

Flood Control Committee
October 18, 2017

The **Flood Control Committee** met Wednesday, October 18 2017, at 5:30 p.m. in the City Hall Conference Room. Present were Committee Chair Jeff Erlenbusch, Committee Members: Ken Gardner, Rick Huber and Brant Kassner.

Also present were: Floodplain Administrator Samantha Malenovsky, DES/County Floodplain Administrator Bill Ellis and Committee Recorder Ally Capps.

1. Request of Citizens/Public Comment:

-None-

2. Committee Members Comments:

-None-

3. Unfinished Business

-None-

4. New Business

A. Recommendation and Discussion to Council to approve the adoption of Resolution No. 4111. The “2017 Update to the Multi-Hazard Mitigation Plan for Custer County, Montana and the City of Miles City and the Town of Ismay.”

***Committee Member Kassner made a motion on the Recommendation to Council to approve Resolution No. 4111. Committee Member Gardner seconded the motion.*

Floodplain Administrator Malenovsky explained the reason the City is looking into a \$75,000 grant for the slough revitalization project. To apply for the grant it was required to have an updated and approved Multi-Hazard Mitigation Plan. With the adoption of Resolution 4111, the City would be able to move forward with the grant application to Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA).

DES/County Floodplain Administrator Bill Ellis commented there was a \$50,000 dollar grant awarded for updating the Multi-Hazard Mitigation Plan. The plan is required to update every five years. The County Commissioners and Town of Ismay have signed off on the updated Multi-Hazard Mitigation Plan.

Citizen Kathy Wilcox 2217 Brisbin Street, asked what was the reasoning or highlights to the updated plan? DES/County Floodplain Administrator Ellis explained the old Multi-Hazard Mitigation Plan needed updating. Updating the plan puts in place important items such as; Public Health, Communicable Diseases, Floodplain Mitigation, Severe Storms, Levee Failure, Drought Mitigation, Wild Land Fires, Livestock Diseases, Cyber Security, Slough and Acts of Terrorism. These items raised other concerns such as under the category of Severe Storms, would the older cotton wood trees around town, with stand or cause damage in a severe storm. There are the coal seams that we see between Rosebud and Custer County, referred to as Coal Seam Alley. How can preventing these coal seam fires and help farmers and ranchers when they flare. Newer technology leads to locating and being able to prevent fires before they start or become out of control. The updated Multi-Hazard Mitigation Plan is taking the unforeseen and developing a long-term strategy to protect the people, property and resources from a future hazard. Updating the Multi- Hazard Mitigation Plan and addressing items such as, Public Health, Slough and Wild Land Fires will help open up new grant opportunities for the County and City. Citizen Wilcox asked who is in charge of implementing these services. DES/County Floodplain Administrator Ellis replied the Local Emergency Planning Committee is involved and working with first responders to help get the most effective results in case of an unforeseen emergency.

***Motion passed unanimously. 4-0*

B. Discussion and Recommendation to Council to approve the adoption of Ordinance 1316. Regarding review of the floodplain variance applications.

***Committee Member Kassner recommends to the Council the Recommendation of Ordinance 1316, Seconded by Committee Member Gardner.*

Committee Member Huber asked what is changing with Ordinance 1316. Floodplain Administrator Malenovsky explained this moves the Floodplain Variances from the Board of Appeals to City Council who will make the final decision on the Floodplain Variances. Permits and Variances go to the State of Montana and Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA). Federal Emergency Management Agency and the State of Montana, did not agree with a decision the Board of Appeals granted for a Floodplain Variance. The Federal Emergency Management Agency is requesting a change of authority for Variances for Miles City, and requesting City Council have final approval.

Federal Emergency Management Services is giving the City of Miles City notice that without the change in the Variances procedure it will drop our Community Rating System (CRS) points, meaning a loss in flood insurance discounts which would increase flood insurance to the City of Miles City residence.

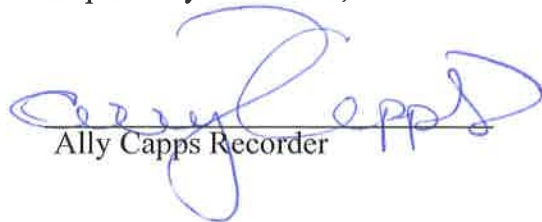
***The motion passed unanimously. 4-0*

3. Adjournment

****** *Committee Member Gardner moved to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Committee Member Kassner and **passed** unanimously, 4-0.*

There being no further business, the Committee adjourned at 6:05 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,


Ally Capps Recorder

Flood Control Committee Chairperson


Jeff Erlenbusch Chairperson