

Minutes
Water Resource Management Utility Meeting
(Formerly Stormwater Utility)
May 12, 2009

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 Bill Moore, Alderman John Hopkins, Commissioner Jim Kern, Mayor Jack Chiovatero

Others Present: Nicole Hewitt (Division Engineer), Chuck Trevorrow (WRM Supervisor) JP Walker (City Engineer), & Sue Hanley (Administrative Supervisor Utilities & Streets)

Meeting called to order at 4:45 pm by Alderman Harenda. Roll call and declared a quorum with all members present.

Old Business

SW 01-09 Minutes from March 10, 2009 Meeting

Motion by Alderman Hopkins to approve the minutes from the March 10th Water Resource Management Committee meeting with the change noted. Seconded by Commissioner Kern and upon voting the motion passed unanimously.

**SW 03-09 Request to Bid Out Asphalt Upgrade Drainage List Construction Using FEMA
Utility Reimbursement for June Flooding Expenses**

Hewitt: We have received reimbursement from FEMA for last summer's storm and we were directed to look at the drainage list and put together a package. This work will be for asphalt upgrades, which are the more difficult and expensive items to be cleared off the list.

Harenda: When I talked to Cathy, she said this was looking at maximizing the efforts with regard to the cost of the FEMA money and the money we put in the budget by grouping some of these together, like Poplar Road, Glenwood, Oakhill Lane and Vera Cruz. Are there any higher ranked projects on the list that we need to do?

Hewitt: I don't have a count of the overall list versus what is pulled off with this work. By doing all of the asphalt upgrades together, we can use one contractor to do all of the same work instead of having multiple projects with different bid items, so we can get a better price on it.

Harenda: Will we be getting any calls or are there any higher priority projects from a property damage standpoint on the drainage list or are you telling me this the best bang for the buck?

Hewitt: Correct. This will clear off a lot of the items and allow our crews to get the work done on the other ones.

Kern: Would this mean there is no money left for other projects this year?

Hewitt: In the budget we allotted \$50,000 to clear up the drainage list and we received \$111,000 from FEMA so we are combining the money to do this. Those were above and beyond what we normally do every year so the crews will still be working on drainage list projects.

Kern: Is the asphalt upgrade on the bottom of the ditch? Is this something that the City plans to do moving forward?

Hewitt: Correct. There are a lot of the systems that are degrading so it will be upgraded to concrete. Currently in our handbook it is required if the slope is less than ½ % or greater than 4% you are required to have concrete inverts, but moving forward we will look at it as a site specific basis and determine what other methods we can use besides concrete inverts.

Harenda: The DNR was looking for more saturation in the ditch, whereas the invert is just moving the water from one place to another. It is a pitch issue, sometimes the water doesn't move and we have to move it along. We added asphalt to some of the ditches along Barton road a few years back and Alderman Ament and I received some calls. We didn't have much choice because we had to stabilize some issues there. Some people thought it was unsightly. Are you or Chuck going to be monitoring the contractor from the aesthetics point of view?

Hewitt: Yes.

Trevorrow: The ground around Barton Road was full of rock and stone. There was no way we could have ditched it to the specifications that normally goes to an asphalt invert. The asphalt invert is put in the same as concrete except it forms up on each side and the center. Because of the rocks and there was no way to form it, we had to line the whole ditch on Barton to keep it from eroding. Right now it is pretty well overgrown.

Harenda: So we won't be doing the entire ditch just the concrete invert and we will be monitoring the contractor.

Moore: I appreciate you bringing up the problems we have with hard surface inverts. Nicole and I had a conversation today regarding that and I am looking forward to the time when we can modify our policy to have more opportunity for grass swales instead of the inverts and to have public education where people will appreciate that instead of having a hard surface which just pushes the problem to someone else downstream.

Harenda: You make a good point. That's why I brought up Barton Road. To fix the problem where we would have liked to see it, we would have had to do more of a road reconstruction to fix the stormwater issues there and we didn't have the funding at the time to do that. We will take that into account on future projects.

Hopkins: I am familiar with a lot of these addresses and some go back 4 - 5 years. This will make a dent in the list we had and keep down the complaints of when will this project be completed. I appreciate Alderman Moore's comments, but some of these ditches are so steep that people cannot keep them cut. It is a problem and a lot are older and the relining will be a benefit to them.

Harenda: Is there any way that you can email the committee and the aldermen of the areas and projects that the crews will be working on?

Trevorrow: I have a list from Cathy. Right now we are working on a couple of culvert failures from over the winter but we are starting our ditching list that doesn't involve the concrete or asphalt, just reshaping ditches.

Motion by Alderman Hopkins to move forward with creating a bid package and sending out request for bid for a portion of the drainage list items not to exceed \$161,000. Source of funds: \$111,000 from FEMA Reimbursement and \$50,000 from WRM Utility Drainage Account # 70710710.59060. Seconded by Commissioner Kern and upon voting the motion passed unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS

SW 07-09 Update on Storm Water Management Plan - Power Point presentation

Neighborhood D: from Moorland Road on west to 124th on east just south of Greenfield on the north and north of National on the south. There is a section that runs to Calhoun Road south of Coffee Road also.

- Root 2 - Evaluated in the original Stormwater Management Plan: 15 homes are within the floodplain in the area bounded by Cleveland Avenue, National Avenue, 124th Street, and 132nd Street. Road flooding on Lagoon Road north of Cleveland Avenue. Washout of private bridge at 128th Street and Cleveland Avenue
Recommendation: Online detention storage at four locations in the area and floodplain lowering.

Hewitt: Due to regulatory restrictions online detention is no longer allowed so we would have to look at alternatives. Online detention is when you take a stream and put a pond on the stream so that the water through the stream runs directly through the pond.

- Root 4- Evaluated in the original Stormwater Management Plan: Yard flooding and erosion near Honey Lane and Elm Grove Rd. Flooding of 1 residence and several yards east of the intersection at Elm Grove Road and Honey Lane. SWMMP Recommendation: Re-grade roadside and railroad ditches in the area.

Hewitt: This was brought forward last year by one of the residents. *(Photos of the property 2 east of Honey Lane/Elm Grove Road)* There is a culvert that discharges under the railroad tracks in the backyard and ponds and when there is a lot of rain it flows around the house.

Hopkins: This flooded the whole area and yards and the basement of this house 2 weeks ago.

Hewitt: All of the ditching is on railroad property. It would be a coordinated effort. *She showed more photos of this area than a property at 130th & Cleveland Ave where ponding occurs on the golf course then overflows through the properties to the south.*

- Parkwood Lane Flooding - Listed as minor in the 2000 SWMMP Executive Summary. A study has been complete and short term safety improvements have been installed.
- The Lincoln Avenue/Woodshire Ditch Project was studied and found to be dependant upon downstream conditions along Lincoln Avenue. Upsizing the discharge facility at the Woodshire detention area and improving drainage downstream of the pond was recommended for keeping water from backing up from the Woodshire detention area.

Hewitt: The Parkwood Lane, Lincoln Ave and Woodshire Ditch were studied as one project.

- Overland Trail has experienced historical flooding during significant storm events. A study was completed and storm sewer was recommended from Lyons Park to Lilac Lane East of Sunny Slope Road. This project area is in the same watershed as Parkwood Lane and the Lincoln Avenue/Woodshire issues.

Photos of stream bank erosion on Dakota Street at Connie Lane. Photo of 13255 Old Oak Lane where everything slopes toward the property and runs through the yard and has experienced repeated flooding. Photo on 152nd Street where a ditching project needs to be completed but not until the road is redone.

Neighborhood E

- Root River Stream Bank Erosion Area of 130th and National

Hewitt: These are all outstanding projects. The majority of them were part of the Stormwater Master Management Plan. I don't believe Overland Trail was part of it.

Harenda: With the Comp Plan you will be updating the SWMMP with these items.

Moore: Where the asphalt inverts are deteriorating will we have the opportunity because of the timeframe to examine whether they don't have to be replaced and instead allow for infiltration?

Hewitt: For the contract we just discussed it would cost more and put off things that we have needed to do.

Moore: Is this part of the previous project?

Hewitt: This is separate and part of our SWMMP outstanding issues. Moving forward yes, we will be looking into bioretention and more natural facilities.

Moore: Wonderful. Thank you.

Harenda: With deteriorating asphalt inverts in this neighborhood such as below Honey Lane, you are going to look at something besides replacing asphalt inverts?

Hewitt: It will be site specific and depend on what the conditions and needs of the invert are and if it is feasible to do some other method.

Harenda: A lot of the inverts will be asphalt or concrete because of the pitch, the slope, the erosion, you have to put something in there.

Hewitt: We will not be able to eliminate them completely because they do serve a purpose.

Harenda: Where are we in the update for the SWMMP? I know it is in conjunction with the comp plan.

Hewitt: We have a draft of the addendum, but it is not complete. We have many documents in draft form, as far as fees, maintenance, as well as the bmp maintenance tracker which has been released as being installed on our system and they are going through a debugging process. It will be done in conjunction with the Comp Plan. We are shooting for September.

Kern: Will we see the plan before it moves forward?

Hewitt: Yes.

SW 08-09 Approval of the Floodplain Analysis and LOMR-F Submittal for the Dakota Street Tributary Contract

Hewitt: A study was done on the area and has never been followed through on so we are out of compliance with the National Flood Insurance program at this time because there was fill placed and the floodplain was modified but it was approved through the DNR but never finalized through FEMA so we have to do that at this time. The project was back in 1988.

Harenda: I don't remember discussing this in the budget last year.

Hewitt: We were not aware of it. I did some feelers to find out what the price could be and heard anywhere from \$5,000 to \$13,000 so then I went out for bid to receive some added information and this is what we came back with to get it updated, submitted and finalized.

Harenda: Are we under a timeline to get this done if it is already, 1988 you said?

Hewitt: Basically since we are aware of it now, we have to do something about it.

Harenda: Since it wasn't budgeted, where is the money coming from.

Hewitt: The contracted services account.

Harenda: What do we utilize these funds for? Are we taking it away from something that it was predetermined for?

Hewitt: That account is used when we need to do surveys, investigations and other miscellaneous items that we were not necessarily aware of at the time. The contracted services account is to do those extra items.

Harenda: What is the balance in the account now?

Hewitt: I believe \$30,000.

Harenda: Is it possible to delay this to later in the year in case we need to use these funds for things that are at a higher priority? Once we utilize it now we are basically using half of the account that wasn't planned on.

Hewitt: I guess that is your decision to do that, but if we are aware of a problem and we don't address it, they can come back and revoke our qualifying in the NFIP.

Harenda: I guess either delay it in the year just in case we have to use the funds for something else or plan it for next year's budget then we would be aware of it ahead of time. I'm not trying to put you on the spot. I don't want to hear 6 months from now we used our money for this and we need it for something else.

Hewitt: The funds for this account were not set aside for a specific project.

Harenda: This would be the completion of this and we are in compliance and there are not any other outstanding issues?

Hewitt: Once this is done we will actually have that whole stream studied and we will no longer be in A Zone and will no longer be out of compliance and there are several structures in this area that are showing that they are in the floodplain where in actuality they are not because of this issue.

Harenda: How many homes will benefit? Whose district is this in?

Hewitt: There is one condo structure and there may be one more that is across the street. I believe it is in Alderman Wysocki's district. It is north of National and east of Sunny slope.

Harenda: Those are just my concerns.

Hewitt: The cost could actually be less. I put in there the maximum amount that the FEMA fees can be, they can actually be as low as \$800, but I put in the most they can ask of us.

Harenda: The fees are for them to review the information?

Hewitt: Yes.

Kern: Can we negotiate the FEMA fees?

Hewitt: They are set fees dependent on what they are reviewing.

Harenda: Bonestroo will go out there and conduct the survey work, submit the documentation back and we submit it on to FEMA and hopefully pull those properties out and update the floodplain. Do these 2 condos have to pay flood insurance now?

Hewitt: They do have to currently maintain flood insurance if they have mortgages.

Moore: Normally this would not be on the agenda for the Common Council, but since it is, I assume you feel it is somewhat necessary to move forward fairly quickly.

Hewitt: Yes.

Motion by Mayor Chiovatero to recommend to the Common Council the awarding of the Floodplain Analysis and LOMR-F Submittal for the Dakota Street Tributary Contract to the lowest bidder, Bonestroo for \$5,699, for a total price including contract, FEMA fees and contingencies not to exceed \$14,029. Source of Funds: WRM Contracted Services Account 70710710 52030. Seconded by Alderman Moore and upon voting the motion passed unanimously.

Motion to adjourn at 5:17 p.m. by Alderman Hopkins. Seconded by Commissioner Kern and upon voting the motion passed unanimously

*Please Note: Minutes are not official until approved by the Committee
Respectfully submitted by Sue Hanley, Administrative Supervisor Utilities & Streets*