

**STORM WATER COMMITTEE MINUTES
NOVEMBER 4, 2020**

The Storm Water Committee meeting was held on November 4, 2020 at North Royalton City Hall, 14600 State Road. The meeting was called to order at 6:23 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

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Approval of the October 6, 2020 Committee minutes. Moved by Ms. Barath, seconded by Mr. Weimer. Vote: Yeas: 3; Nays: 0. **Motion Carried.**

Ms. Fenos states I want to get this out of the way because we will get into this, you gave us all copies of the Rocky River Storm Water Master Plan, I have looked at a good portion of it, but there is a lot of detail in there. The sewer district is going to give a presentation to summarize it or provide an explanation of what it is so everyone is familiar. It will happen next Tuesday at 6:00 p.m. it is an open meeting.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

1. Storm Water/Infrastructure Maintenance Monthly Report

No report.

2. Maintenance Projects

Mr. Schmitzer states one of the projects that we talked about is Meadowview, and the continued flooding that we are having. We had some work done on the north side of the development where the swales were being overtopped running all the way down east down towards Abbey and flooding out the road. We worked with the developer, and he worked with his contractor to make some modifications which were to install or cut windows into the catch basins. Basically, we lowered the grade below the rim artificially by cutting out the concrete so the water would go into the structures as well as defining a swale better throughout the whole northside. We had continual rains for a long period of time. I am happy that we did not receive any phone calls over there from any neighbors north of the development or on the development themselves or on Abbey Road. One of the other things that was taken care of at Meadowview was the drainage area down by Abbey Road. There is underground system that is not controlled by the storm water management ponds that was restricted by a plate; that plate has been removed temporarily to allow water to flow better. On Indian Trails there was one area on the southeast corner of the site where one catch basin area supposedly overtopped towards the adjacent streets; Woodridge and Ridgewood Oval. The developer is working right now, they are putting some final touches in there to build up that corner, 18 to 24 inches so we can contain the water so it doesn't jump over. All the catch basins have had the fabric removed and the "chicken wire". They put the new drop style dandy bags in there that should help with water still getting in, and catching the sediment before it gets into the pond.

3. Turnpike Mitigation

No update.

4. Amend Chapter 1481, Section 1481.08 Maintenance of Systems

Mr. Weimer states I would be in favor of the revision that Mr. Kelly has documented it. 1481 was originally an ordinance that was written to allow Homeowners Association to seek grant funding for projects where they

had been provided a letter from Cuyahoga Soil and Water stating that they needed to fix storm water related issues within their properties. We are continuing to see projects where fixing something on a property or adjoining properties may benefit the greater good of the community not just the one homeowner or the set of homeowners that are trying to do it. There was no way in the current Ordinance for us to support those homeowners with grant funding like we would with a Homeowners Association. The spirit of this ordinance change was to allow an opportunity for residents to come together where the City Engineer deems is a stormwater nuisance where the City Engineer signs off and says yes, this is truly a stormwater nuisance something that we should consider grant funding for; that they can apply for that grant funding just like a Homeowners Association and get some relief, and try to help the better good of the City. It is a limited fund, when the funds are gone for the year, they are gone, they can apply the following year. It is a first come first serve funding.

Mr. Marnecheck states a thought I have is possibly turn it into a loan program so it can replenish itself; instead of it being a grant, turn it into a loan program and use it to fund future projects. Make the program self-sustaining. Possibly in the future, make it into a loan for the residents.

Mr. Schmitzer states the funding of that actually is coming from our portion that we received back as a City from the community cost share from all the stormwater fees. We budgeted annually \$25,000.00 to \$30,000.00, this past year, I have approved somewhere between \$15,000.00 to \$20,000.00 in grants already to HOAs.

NEW BUSINESS

1. PPN 481-02-033 Easement/Purchase

Mr. Kelly states this is a piece of property on Abbey just short of Sprague where the City already owns three parcels that are adjacent to this last parcel and the Sewer District is not in the business of owning property. They will take a conservation easement which is what they want, but they prefer the title of the property be given over to the City and since we already have three adjacent properties it just seems like the logical thing to do that was an area that was flooding many years ago when we got a federal grant to buy out three house and knock them down; that area has to be maintained in perpetuity for stormwater reasons, you cannot develop it.

Mr. Schmitzer states we are working with Soil and Water, the Sewer District, and West Creek. There has always been discussions about something done for stormwater management, there are high banks that go to the creek, they have looked at possibly cutting some of the banks out to try to create a flood plain in the open space except that we cannot use it for anything. It will allow the water to dissipate there, that may be part of discussion that Sewer District brings to us when they discuss of all their Master Plans. West Creek is looking to buy houses across the street as well, it is what I heard, I do not know for certain. The idea is to open up that area, knock the houses down and create some sort of flood plan conservation area.

Mr. Kelly states we will make sure that it gets placed in ordinance form for your consideration at the next meeting.

ADJOURNMENT

Moved by Ms. Fenos, seconded by Mr. Weimer to adjourn the November 4, 2020 meeting. Yeas: 3. Nays: 0. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 6:55 p.m.