

Minutes
Water Resource Management Utility Meeting
(Formerly Stormwater Utility)
June 12, 2007

Please note: Minutes are unofficial until approved by the Water Resource Management Utility (formerly Stormwater Committee) at their next regularly scheduled meeting.

Present: Alderman Ken Harenda, Alderman John Hopkins, Alderman Bill Moore, Mayor Jack Chiovatero & Commissioner Jim. Kern

Others Present: Eric Nitschke (Stormwater Engineer), Chuck Trevorow (Water Resource Management Supervisor), & Sue Hanley (Office Coordinator Utilities & Streets)

Meeting called to order at 4:46 pm by Alderman Harenda. Roll call and declared a quorum with all members present. Alderman Harenda welcomed Alderman Moore to the Committee and thanked Alderman Roger Hegeman for his years of service on the Committee.

Old Business

SW 01-07 Minutes from May 8, 2007 Meeting

Motion by Commissioner Alderman Hopkins to approve the minutes from the May 8th Water Resource Management Committee meeting. Seconded by Mayor Chiovatero and upon voting the motion passed 3 to 0 with Mayor Chiovatero and Alderman Moore voting present.

SW 07-06 Resident Request for Corrective Action Re: Drainage Concerns (tabled)

Remains tabled.

SW 10-06 Woelfel Drainage Easement Discussion (tabled)

Remains tabled.

SW 11-06 Discussion of Woodland Drive Resident Request (tabled)

Remains tabled.

SW 19-05 Approval of Stormwater Utility Updated Five-Year Plan (tabled)

Remains tabled.

Alderman Harenda: Asked the Committee members to review the old paperwork and be ready to discuss this item at the next meeting. If you have any questions please contact Staff.

SW 05-07 Approval of the 2008 Operating Budget Expenditures for the Citywide Comprehensive Plan & Stormwater Management Master Plan update (tabled)

Remains tabled.

New Business

ITEM 12-07 Award of Construction Contract U-345 Eisenhower High School Stormwater Retention Facility

Mr. Nitschke: Requested action is to approve and recommend to Council to approve the awarding of the Construction Contract for U-345 Eisenhower High School Storm Water Retention Facility, to the lowest responsive bidder, Willkomm Excavating & Grading, Inc. in the amount of \$484,961.37, for a total project cost of \$539,280.00. Source of Funds: Water Resource Utility CIP Account # 04251171 61713 C2003 in the amount of \$449,213.00 and Account #04251100 63008 C2004 in the amount of \$87,067.00. If approved, this item will be on the June 26th Council agenda.

Mayor Chiovero: Board of Public Works approved transfer of funds from the Coldspring Road CIP yesterday.

Alderman Harena: I talked to Eric about this last week since it is a large amount of money. This will be on the next Council agenda.

Mayor Chiovero: The City Attorney and School Board Attorney are working on the easement issue. The Mayor said he worked with Dr. Benfield before he left the School Board and he thought everything was taken care of, but he was not sure that the School Board attorney has taken this item to the School Board.

Mr. Nitschke: We are waiting to go to Council until we verify the easement is acquired.

Alderman Harena: Please give us the impacts and information regarding the project.

Mr. Nitschke: The Coldspring Road project increased the impervious area along that corridor by approximately over a half acre. When we did the design for this, we went through every option to keep this amount down, but we could not. This kicks in MMSD Chapter 13 requirements. The road has been constructed and the delay has been the easement acquisition and the location of this facility. MMSD has allowed the delay since there are funds available to meet their requirements. Two locations were identified: the median on Weatherstone Boulevard and the Eisenhower Storage Facility which is the more expensive of the two. It is the best option to meet the MMSD Chapter 13 requirements as well as addressing the localized draining problems from EHS downspouts that drain into a system that they believe connects into an old farm tile system. The storm sewer downstream was put in the early to mid 90's and designed for a 10 year storm, making it more likely to flood sooner than other areas of the City. This facility will help increase the capacity in this system and is in conjunction of the water quality component on Coldspring Road. There are inlet filters in approximately 42-46 inlets which help improve the water quality and they filter out sediment and debris that discharges into the system and filters out on Coldspring Road. The facility will improve the discharge rates.

Alderman Moore: Is this underground and what is it made of and how is it lined?

Mr. Nitschke: The base is crushed stone with pads for footings with a box structure or "storm trap system" and as stormwater runoff runs into the system it collects behind a small outlet structure. If the system fills up there is a small bypass and it continues through the storm sewer downstream, otherwise it continues into the facility where it is slowly released over a 24 to 48 hour period. The bottom is filled with gravel and it has footings that run down the length of it. They will set concrete boxes together. The top and side are sealed but allows water to run through the box but not to integrate with the soil outside from the top or sides. The water is stored in the chamber, 3 sides are concrete and the bottom is compacted stone.

Alderman Moore: So the box is open and there is air in the chamber when there is no water?

Mr. Nitschke: Correct there is air in there when there is no water.

Alderman Moore: When I was on the School Board we were told the tennis courts should not be reconstructed where they are because there are springs underneath. Is there possibly so much hydrology there that could float this entire structure up?

Mr. Nitschke: There is actually a drain tile that is fairly close to where this is and we will be connecting it to a storm sewer that will go around this facility and connect to the storm sewer downstream. If there is a spring in the area, this will alleviate some of the problems as it would come into the structure and then discharge out the outlet pipe. Instead of floating it, it will create an open system for it to drain through. The spring problem with the tennis courts is further to the west of this location and we hope that part of the drainage problem for the building will provide better drainage.

Alderman Moore: Have you proven the bottom of this system is below the water table?

Mr. Nitschke: The bottom of the system is above the water table according to the test boring.

Alderman Moore: By being above the water table, will water seep into this system?

Commissioner Kern: Is this off of Sunny Slope?

Mr. Nitschke: The bottom of this structure is above the water table. It is off of Sunny Slope between the 2 driveways and one of the misconceptions is that there was a spring there, but actually it was a broken drain tile that was acting like a spring and saturating the area. This will benefit the school and the Utility with the downstream conveyance system draining the area and addressing the Coldspring Road requirements.

Alderman Moore: Is there was anything besides the bike lanes added with regard to impervious surface?

Mr. Nitschke: By-pass lanes and turning radius were added at about 3 spots.

Alderman Moore: This is 1 mile long stretch of road and comparing it to some other construction that may be occurring for 1.7 miles, we can see that there definitely would be more than ½ acre added.

Mr. Nitschke: Absolutely. We trimmed as much as we could off of this and we still had 1.1-1.2 acre increase of impervious area.

Alderman Harenda: This is a substantial use of funds from the Utility which leaves us without any major projects going forth until our debt service is reduced, except for what is already in the pipeline. We discussed why we wanted to do this project when there were other possibilities to deal with this issue farther up on Coldspring for less cost.

Mr. Nitschke: Eisenhower High School's underground facility ranked next in line, based on safety, regulatory requirements, master plan, improving conveyance and reducing flooding. The biggest question which we will discuss when we talk about the 5-year plan is that this is a system that is partially driven by a roadway project. Staff is looking for direction from the Committee as to whether or not the Utility should be funding stormwater components on roadway projects or roadway projects should be funding stormwater components. This is the right place to do this facility and the right option to do, but it is difficult when looking at the 5-year plan and debt service which won't be reduced until 2013. There will be a little time when we will be sitting without a major project.

Commissioner Kern: Where is the flooding impact?

Mr. Nitschke: Across the street to the east and south, this is the headwater for the Kelly Lakes region and we have road overtopping in 3 locations heading down to Kelly Lakes. Our Police Department actually shuts down a couple of roads every time we get 2-3" of rain and this hopefully will help address this by reducing the discharge rates upstream of those areas.

Commissioner Kern: Will this have enough of an impact to justify the expense?

Mr. Nitschke: This will have enough of impact to the subdivision to the east to justify the expense. A 10-year storm event has been happening every year since I have been here and I think that is justification enough.

Commissioner Kern: It looks like we had to eliminate 60% of the bids since they were non-responsive. Is that typical and why did it happen?

Mr. Nitschke: It is not typical and I believe the bidders didn't read the bid packet. Some only look solely at the plans, and if there is not a note on the plans and they haven't read the bid packet, they won't turn in the required information. 4 bidders turned in the system drawings and 6 did not and of those 6, there was 1 lower than our lowest responsible bidder but because they didn't turn in a drawing it could end up as a problem in the future. In the past contractors that haven't read the specifications are the ones who come back with extras and it can be a fight when we are in a project to follow what we have written. It was very apparent on this project if you did not submit system drawings, you were not a responsive bidder.

Motion by Commissioner Kern to recommend that the Common Council approve the awarding of the Construction Contract for the U-345 Eisenhower High School Storm Water Retention Facility, to the lowest responsive responsible bidder, Willkomm Excavating & Grading, Inc. in the amount of \$484,961.37 with the total project cost of \$539,280.00.

Source of Funds:

Water Resource Utility CIP	Account # 04251171 61713 C2003	\$449,213.00
Coldspring Road CIP	Account \$ 04251100 63008 C2004	\$ 87,067.00

Seconded by Alderman Hopkins and upon voting the motion passed unanimously.

Alderman Harenda: We will hold off on this until the attorneys work everything out.

Mr. Nitschke: We are hoping to see that within the next week or two.

Alderman Harenda: How long is this bid good for?

Mr. Nitschke: Typically 45-60 days.

Alderman Harenda: My concern is that this will drag on and that we have to remove the bid.

Mr. Nitschke: Everyone is well aware of this and the Mayor and Staff are closely in tune in getting an answer from the school district on this and from the attorneys.

Mayor Chiovero: We may already have the answer.

Mr. Nitschke: We very well may.

Motion to adjourn at 5:10 p.m. by Mayor Chiovero. Seconded by Commissioner Kern and upon voting the motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted by Sue Hanley, Office Coordinator Utilities & Streets