

Flood Control Committee
November 15, 2017

The **Flood Control Committee** met Wednesday, November 15 2017, at 6:00 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, Mayor John Hollowell and Committee Recorder Ally Capps.

- 1. Request of Citizens/Public Comment:**
-None-
- 2. Committee Members Comments:**
-None-
- 3. Unfinished Business**

Discussion and Recommendation to council; Ordinance 1316, AN ORDINANCE REVISING SECTIONS 12-56 THROUGH 12-62 OF THE FLOOD CODE PROVISIONS OF THE CODE OF ORDINANCES OF MILES CITY, MONTANA, REGARDING REVIEW OF FLOODPLAIN VARIANCE APPLICATIONS.

***Committee Member Kassner moved to open the discussion on Ordinance 1316, Seconded by Committee Member Huber.*

Chairperson Urlenbush commented he would like to see the change in Ordinance allowing Council the final say in a floodplain variance. This would need Council to be willing to have training and input from professionals, so informed discussions can be made and in accordance with city, state and federal codes.

Committee member Gardner would like to see the training implemented and after the training see if Council feels confident in making the final decision on floodplain variances. The other thought was to have the Board of Appeals hear the floodplain variance request and then send their recommendation to Council for the final decision. Floodplain Administrator Malenovsky has talked to Traci Sears from the Department of Natural Resources, the training purposed will take an hour and half to two hours. The thought was to have Council come in early for a council meeting and to have the training before the meeting. Training will encompass; variance procedure, how it works and how the decision will affect the community. The proposed date for training is set for January 23, 2018, time yet to be determined.

The Mayor read a portion of the minutes from the Board of Appeals meeting regarding the Boards concerns on the infraction by (FEMA) Federal Emergency Management Agency.

Their minutes states, "The impact on the community's flood insurance is an insignificant issue". Knowing how this affects the Community System Rating Points it could be a costly increase for flood insurance. Mayor Hollowell voiced his concern on the Board of the Appeals attitude towards the Community. He asked the Board of Appeals to reconsider their approval of the variance in question. The Board of Appeals Chairperson Rock Wankel has not responded to the Mayor regarding the variance. Mayor Hollowell will send out another invitation to the Board of Appeals for the next council meeting.

*** Committee Member Kassner motioned to send Ordinance 1316 to Council for further review, seconded by Committee Member Gardner and **passed**, 3-1. With Committee Member Huber voting no.*

4. New Business

Discussion regarding the Stafford Act Section 404 Funding.

Floodplain Administrator Malenovsky explained the Stafford Act Section 404 Funding is a letter to send to our Congress and Senators representatives for help reducing the risk of disasters before they occur. Using money in a preventive manner before the flood, wildfire or hurricanes happen. For Miles City, this would affect eighty percent of the population that are located in the natural floodplain or in the floodway. Section 404 Funding could be utilized to repair or replace a substandard levee, or improve internal drainage, drastically reducing substantial loss should a flood occur. Floodplain Administrator Malenovsky asked if a letter were drafted, would the Flood Committee be opposed to having the letter go before Council to sign.

*** Committee Member Kassner moved to accept the Stafford Act Section 404 go to Council for signatures, seconded by Committee Member Gardner and **passed** unanimously, 4-0.*

Adjournment

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

There being no further business, the Committee adjourned at 6:58 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,


Ally Capps Recorder

Flood Control Committee Chairperson


Jeff Erlenbusch Chairperson