

**Minutes
Storm water Committee Meeting
New Berlin City Hall
3805 S. Casper Drive
Council Chambers
November 11, 2003**

Please note: Minutes are unofficial until approved by the Stormwater Committee at their next regularly scheduled meeting.

Present: Alderman Bullerman, Alderman Gallagher, Alderman Wilkens, Mayor Wysocki, and City Engineer J.P. Walker

Others Present: Eric Nitschke (Division Engineer), Cathy Schwalbach (Storm Water Engineer), Chuck Trevorow (Storm water Supervisor)

Meeting called to order at 5:03 pm by Alderman Bullerman and a quorum was declared.

Item SW 01-03 Approval of the October 14, 2003 minutes

Motion by Mayor Wysocki to approve the October 14, 2003 minutes. Second by J.P. Walker, and upon voting, the motion passed 4-0, with Alderman Wilkens abstaining since he was absent at the meeting.

Item SW 25-03 Communication from Marquette Drive Residents

Eric Nitschke read the request for the Stormwater Committee to give formal approval of the offer extended to the Marquette Drive Residents to pay for half of the requested concrete invert. Fiscal impact would be approximately \$4,500 depending on the total linear footage of the concrete invert and the source of funds is the Storm Water Drainage Account # 3-700-600-825-00. He explained after several failed attempts by the Streets Department to remedy the continual problem of standing water and after a technical analysis of the area showed that concrete inverts would lessen the problem of flooding on private property, an offer was extended to the affected residents on Marquette Drive. There are 4 properties that would be affected. This offer was for the Storm Water Utility to pay for half of the proposed concrete invert. The offer to pay half was extended because of the circumstances of multiple attempts at repairing and maintaining the ditches, an analysis of the area in question, and the results of the analysis showing relief to private properties in 25-year and 10-year storm events if a concrete invert is installed.

Mr. Nitschke said that they had met with residents on site, and the Street Department crew tried to repair this culvert several times. He said that a concrete invert would increase the capacity of the culverts and pull water off of the private properties. After the offer was sent to the residents, they received a letter from the residents asking when the City of New Berlin is going to solve the drainage problem and standing water, and by what means are they going to use? He stated that the concrete invert would reduce the water by approximately 3/10 of a foot in a 10-yr storm.

Alderman Bullerman asked when the Stormwater Department would start the installation? Mr. Nitschke replied in 2004 when the ground could be seeded. Alderman Gallagher asked what our policy on concrete inverts is and who pays for them. Cathy Schwalbach stated that if it is a Utility requirement or a homeowner's request, the cost is born by the resident.

Mary Joas of 12635 W. Marquette Drive asked to speak to the Committee. She stressed that this problem has been going on for over 8 years. There is standing water, smell, mosquito haven, and other issues associated with this issue. She stated that she requested a copy of the Stormwater policy and said that she saw nowhere in the policy that the resident who requests the invert pays the cost. She also stated that they did not request the concrete invert and said that they have been paying a stormwater charge on their Utility bill for several years.

Alderman Bullermann stated that the stormwater charge is approximately one year old and corrected the statement that the charge on their Utility bill has been for several years.

Alderman Gallagher asked if a concrete invert would permanently fix the problem? Mr. Nitschke answered that the problem is the standing water in the bottom of the ditch. Technically this is a stormwater ditch, but there is a sump pump that continuously fills the ditch, and that the invert would not completely alleviate the problem. Alderman Gallagher asked if it would be substantially better and Mr. Nitschke answered it would reduce water in a storm event. He added that this has been reditched three times by the Street Department and sod used the last time, but the problem still exists.

Alderman Wilkens stated that the previous owner changed the ditch and that sump pumps do put out a bunch of water into the ditch. He added that the committee has to be careful as they are setting precedent because of what we will have to do in the future. He asked what the grade was and Mr. Nitschke replied 1% or less.

Discussion by the Stormwater Committee and staff about possible alternatives, such as diverting the sump pump discharge or another attempt at ditching. Alderman Bullerman stated that the Stormwater quarterly billing (\$15/quarter residential charge) has only been around about 1 ½ years and it is difficult to fix all of the stormwater issues in the City for that amount. He stated that if we fix inverts for everyone, we may have to increase the fees. Mayor Wysocki stated that this is not a stormwater issue, but rather a sump pump discharge water problem. Chuck Trevor from the Street Department suggested that there is possibly a service line leak, hydrant leak, water main leak, etc. that should be checked out to eliminate any other possible problems. Ms. Joas house was checked, but not the other homes affected.

Motion by Alderman Wilkens, second by Alderman Gallagher to request the Stormwater Committee to give formal approval of the offer extended to the Marquette Drive Residents to pay for half of the requested concrete invert. Motion failed unanimously 0-5. Alderman Bullerman asked that this item stay on the agenda, and that staff should rework other possible solutions to the problem. Mayor Wysocki asked that staff notify residents when it will be on the agenda again in 2-3 months.

Item SW 26-03 Kelly Lakes Owner's Association Request

Eric Nitschke gave a brief update on this issue. He stated that per your request they sent a formal request to SEWRPC for their analysis of the pollutant loading reduction that will be taking place from the Kelly Lakes proposed project. SEWRPC has issued a formal contract document to the Kelly Lakes Owner's Association to complete the flood plain analysis in this area and the Water Utility and Stormwater Utility has put in their request for SEWRPC to continue that flood plain modeling up to Grange Avenue to incorporate the potential pumpstation that is going in on Grange Avenue. The Stormwater division is waiting to hear back from SEWRPC.

Item SW 28-03 Approval of Stormwater Billing Policy Revision

Cathy Schwalbach stated the original policy was written shortly after the Stormwater division started. The verbiage has been changed to streamline the policy. Ms Schwalbach stated that the Stormwater Billing policy is staying with the standard requirements that the Public Service Commission (PSC) has for water Utility, and that Attorney Blum recommended Stormwater follow this rule.

Motion by Alderman Bullerman to recommend to Common Council to approve the Stormwater Management Policy #28-03-003, Stormwater Utility Fee Billing Policy. Second by Alderman Gallagher, and upon voting the motion passed unanimously.

Motion to adjourn by J.P. Walker . Second by Mayor Wysocki, and upon voting the motion passed unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 6:00 p.m.