

**STORM WATER COMMITTEE MINUTES  
OCTOBER 6, 2020**

The Storm Water Committee meeting was held on October 6, 2020 at North Royalton City Hall, 14600 State Road. The meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m.

**PRESENT:** Committee Members: Chair Jessica Fenos, Vice Chair Vincent Weimer, Linda Barath; Council: Paul Marnecheck, Jeremy Dietrich, Michael Vos; Joanne Krejci Administration: Mayor Larry Antoskiewicz, Law Director Thomas Kelly, Wastewater Superintendent Mark Smith, City Engineer Mark Schmitzer; Service Director Nick Cinquepalmi Other: Kerry Stead, Greg Stead

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Approval of the September 1, 2020 Committee minutes. Moved by Ms. Barath, seconded by Mr. Weimer. Vote: Yeas: 3; Nays: 0. **Motion Carried.**

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

**Storm Water/Infrastructure Maintenance Monthly Report**

See attached report.

Mayor states spoke with Mr. Smith about getting bids out for next year to get someone to help clean out the big mains, we don't know the last time they were cleaned. We will start looking at that in the next years budget. If we are going to continue the culvert program the way it is designed, it is very labor intensive to keep up with them, maybe we bid it out, the residents would still pay for the materials, then we would put money in the budget to pay for labor end of it. It becomes very difficult with the number of people in stormwater to keep up with that and do other stuff.

Mr. Smith states they will probably charge us by linear feet. The mains have probably never been cleaned, once they are cleaned that gives a way for the storm sewers to get some flow and alleviate some of the problems. Our equipment won't deal with the large lines. We clean the lines, but if you don't clean the big mains, there could be an accumulation of silt. Once the big mains are cleaned, we should see some improvement. The project can take years, you start in one section and work your way around. The only way we know that a culvert pipe has failed is if we get a call. While we are cleaning lines, we can inspect culvert pipes also. We document everything.

Mr. Kelly states you have to make some distinctions specifically making improvements that are for the benefit of private property and private property owners with community tax dollars. That is a sensitive area. What we have done in the past, someone or some member of our administration made a determination that in fact that water flow being impeded at that point is a nuisance and it is creating a public nuisance. The remedy then for the relief of the public nuisance was to afford the homeowners the opportunity to have our crew essentially make this improvement with their willingness and their cooperation for the materials. In terms of setting up a formal program, this has been a relatively informal experience for many years, in order to do it on a formal basis, there is probably going to need to be some effort to make some findings and to set up a procedure that is or more formal method for doing this. As to be able to sufficiently justify the expenditure of the tax dollars.

Mr. Smith states we can jet the culvert pipe, but we cannot force someone to fix it unless it is a nuisance.

Ms. Fenos states are you still looking at rerouting the wastewater plant?

Mr. Smith states hopefully I will have something for you by the first of next year. I will be able to present it to Council as a whole to make sure we do it the proper way for Council to discuss because we still will need to go to the EPA. The whole idea is to make the B Plant a pump station, and send it all to A Plant that way we should be able to alleviate having to make up grades at the B Plant. It will be a big benefit to the City. We can

incorporate some property that we haven't been able to get sewerred. He is working on Phase 3 now. The estimate for a new plant is 20 million, to make it a pump station, it is 8 million. He is at the A Plant now to see if we have the capacity or what we have to do to have it come there because in the next 3 to 5 years we are going to have to do something to B. This way we can make B Plant a storage area; we would be able to assume a lot more flow because you would not have to pump it in the plant. That way we could pump it over to A as we wanted to. I think it would help on Gregory, you would not have the screw pumps, you would have big storm pumps pulling it in. The screw pumps unload, you get so much in there, they unload, so you fight to get it in the plant. On Gregory that is a whole other problem because, that is not because of the Plant.

Mr. Schmitzer states myself, Mark Smith and the Mayor sat down with the Regional staff, they have a new tool that they wanted to roll out to a couple of communities that they thought would benefit, it is called Report A Flood Tool or RAFT. The tool will help us because right now the way we report is people call in or email, goes onto an Excel spreadsheet with name and phone number, we try to diagnose as quickly as we can whether it is sanitary or storm, but when we go out sometimes we find out that it is the opposite of what was reported and then, we log it and indicate whether it was fixed or not fixed. This tool is going to have all the questions, you can go online, we can put a link on our website, or they can call Regional themselves. All the information will go onto a database, the GIS database that Regional has, you will be able to click on and see by three different colors; yard flooding, house flooding or street flooding. You can consolidate a report for a time period. If we wanted to look back at Labor Day, we could go back and it will show up with little notes on the map where we had reports of flooding. You can click on the note; has there been corrective action or not. The idea of the information is for Regional to look at to see what Regional is doing as well as what the local municipalities are doing, is it helping or not helping. They want to get as much information as they can, so they can look at it and say, do we need to change direction in what we are doing, or does it seem to help or not. It also helps us because we have a tool that we can go in, come to Council and the Administration, as much as we think we are getting hit here, the map will show where we are really getting hit and we really need to focus and put more money over here to get a corrective action and then can go to other areas; it helps us to look at it and see where the problem areas are popping up. We are waiting for the information to come to us from Regional. We get information 2, 3 or 4 days after a storm, we give that information to Regional, they download it into the GIS database off of the spreadsheet and it pops up on their map. It looks to upload pictures and video; there is a limit of 4 pictures right now; they are looking into upgrading that; and one or two videos.

Ms. Barath states what is the status of the NEORSR report.

Mr. Schmitzer states we just received that last week or the week before, I have not had a chance to read through it, we have a lot of recommendations for improvements. We are going to jump right to those, what projects do you have planned, what years are they planned, and have a discussion with Regional about those.

### **Carrie and Greg Stead, 8980 York Road**

Mrs. Stead states we wanted to talk about the flooding we have, a little bit was touched upon the culverts. We don't have a ditch, we don't have a culvert, we just have a little tiny drain that was completely covered over with grass, we didn't know it existed at first. We have been at the property for a year this past August. My husband dug out a ditch himself to get the storm water that is flooding our sidewalk into that little drain. But, the problem we have mostly is that the water comes from the street down into our driveway, and into our sidewalk flooding the whole front area of our house. The questions that we are asking Councilwoman Fenos how do we handle that, who is responsible, who can come look and guide us for this water that comes from the street. Then, we get asphalt, all kinds of street debris that we are cleaning up, it is degrading our concrete and our driveway. I really don't have a solution.

Mr. Dietrich states the little thing that you said that is covered with grass, that is a catch basin. Is it made to look like clay on the inside, is it like tiny?

Mr. Stead states it is a 24 x 24 catch basin. It doesn't have any concrete around it.

Mr. Dietrich states but it is tied to the street?

Mr. Stead states it is not, it is only a partial run of the storm which drops into a creek next to us. It is not even a full storm. I am getting the neighbors.

Mr. Dietrich states it is an isolated catch basin that drops off into the creek?

Mr. Stead states yes.

Mr. Dietrich states it is an old school one, so it is not very big.

Mr. Stead states one of the problems that we are having, we have the creek right next to us, so there is a bridge over the creek and that whole street is filling up with water too because there is no where for the water to drain off into. Mrs. Stud states the water fills that area and backs into our property because the water in the street has no place to go.

Mr. Dietrich states if that catch basin was larger and actually functioned and dumped off, it is your property, do you think that would help?

Mr. Stead states yes, absolutely. There are culverts on the other side, but not on ours or the neighbors going down.

Mr. Dietrich states where the catch basin is, I know there is a pipe that goes off into the creek, does it run underneath the driveway or anything?

Mrs. Stead states no, the driveway is on the left, the creek is on the right. The house is behind me, the driveway is on the left, the water comes from the hill coming down York across our driveway, into our sidewalk and then the catch basin is there, and then the creek. Even if we do something with the catch basin, there is still a solution that needs to happen for all the water coming from York Road down into our property.

Mr. Stead states we are collecting everything that is coming down York Road.

Mayor states we will look at it, and let me know your availability.

### **Maintenance Projects**

Mr. Schmitzer states Traditions at York and 82, the basin clean out; just got a hold of DiGioia Suburban this evening, they are scheduled mid next week to be out there and clean it out, that is cleaning out all the shale that has built up in that basin. Meadowview, myself and the Mayor met with the Developer Rich Baron and Drees Homes to look at the drainage out there and came up with an idea to lower the catch basins and put windows on the sides of the catch basins. Our catch basins are 2x2 foot, square concrete with a flat top on them. Flat tops they don't work as well if they get blocked with leaves, we are going to switch out the grates to be more of the four-sided dome, then we are going to drop the grate around the catch basins and cut windows into the sides of the concrete so the water swoops down into the catch basin. If it does become clogged it will build up and the angles on top of the grate will prevent leaves from folding flat and blocking it. They will roll up, off the top, they will get into it as well we are going to have the contractor build the entire swale on the north side from the northwest corner, all the way down to the model home, construct the swales so the water stays in the swale goes into the catch basins which are designed to go into the large retention basin in the facility there. On top of that the biggest issue is down at the bottom, Treeline Trail the northern street of Meadowview. There is a portion of the storm system that cannot flow into the existing retention ponds, the ponds were designed for all of the disturbed area but elevation wise they were always lower because of the existing creek they couldn't

flow in there so we have an underground system that they flow into. The problem with the underground system is that it has a restrictor plate on it that is basically restricting any flow out that can hold sentiment back. The problem is water is coming in quicker than it can come out so it is flooding the roads on Abby. Tomorrow morning DiGioia Suburban will have that plate removed. We are looking at a better design on how we can fix that, but at least at this point instead of having a one-inch hole in a pipe we will have a six inch and, then an 18-inch pipe that it outlets and overflows too. We will let that water flow out and hopefully that will help resolve things until we can come up with a better final solution. With all the grading and catch basin work we should see a vast improvement. Last, Indian Trails, we did meet out there, there was a report of flooding onto Wood Gate Oval, where it was reported a flood visually between myself, the Mayor, the contractor and the developer, we could not see that it would actually flood in this one location. We asked one of the residents where it flooded, the resident said that it would always flood by this property which is the southeast corner of that development. There is one catch basin back there. We will give direction to the developer to build up that corner slightly about a foot and a half, everything else there were no complaints.

### **Turnpike Mitigation**

No update.

### **Amend Chapter 1481, Section 1481.08 Maintenance of Systems**

Mr. Weimer states I am continuing to look into that, I am working on right up the language for that. I will try to have that for the next committee meeting.

No discussion, keep on agenda.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

No new business.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

Moved by Mr. Weimer, seconded by Ms. Barath to adjourn the October 6, 2020 meeting. Yeas: 3. Nays: 0. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 7:43 p.m.