

STORM WATER COMMITTEE MINUTES FEBRUARY 7, 2023

The Storm Water Committee meeting was held on February 7, 2023 at North Royalton City Hall, 14600 State Road. The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m.

PRESENT: **Committee Members:** Chair Linda Barath, John Nickell, Mike Wos; **Council:** Paul Marnecheck, Joanne Krejci, Jeremy Dietrich; **Administration:** Mayor Larry Antoskiewicz, City Engineer Justin Haselton, Law Director Tom Kelly, Finance Director Jenny Esarey, Wastewater Superintendent Mark Smith; **Other:** Joel Spatz, Jessica Fenos.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Ms. Barath moved to excuse Mr. Wos from voting on the January 3, 2023 Storm Water Committee meeting minutes, seconded by Mr. Nickell. Vote: Yeas: 3 Nays: 0 **Motion carried.**

Approval of January 3, 2023 Storm Water Committee minutes. Moved by Ms. Barath, seconded by Mr. Nickell. Vote: Yeas: 3 Nays: 0. **Motion carried.**

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

1. Storm Water/Infrastructure Maintenance Monthly Report

See report.

2. Maintenance Projects

Mr. Haselton provided an update on the Northeast Ohio Regional Sewer District project near Sprague Road and Thornhurst Drive, which was delayed late last year due to a water line conflict. That it is expected to start construction in March. They are planning some data collection and survey in the Oakridge Drive and Maplegrove Avenue area for a report that they are putting together. We anticipate receiving that in the summer to look at stormwater issues there.

Mr. Nickell mentioned several houses that he noticed had been demolished. He pointed out that many people dislike paying a tax or a fee, however, on a positive note, we are getting a lot of things out of it; problems are being taken care of. Ms. Barath noted that some projects are not quite in the process yet, but would be starting very soon; at least four projects in her ward. Mayor Antoskiewicz stated that it is actually, almost the whole section that is getting redone. There is also one on Thornhurst, and another one that Mr. Smith will be going out to bid for the City, which we received money for; the grant for a pump station and splitting off to help some things. There are a lot of projects going on with the sewer district.

Ms. Barath commented that we should not feel bad about paying that extra fee. She felt that we are getting our money's worth. Mr. Nickell discussed Bunker Road, inquiring about a house that was torn down. Mr. Haselton concurred. Mr. Nickell asked about any plans with the ones next to it. Mayor Antoskiewicz clarified that they are in negotiations with those and that both should be going down. Ms. Krejci wanted to clarify that it is between State Road and Ridge Road, which Mayor Antoskiewicz agreed. As discussion ensued, there was mention of a few other properties in Ward 2, toward Oakridge.

Mr. Nickell brought up his ward, stating that we also have a major sewer line that goes through there on Bunker. Mr. Haselton indicated that we did a pre-design for that area, in which a study was done entailing removal of those two homes. The sewer district will start an actual design on that area. The Mayor added that we have had a lot of repairs there. Mr. Nickell noted his concern that the line gets exposed during storms.

3. Turnpike Mitigation

No update.

4. York Road Property

Mr. Kelly reported that we have 14 out of 15 required signatures on the judgement entry. We are waiting for one more signature, which this one may take longer. The other lawyer on that case is not as familiar with it, and he has asked us for some more time to review it and make contact with his client. We are still pleased with where we are, bearing in mind that these things take time. Mr. Kelly concluded that he would keep Council informed.

5. Cleaning the Mains

Mr. Smith summarized that again, once the weather turns around, we will start back to cleaning the larger mains.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Amending 1481.08 – Storm Water Management

Mayor Antoskiewicz wanted to add this for those who may not be familiar with it. It goes back to 2018, whereas we put in place, to Storm Water Maintenance, money in the budget that allowed the HOA's (Homeowners Associations) to get a piece of that; if they did proper maintenance, etc. Formerly, we amended it to include homeowners that may be in a group or a larger section. He would like to try to amend the section conveying that they can only receive grant funds once every three years. Initially, this was really for retention detention basins. There are HOA's that have creeks running through their properties. Some of their maintenance, along with their retention, have less than a three-year span. He received some input from Ms. Esarey, whereas since 2018, we have continually put in \$25,000. Mayor Antoskiewicz pointed out that we have never used the whole amount.

Mayor Antoskiewicz indicated that he would like to develop some language included in item number 6, where it currently states that you can only apply every three years, in order to try and add something that would allow us to give to those HOA's; if there is still money remaining in the account. However, they should not take priority over applicants who received the first round of funding, prior to observation of remaining funds.

Ms. Barath questioned our actual expenditure. Mayor Antoskiewicz explained that in 2018, there was very little spent. As he discussed additional years, he explained that we have never reached the threshold. He feels that if we can develop some simple language to state if there is still money available, one can get that within the three-year period as well. Ms. Barath wanted to clarify that the Mayor did not want to change the threshold, but rather make it available. Mayor Antoskiewicz agreed; if there is still money left and one can apply for it, we can still use it to help out.

Ms. Krejci asked if we should have a deadline where people need to apply by, in order to know that we have money left over. Mayor Antoskiewicz believed that they apply at different times; inconsistently. Hypothetically, you are going to have to wait until an answer is provided whether there will be reimbursement, to move forward with a project; it would be a matter of whether they are getting anything from us. Ms. Barath questioned if they would move forward with the project without those assurances. Mayor Antoskiewicz indicated that most of them would because they have to; it is not like they can stop.

Mr. Marnecheck asked if it is more of a reimbursement, stating that if they are doing the work and then coming to us, we are actually reimbursing them for a portion of it. Mayor Antoskiewicz clarified that everything is a reimbursement anyhow. He concurred, stating that they can file the application, however, they do not receive anything until the work is completed. Mr. Marnecheck agreed however, currently they know before the work starts that they are getting reimbursed. Under this scenario, they would complete the work and be prepared to pay for it fully; hoping that there are left over funds to get reimbursed. Therefore, it is a little different. Mayor Antoskiewicz commented that they can try waiting toward the end of the year and apply. Mr. Marnecheck noted

that the work would be done the next year nonetheless. The Mayor stated that it depends on when that is. Mr. Marnecheck suggested putting a deadline, perhaps for the first round of funding. Mayor Antoskiewicz indicated that you could, if someone applies in December; the work is not going to get completed. Mr. Marnecheck stated hypothetically, that you could have someone turn in an application in October, and not find out until the month of December about reimbursement; for a portion. He concluded that they are doing the work and making payment before they know an answer, as to whether they are going to get any City funds to offset the costs.

Mr. Kelly suggested that if Council desires, the Law Department could draft some language. Mayor Antoskiewicz wanted to bring up the idea, with the hope that if Council is okay with it, we would figure out the appropriate wording. The desired wording resulted as follows:

"In the event that unencumbered funds remain in the fund account as of August 1st of any fiscal year, any qualified applicant with a project may apply for those unencumbered funds including applicants which were successful in the first round of that same year. Priority will be given to applicants who were not successful in the first round of funding."

Mr. Nickell stated people may not be aware that they could receive 25% toward a project; it maxes out at \$7,000. Mayor Antoskiewicz was in agreeance. As discussion ensued, Mr. Nickell wanted to know if there is a roll over, or if it is \$25,000 yearly. Mayor Antoskiewicz clarified that it is \$25,000 every year. Mr. Nickell wanted to know, if we have not been using the full amount, that the number is \$25,000. The Mayor believed the way it reads implies that the work will be reviewed on a first come, first serve basis; available as limited by City Council funding. Applications can be denied for completeness or lack of sufficient funding. He stated that whether it results in them getting paid this year or next year, they must wait until the requirement is met. He suggested that if Council agrees, to explore what we can have drafted. The Mayor explained that he is just trying to see if we can continue to help those that want to spend the money and do the work.

Mr. Nickell asked the committee if we can add an item, the Northeast Ohio Sewer District Projects, as a regular item on the Storm Water agenda, so that we can be kept up to date.

Ms. Barath moved to add the item NEORS to the Storm Water Committee agenda, seconded by Mr. Nickell. Yeas: 3; Nays: 0. **Motion carried.**

ADJOURNMENT

Moved by Ms. Barath, seconded by Mr. Wos **to adjourn the February 7, 2023 meeting.** Yeas: 3; Nays: 0. **Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 6:20 p.m.**

Stormwater Jobs

January 2023

Property Address	Work performed	Date
Citywide	flood patrol	3-Jan
	box truck shelving	3-Jan
	pm Vactor truck	3-Jan
	pipe inventory	4-Jan
	box truck shelving	4-Jan
Citywide	flood patrol	4-Jan
11990 Apollo	cleaned debris from grates	5-Jan
Timber Ridge Plaza	investigated flooding call	5-Jan
	box truck shelving	5-Jan
7951 State	jet/cleaned from 4603 W Sprague to State and Sprague	6-Jan
8981 Elmwood	checked inlet for debris	9-Jan
8767 Royalhaven	checked and cleaned debris in culvert	9-Jan
11288 Drake	jet/cleaned storm lateral	9-Jan
Viewpoint subdivision	checked catch basins	10-Jan
Cartwright Prkwy	cleared grate in creek	10-Jan
	box truck shelving	10-Jan
Citywide	flood patrol	11-Jan
"A" plant	cleaned silt under bridge	11-Jan
Cinnamon Lakes	cleaned culvert under road	12-Jan
14471 Hillside	cleaned debris at storm inlet	12-Jan
Citywide	flood patrol	12-Jan
	box truck shelving	12-Jan
Citywide	snow plow for Service Dept	13-Jan
	box truck shelving	16-Jan
Potomac	cleaned retention basin outlet	17-Jan
Chesapeake	cleaned retention basin outlet	17-Jan
Apollo	cleaned retention basin outlet	17-Jan
Huntington Close	cleaned retention basin outlet	17-Jan
Queensway	cleaned retention basin outlet	17-Jan
Castle	cleaned retention basin outlet	17-Jan
Jamestown	cleaned retention basin outlet	17-Jan
Lodge	cleaned retention basin outlet	17-Jan
Kingston Way	cleaned retention basin outlet	17-Jan

Stormwater Jobs

January 2023

Timber Ridge	cleaned retention basin outlet	17-Jan
3753 W Sprague	cleaned culvert	18-Jan
	bow truck shelving	18-Jan
Citywide	flood patrol	19-Jan
Elementary School	redefined ditch	19-Jan
	box truck shelving	19-Jan
	box truck shelving	20-Jan
"A" and "B" plant	plowed snow	23-Jan
	box truck shelving	23-Jan
	clean vehicles	24-Jan
	box truck shelving	24-Jan
"A" and "B" plant	plowed snow	25-Jan
	cleaned vehicles	25-Jan
	box truck shelving	25-Jan
	box truck shelving	26-Jan
	cleaned garage	27-Jan
	box truck shelving	27-Jan
	box truck shelving	30-Jan
	box truck shelving	31-Jan