

Plainfield Flood Recovery Grants Work Group Meeting Notes November 4, 2024

In attendance: Karen Hatcher, Arion Thiboumery, Karl Bissex, Gary Smith, Michael Billingsley, Josh Pitts, Celina Barton

Absent: Michael Zahner, Denise Wheeler

Village Expansion Engineering- Arion

- Preliminary engineering at Village Expansion project needed for road approaches. Two roads need to work to avoid feeling like a cul-de-sac. Wetland delineation is done. Need to look at storm water run off. Preliminary RFP for engineering services drafted by Sandy (architect)
- Need to get RFP out asap.
- \$35-40k can be raised through VHCB and/or VCF for engineering
- Planning grants, can the town be the entity to receive the money for grants.
- Karl thinks that's a good idea.
- Funds should be in hand before the RFP goes out
- RFP Point Person will be Arion, no town administrative tasks

Question, can we include the road, water/wastewater infrastructure to our FEMA PA application?

- **Action step: Gary will schedule a meeting with Olivia at The Integrity Group to discuss best way to accomplish this**
- Another question for TIG: Arion- does the sewer manhole and/or the Heartbreak need to come down sooner than later? ICC costs (increased cost of compliance).

Michael B: (related item) Buyouts- May 15th deadline HMGP to make decisions

Also, he had meeting with a VEM rep at Saturday meeting at UVM event where he learned that the Great Brook Scoping Study has been moved into high priority group of projects

FHWA Brook Road/Mill Street- Josh

Mill Street Bridge- Per J. McDonald, they will finish up the repair on Wednesday this week. Water/sewer lines are set up just for the winter.

Temporary slab one lane- Bridge 24, first brook road crossing south of Fowler and Brook, to accommodate a renter living on property and fixing up the house there.

FHWA: Michael Z will look into the next steps for the non-emergency municipal assistance paperwork for the FHWA grant. Josh will continue to work with Ross on the road mapping for the emergency repairs.

EWP Grant - Karen

- Result of information call- November 8th site visits
- Charlie Cogbill is our co-lead
- George Springston will join the site visits
- Karen has outreached to several landowners who received property abatements to see if they are interested. Also posted on FPF and FB page
- Currently 8 interested, waiting to hear back from others
- Karen will send the property list to Ally at USDA, also to George, Charle and Josh before the site visits.

Debris Removal- Karen

- Conversation with Peter Young- Peter will work on removal of debris from the Heartbreak location
- **Action Steps:**
 - Arion will reach out regarding options for removal of debris on private property
 - Karen will reach out to Liz re: PACT money for debris removal reimbursement at Owen and Janes or Joanne Swzed.

FEMA PA Status- Gary

- Update re: Scoping meeting schedule: 18th and 19th Chris Scarlett from the Integrity Group will be here. Michael Bingham needs to be available to go out with him
- Roger Rush – FEMA manager & team will hold a scoping mtng. 11/20.
- **Action Step: Karen will help with organizing the meeting on 11/20- who's coming, how long and what they want to do**
- Work process- Josh and Gary- DI Inventory integrated with town accounting system, highway system. Opportunity to have TIG convert to PA application
- Cybersecurity contact - Michael B to Josh
- Pictures of damages and repairs- Michael B, Bram, Peter Young
- Celina- offers of help for data from college students

Grants Webpage- Karen

- KH shared website link to group for review prior to going public
- Karen will finalize links with Bob Fancher
- Arion will email Bob Fancher about restructuring the page

Other Follow-up items

Batchelder Dam: Michael B. reported that Michele Braun from Friends of the Winooski is not available for presentation at the 11/21 Hazard Mitigation committee meeting. She wants us to apply for FEMA funds 2023 to remove the Dam. We aren't ready to do this and don't know this is what the town wants to do. Waiting on the river and dam study exploring options.

Odds and Ends

- Mass Design group - Celina offered that they could provide planning resources and funding. She will set up a meeting.
- Arion to MB- \$5K planning commission funds to do GIS to look at buyout properties
- Foot bridges able to be on buyout properties? Arion will check.