



City of La Crosse, Wisconsin

City Hall
400 La Crosse Street
La Crosse, WI 54601

Meeting Minutes

Floodplain Advisory Committee

Wednesday, October 4, 2017

5:15 PM

3rd Floor Conference Room

Call to Order

Richmond called the meeting to order at 5:14 pm.

Roll Call

Present: 6 - Richard Becker, Andrea Richmond, Scott Neumeister, Barb Janssen, Gary Padesky, Bill Bosshard

Absent: 1 - Niki Paisley

Approval of Minutes

Padesky made a motion, Becker seconded, to approve the minutes. The motion carried by a voice vote.

Agenda Items:

- 1 [17-1428](#) Review Floodplain Relief Program Grant Application - Scott Rowe, 1627 North Salem Rd

Attachments: [LOMR-F](#)

Rowe submitted a letter of map change; included personal labor for which he didn't have receipt, but had already maxed out grant amount.

Bosshard made a motion, Becker seconded, to approve this application. The motion carried by voice vote.

- 2 [17-1270](#) Resolution authorizing the Engineering Department to retain a licensed land surveyor to acquire elevation data on specific floodplain structures and appropriation of funds.

Attachments: [Resolution](#)

[Dir. Finance Ltr 10-5-17](#)

Surveyor will wrap up current round soon; had 412 and added 20 more. Richmond asked if garages could be included. Kerns then offered to negotiate for a cheaper rate for garages; the next round would probably include 20-25 garages.

Padesky made a motion, Janssen seconded, to approve this resolution. Padesky amended the motion, Becker seconded, to include garages in the survey and to negotiate a lower rate for garages, if possible. The motion and amendment carried by a voice vote.

3 [17-1233](#) Ebner Coulee Floodway FIRM Remapping

Attachments: [DNR Response to SEH DEC 2017](#)
[Phase 2 Memo DEC 2017 Draft](#)
[SEH Letter to DNR DEC 2017](#)
[Technical Report AUG 2017 Draft](#)
[Fact Sheet OCT 2017](#)
[Slideshow OCT 2017](#)

Brad Woznak walked through info sheet. The study uses regional regression equation developed by USGS and acknowledged by the DNR elsewhere. In order to change floodplain, City would need to: supply stream and rain gauge data (Weather Service rain gauge is usable), compare study to others in order to validate findings, and prove fault in DNR's existing rainfall runoff study. That process could take at least two years. Attendee asked if pursuing this was a waste of money, since DNR may not accept findings. Bosshart was undeterred. Becker brought up how the 1991 Ebner Coulee Study reduced the number of structures in the floodplain from 537 to 195. Neumeister encouraged a citywide approach; there is a request in progress to the Army Corps of Engineers to ammend the floodplain citywide. Richmond mentioned importance of having State legislators at these meetings. Kerns shared some floodplain legislation going through congress. The July storm was likely close to a 100-year flood. Fannie Mae and Freddy Mac won't sell mortgages to structures in the floodplain that are self-insured. Study didn't cover what acceptable mitigation can be used, but could do certified levees or walls. Jansen asked Engineering to work with consultant to develop options going forward. Lenz suggested asking for a formal response (i.e. Letter of Map Revision) to get some direction on what additional information the City needs to supply.

Next Meeting Date / Agenda Items**Adjournment**

**Padesky made a motion, Becker seconded, to adjourn this meeting at 6:47 pm.
The motion carried by a voice vote.**

Notice is further given that members of other governmental bodies may be present at the above scheduled meeting to gather information about a subject over which they have decision-making responsibility.

NOTICE TO PERSONS WITH A DISABILITY

Requests from persons with a disability who need assistance to participate in this meeting should call the City Clerk's office at (608) 789-7510 or send an email to ADAcityclerk@cityoflacrosse.org, with as much advance notice as possible.