

**Town of South Bethany  
Resiliency Committee Meeting  
Wednesday, October 15, 2025**

**In attendance:** Art Burritt, Edie Dondero, Town Manager Maureen Hartman, Code Enforcement Officer Joe Hinks, Gerry Injaian, Joan Marini, and Mike Powell (virtual).

**1. Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order at 10:01 a.m.

**2. Approval of Minutes of September 24, 2025**

Dr. Marini requested changes to the minutes of the September meeting. Approval was tabled until the November meeting to allow time for the edits to be made.

**3. Discussion of Regulations Pertaining to Bulkheads**

Mr. Hinks clarified the process the Town would need to follow in order to permit the raising of bulkheads. The action of most concern is backfilling behind the newly raised bulkheads, as this may change the storage and conveyance properties of the floodplain. Mr. Hinks confirmed that hydrologic and hydraulic (H&H) studies are required only in riverine areas or floodways. Since South Bethany does not have either type of land use, this requirement would not apply. He received confirmation from FEMA that the Town would instead be required to complete a coastal analysis and submit an MT-2 request if and when it decides to seek approval for such a project. Mr. Hinks will share his correspondence with committee members upon request.

**4. Update on York Road Flood Mitigation Efforts**

At their meeting on October 8, the Town Council awarded the bid for the York Road phase one project to Kinsley Construction. Contracts are being prepared and the project is scheduled to begin on or around November 1<sup>st</sup>. (A definitive date will be announced after the pre-construction meeting.) The Town is awaiting a decision on the grant submitted for funding phase two of the project which would address secondary streets.

**5. Cat Hill Flood Mitigation Project**

The Committee agreed to review and amend, as needed, the proposed scope of work for a Cat Hill flood mitigation analysis that was prepared for the 2024 BRIC grant program. The revised scope of work, once compiled, will be submitted to Council for funding approval.

**6. Public Comment**

Mr. Ray Saunders, W. 11<sup>th</sup> Street, offered several comments. He expressed disappointment that all beach access points were closed after the storm; requested that more signage for flooded roadways be put in place along with signs that would close the roads to all but

residents; and requested that the Town ask all boaters to refrain from taking their boats out in the canals until the high storm tides recede.

Mr. Powell reported that he accessed the data from the Jefferson Creek flood gauge and found that last weekend's nor'easter resulted in the fifth highest recorded water level since the gauge station began recording in the 1990s.

## **6. Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 11:23 am.

*Minutes approved November 19, 2025*