

September 8, 2014 – OAKLAND FLOOD COMMISSION MEETING

Lew Levy, chairman opened the meeting at 7:40 p.m. He discussed the status of the Community Rating System and a meeting with FEMA and the need for residents to have elevation certificates. The cost to residents could be \$700. or possibly more. If this becomes an issue it might be possible to obtain the services of one company at a lower cost to each affected home owner. The proposed new flood maps are available for review by towns and the public. These are based on overhead photos and show base flood elevations which show the BFE has dropped. The towns reviewing the maps will be able to give their input and questions on any problems they might see. Lew said he made arrangements with Nick Agnoli for people to contact him for information and comparison of old and new maps.

Roy Bauberger advised that the "No Wake" signs are in place and Ted agreed that he had seen evidence that they do work but once boater is beyond that is another question. The Trout Unlimited project will most likely not take place until next year as engineering and survey necessary before work can begin. Boswell will put in a bid package. Roy further advised that the County is very interested in the TU project as well as DEP/FEMA. Additional grant money will be needed and the town is being asked to put money into the budget each year. At present there is \$100,000. Grant money and the additional money that was put into the budget by the Council. This will need to be done yearly to keep the TU project going. Steve Farley advised that the river bank project behind his house has been worked on with additional rock put in place and reseeding done.

Dot O'Connor advised that she has been asked to return to the Council Meeting on Wednesday to repeat her speech about what has been going on with work by the Flood Commission and what has been done and what is planned for the future. The last meeting of the Council was not televised and the Mayor and Council thought everyone should hear what Dot had reported.

Gina Steele reported that she is continuing work on the Commission website and could use some help. She further reported that she is working on records of flooding at her own home. People in the flood zones should keep good records for any possible claims. She is presently in process of getting an Elevation Certificate for her home and indicated that there is a wide variety of costs for the Certificates.

Councilman Pat Pignatelli asked some questions as to where we are on the CRS project which is about two thirds of the way to completion. FEMA must come back before the application can be completed. NFIP rules change. One of the requirements is that property owners must have the Elevation Certificates. The buyout of properties on Roosevelt has still not been completed. FEMA has still not closed out payment from Hurricane Irene.

There were several members of the public at the meeting and one person who lives on Riverside Drive had questions about doing renovations on the existing home. There was a question and answer period in an attempt to help this individual. Other questions about flood insurance and the proposed increases were addressed.

Eric Kumala, council man was also present at the meeting. He suggested that it was important to get information out to the public. He suggested that there might be some two minute informational segments added to the website or to channel 77 because there are constant rule changes relating to FEMA and flood insurance.

Respectfully,

Lois Smid, secretary

PRESENT AT THE MEETING:

Lew Levy, Chairman, Tony Smid, Dot O'Connor, Ted O'Grady, Gina Steele

Absent: Mayor Linda Schwager and Councilman Chris Visconti

ALSO PRESENT: Councilmen Pat Pignatelli and Eric Kumala

MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC PRESENT:

Andrea Lewis, Cindy Kietes, Kathy Michelli, Bill Wolford

