

THESE MINUTES ARE SUBJECT TO APPROVAL AT THE NEXT COASTAL
RESILIENCY MEETING

TOWN OF WESTBROOK, CONNECTICUT
COASTAL RESILIENCY IMPLEMENTATION COMMITTEE
Regular Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, April 14, 2026
Multi-Media Room
Mulvey Municipal Center

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Cozza called the meeting to order at 2:30 p.m. In attendance included: Tony Cozza, Marilyn Ozols, Kevin Wynne, John Riggio, John Hall, Sid Holbrook (ZOOM), Ron Botelho, David Murphy, RLW, Peter Gillespie, Planning, Zoning Development Director and Abby McVerry, Town Planner.

PUBLIC COMMENTS - None.

MINUTES - March 10, 2026

Ron Botelho made a motion to approve the minutes of the 3/10/26 meeting as presented. Kevin Wynne seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

BUDGET UPDATE

Tony Cozza reported that the Operating and Capital budgets will go before a Public Hearing on 4/22/26. The Operating Budget was accepted by the BOS/BOF as presented and the Capital Budget was reduced by \$75,000.

RLW - Coastal Resiliency Plan Review and Next Steps

David Murphy provided a Power Point presentation including:

- Review of funding sources featured in the Sea Grant workshop.
- Review of FEMA BRIC Notice of Funding
- Review of components of the Four Shore Plan
 - West Beach/Coral Sands
 - Road elevation/driveway interaction
 - Repair/cleaning out of clogged pipe (short term fix)

David Murphy, Ron Botelho, Peter Gillespie and John Riggio will “walk” the area to determine what type of repair will work is appropriate until the issue can be addressed long term. The other areas to be further investigated include:

- Old Mail Trail
 - Road elevation/driveway interaction
- Middle Beach
 - Road elevation/driveway interaction
- Route 1

The presentation was screen shared and will be forwarded to Committee members. David Murphy was available to address questions/comments posed by Committee members.

GRANT/FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

Peter updated the Committee on grant opportunities.

- LIS Resilience Planning Support Program (PSP)
- Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities (BRIC) - 7/1/26
- LIS Futures Fund - 5/19/26
- LIS Partnership Grant Writing Assistance Planning Support

OLD MAIL TRAIL ENGINEERING PROPOSAL

As discussed at the March meeting, John Riggio identified the need for assistance with the Old Mail Trail project including paving and drainage needs that would alleviate flooding and ponding on Old Mail Trail. The project will require a survey, basic design and “stamped plans”. After “walking” the area with staff from Weston & Sampson, an estimate in the amount of \$17,900 was developed for basic design, a survey and “stamped plans”. This information can be used to put a project out to bid.

John Riggio made a motion to approve \$17,900 for Weston & Sampson’s design of 325 feet of 15-inch RCP on Old Mail Trail, from the existing outlet pipe to the end of Elm Street as detailed in April 2026 WS Weston & Sampson proposal. Marilyn Ozols seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

TOWN DOCK and DUCK ISLAND BREAKWATER PROJECT STATUS

The Connecticut Port Authority’s Small Harbor Improvement program funded \$75,000 for planning and permitting costs associated with the rehabilitation of the Town Dock. In addition, they funded \$200,000 for the planning stages of the repair of the breakwater/seawall. It has been determined that the seawall/breakwater falls under the jurisdiction of the Army Corps of Engineers and the entire \$200,000 awarded for the seawall/breakwater project will not likely be expended.

John Hall reported that Sound Engineering is requesting permission to move forward with sonar on the Town Dock/bulkhead to measure the thickness and assess the strength of the bulkhead. Peter Gillespie and John have reviewed the proposal and additional funds of approximately \$6,000 more than the Town Dock grant funded will be necessary to facilitate this work.

Peter Gillespie will pursue permission to use a portion of the Seawall/Breakwater grant to fund the additional work on the Town Dock. If permission is not granted, the Town will be responsible for these additional costs.

RESILIENCY REGULATION UPDATES

Peter Gillespie reported that the Zoning Regulations Subcommittee is reconvening and will include Resiliency Regulation updates in their discussions.

STORMWATER MAPPING

As previously discussed, Jacobson and Sanborn (GIS Consultant) continue to work on a proposal for a stormwater mapping project. Initial estimates provided by Jacobson and Sanborn were cost prohibitive. It is anticipated that additional information will be presented to the Committee at the next meeting.

MY COAST CT APP - Support Letter

The Board discussed the Connecticut Sea Grant request for a letter of support for their application for a NFWF grant to offset costs associated with the My Coast CT App. Any town contribution would be determined by the Committee at a later date.

On a motion made and duly seconded, the Committee authorized Peter Gillespie to forward the letter of support as discussed. The motion passed unanimously.

OTHER BUSINESS - None.

ADJOURNMENT

On a motion made and duly seconded, the meeting was adjourned at 3:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Suzanne Helchowski
Executive Assistant