help:
 - Establish maintenance procedures
 - Coordinate Emergency Planning policies
 - Including Venice Canal Gates; written procedure pending

Follow-up and other Issues

- Doug Berry Property
 - Two attempts to receive written opinion by the USACOE was unsuccessful
 - City Council approved his submitted design
- Met with Jack Knowles
 - Authorized the endangered species study for USDA loan
 - Agreed to speak weekly on all issues
- Memo C-1 Pumps repaired/replaced, (see above)
- Memo C-3 concrete dike repairs (See Mayors report)
- Memo C-4 earthen dike repairs (See Mayors report)
- Memo C-5 dredging; No report
- Earthen Dike specifications by DPW No Report

B. DBA report: Jack Knowles See written report below.

1. USDA loan status – protected mussels status - City approved use of \$5500 for study; preliminary results: NO Northern Riffleshell Mussel here.
2. Pump progress

Jack reported that he called his contact person at the USDA to clarify what yet needs to be done so funds could be released and was told that there are no more funds for 2011 and they do not know if there will be any funds allocated for 2012. Due to this we can not move forward with pump construction unless we use the funds the City has collected thru taxes.

Flood Protection System Plan Cost: \$2200



Dietrich, Bailey and Associates, P.C.
107 South Main Street, Plymouth, Michigan 48170

Civil Engineering

Land Planning

Municipal Engineering

Landscape Architecture

Land Surveying

Tel. 734 455 3111

Fax 734 455 3127

www.dbapc.com

email dba@dbapc.com

Flood and Erosion Protection Committee Report

September 20, 2011

1. USDA LOAN APPLICATION – Pump Station Rehab & Dike Repairs

The City Administrator gave permission to commence the mussel study work. This work has commenced and is scheduled to be completed by the end of this month. The preliminary findings did not include any evidence of the subject Northern Riffleshell Mussel, but apparently there were other types of mussels found, none of which appear to be an issue.

The receipt of this study by USDA should complete the application and they will have everything they need to make their decision.

As a reminder, no work has commenced on the plans and specifications for the dike repair work, as the immediate focus was to get the pump station project plans completed so that work could be done yet this year. That has been accomplished and once the USDA loan application is decided, we can proceed with the bidding process.

The dike repairs are unlikely to happen before the spring of 2012. Work cannot begin on the engineering plans until the loan commitment is resolved.

2. FLOOD PROTECTION SYSTEM PLAN

At the work session we discussed SDA preparing a plan of the Flood Protection System, generally showing where the different components of the system are.....earth dike, concrete wall, concrete cylinders, wave deflectors, canal gate, steel sheet wall, pump stations, and whatever other parts there may be. The locations of these would be shown and appropriate notes included.

We would use the existing base plan for the City and graphically add this information to it. We estimate the fee to complete this plan would be approximately \$2200.

2. VENICE CANALS

As noted at the last meeting, we are preparing a proposal for a study on the canal system that would bring together and summarize all known prior work and studies that have been done on the canal system, supplement that with updated information, proposed improvements, costs and other data to use as a basis to possibly proceed with plans and certainly to investigate possible funding opportunities in a logical, well thought out manner. We had hoped to have this completed by this time, but it is still in the works.

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C. Vice Chair Report: Chris Heid – Absent, no report

D. Secretary Report: Open position; need to elect No one interested, Sue will continue as temporary secretary

E. Venice Canal sub committee report: Darrell Adams – Absent, no report

F. Chair Report: Sue Lopes Sue covered topics below

1. Looking for 1 member and 1 alternate
2. Held Workshop last week
3. Will call attorneys for their exp and costs and report at next meeting. Email contact with Jim Stewart, attorney from Detroit referred by Mike Briskey.
4. Have meeting and dike walk set up for this Thurs with the MDEQ and US COE; will provide them with questions that were developed at our workshop
5. Riprap covered with sand/dredging material, not so high or does not go out so far. Will be asking the MDEQ on their visit.

6. Projects to start with FEP money – will discuss after MDEQ visits and gives us feedback on our ideas and questions.

6. New Business

1. Venice Canal draft report from Greg Stewart and Randy Whipple – discuss & assist Darrell Adams sub committee
Agreed to hold till next meeting since Darrell absent
2. Read and review written reports from Mayor and Administrator on our prior requests – Sue read; see copies below.
3. Review questions for DEQ and COE – Sue read the questions she had drafted; some changes and additions were suggested by Jack Knowles and others. Sue agreed to revise and have ready for the meeting on 9-22-11

7. Community Input: Meeting open to the public. (Limit comments to 2 minutes per person).

Bee stated that Venice Canal is always the last one to get any funding and she wants to know where the funding of FEP will be spend. Greg advised her to come in to see him to discuss as FEP does not have that info.

Stacy Grimes is interested in joining the committee, Sue will meet with him to discuss. Stacy suggest we use dredged sand to support the wall, less costly than GeoTubes or rip rap.

Greg reported that Linda did send in a written letter of resignation from FEP.

8. Committee Action Needed:

- A. Determine if we will hold meetings in Nov and Dec 2011 – Sue made the motion to cancel Nov/Dec mtgs and use time to do research or schedule workshops. Second by Ric
- B. Elect Secretary – will hold and move to next meeting, no one interested at this time.
- C. Consider email request from Cheryl Krakow in regards to being on committee and her time restraints. Discussion was to try to get someone who can be available for all meetings. Sue will let her know.

9. Committee Input & Information:
A.

10.Future Meeting Dates: Posted on City Web Site Calendar. Next meeting on Tuesday, October 18th at 7 PM.

11.Meeting Adjourned: Time 8.45 pm



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From The Desk of Mayor Mary A. Liske

City of Luna Pier, Michigan

4357 Buckeye Street
P.O. Box 375
Luna Pier, Michigan 48157
734-848-6495 x201

mliske@cityoflunapier.com
maryliske.com

Mayor

Mary A. Liske

City Administrator

Gregory Stewart

City Council

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Randy Whipple

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Chris Renius

August 20, 2011

TO: Flood Erosion Committee

RE Request and Recommendation to:
Obtain Dredging Permits

It is understandable that the FEP committee wants to keep up to date on dredging permits. Taking into consideration that the sand dredged from the harbor and navigational channel could be used for beach nourishment and aid in the future plans to secure the exposed tie backs on the dike system. Also that receiving permits can be a lengthy process it would be in the best interest of the City to start the process early. It must be considered that if the permits are received and preparations and plans are not in order then the permits could expire. It is important to finalize a plan of how the nourishment will be used to protect the dike walls. The Council requests that during the time permits are being prepared that the FEP Committee work with the City Engineers and the public to obtain complete consensus on a solution.

Permits will be initiated for the harbor and navigational channel alone at this time. The City would be glad to initiate permits for Muddy Creek and Venice Canals, but there is nothing in the planning stages at this time. As in the past for Muddy Creek it was property owners who funded the dredging as it was for their pleasure and not safety that it was dredged. The Council recommends that interested property owners from these areas form committees to discuss specific plans. The City will assist Venice Canals by funding the retainer of our City Engineers to work through this complicated process.

Sincerely,

Mary A. Liske
Mayor





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August 20, 2011

TO: Flood and Erosion Committee

RE: Request and Recommendation to:
Remove large trees from earthen dike
Securing funding

The DPW of the City has spent a great deal of effort attending to smaller trees and brush on the public portion of the earthen dike. Cost of tree removal for large trees has been included in the USDA loan that the City is in the process of securing. City Council must decide if they wish to pay for this project out of the \$490,000 on hand in shoreline protection funds or continue to have it included in the work scheduled upon approval of the USDA loan.

It would certainly be best practice to determine the size and width of trees in advance so the process can be expedited once a decision is made. For this reason Council has decided that it would be prudent to hire a tree company to set the specs, for this project in preparation for the loan approval.

Concerning the private area of the earthen dike it must be determined whether we have continued easement and if sufficient ordinances are in place to empower the City to act. This issue seems to be more complicated and it is recommended that the FEP committee along with a specialized Attorney work together to make a recommendation to Council before action is taken to remove structures, trees and brush from private areas of the earthen dike.

Sincerely,

Mary A. Liske
Mayor





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August 20, 2011

TO: Flood and Erosion Committee

RE: Request and Recommendation to:

Repair concrete dike system cylinders and walkway
Secure funding

It is agreed that the cylinders are eroding and in need of repair. In considering how to proceed we must take into account that the City is applying for a USDA grant for a total amount of \$915,000 and the repairs for concrete are included in this loan. There is a fund balance of \$449,000 approximately at this time for flood protection projects from monies collected from the mileage. All parties have agreed that replacement of the pumps are of utmost priority, so if the USDA loan were to fall through the mileage money would be necessary to purchase and install those pumps, at a cost of \$301,000 plus. Council has considered whether to take the money from our current reserve or await approval of the loan.

It is the decision of Council to wait until the loan is approved or denied to take further action on the repair of the concrete dike system as it seems most sensible to assure that we can fund the pumps in any case.

Sincerely,

Mary A. Liske
Mayor





September 20, 2011

TO: Luna Pier Mayor, Mary Liske
Luna Pier Administrator, Greg Stewart
Luna Pier Council Members

RE: USDA loan issue of riffle mussel survey

During our workshop on September 15th we discussed the riffle mussel issue and we support the City's action in approving the mussel survey and spending the \$5500 on this project.

Thank you for going ahead and authorizing this survey so we can get our pumps in place this fall!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "S. Lopes", followed by a horizontal line.

Susan S. Lopes, Chair
Chris Heid, Vice
Bill Gardner
Charles Gardner
Ric Murray (alternate)