

STORM WATER COMMITTEE MINUTES JULY 1, 2014

The Storm Water Committee meeting was held on July 1, 2014 at North Royalton City Hall, 13834 Ridge Road. The meeting was called to order at 6:27 p.m.

PRESENT: Committee Members: Chair Steve Muller, Vice Chair John Nickell, Dan Langshaw; Council: Larry Antoskiewicz, Dan Kasaris, Paul Marnecheck, Gary Petrusky; Administration: Mayor Robert Stefanik, Service Director Nick Cinquepalmi, City Engineer Mark Schmitzer, Asst. Law Director Donna Vozar; Other: Margaret Pafford, Bob Wehegan, Christopher Lysyj, Dale Weinschreider.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Moved by Mr. Langshaw, seconded by Mr. Nickell to **approve the June 3, 2014 minutes**. Yeas: 3. Nays: 0.
Motion carried.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

1. **Storm Water/Infrastructure Maintenance Monthly Report**

Council reviewed the report previously distributed by Mr. Cinquepalmi. Mr. Kasaris asked if the storm we had last Sunday caused any problems. Mr. Cinquepalmi said the intense rain did not last long enough to cause any problems.

Mr. Muller recognized any residents present who wished to address the committee.

Bob Wehegan, 8456 Hunting Drive, said that the May storm flooded their basement and the water came through the drain in the basement causing considerable damage. He said that they have had to install a new water heater and new furnace. He said something must be done to correct the problem because he is the low point in the street and therefore is the home that gets all the water. He said that he has been told that the sewers are all functional and working correctly, but that doesn't make it better because every time it rains, he gets a river of water in his backyard. He said that this is causing considerable stress and strain. Mayor Stefanik said that he believes that the Wastewater Supt. has talked to Mr. Wehegan about a back flow preventer. Mr. Wehegan said yes he would like the city to do this. He said that this is not the first time that he has had water in his basement. Several years ago when we had that other bad storm, he had to throw out a lot of belongings that were ruined. He felt that if the sewers were functioning correctly, we would not be having these issues. Mr. Tigue said that there were 160 homes that had back up. He said that in the three year span in between those two storms that caused Mr. Wehegan to have flooding, there have been hundreds of storms where he didn't have back up. Mr. Wehegan said that every time there is a bad rain they get water. They have just been lucky that we haven't had more. He said that he had considerable work done after the first storm to try and alleviate this problem. Mayor Stefanik said that the city will review Mr. Wehegan's request and get back to him by Monday of next week.

Dale Weinschreider, 8509 Hunting Drive, said that his home got water in his basement in 2010, and with the storm we just had in May he got about 6 inches of water. He asked that something be done with the retention basin to keep it from overflowing during these heavy rains. He said that when the basin spills over, it becomes like a raging river and is very scary. He said that he is doing what he can to fix his home to help ensure that he does not get water in his basement, but wonders what could be done to fine tune this basin to make it more efficient and avoid these back up issues as much as possible. Mayor Stefanik said that the city will pull the last inspection of the basin and then come out to the site to take a look at it. Mayor Stefanik said that if there are things we can do in individual circumstances to make the situation better, we are going to do everything we can to help. But with a storm like we had, there is no sewer system in the world that could be built large enough to take the water out. Mayor Stefanik thanked Mr. Weinschreider for being proactive and taking measures to improve the situation in his home. Discussion ensued regarding the efforts the city is making to try and keep residents from dumping debris in any of the waterways. Mayor Stefanik said that we will cite anyone caught doing this into court. He encouraged neighbors to let us know if they witness this being done so that we can prevent it from happening.

Margaret Pafford, 12913 Kingston Way, said that two years ago there was work done by the city on the back creek area to mitigate the erosion and to clear out the pathway. She said there was concern at that time regarding the solution with respect to understanding the water flows and how long this solution would last. She said there was a two year guarantee on the contract and a little over a year into this period all of the work effectively washed downstream. She said while the erosion is frustrating, the main concern is safety. She said that there were some large concrete slabs that were laid with rock placed on top. She said after the stone washed away all that was left was the bare slabs. During the storm on May 12, the water lifted the slabs vertically. She said that this is a safety concerns because there are children that wander up and down the creek bed. The city came in after the storm on May 12th and put the slabs back down. She said as of week ago, the slabs are vertical again. She said that she understands that the Mayor has indicated that this project may be submitted to the state for funding assistance. She said that she has been working with the Cuyahoga County Soil and Water Conservation District and has planted several hundred willows along the bank for erosion control. Ms. Pafford said that she wants to know if there is a plan for this issue. Mayor Stefanik said that this is one of the projects that the city has submitted to the Ohio Emergency Management. Some of the other projects submitted are: the two basin issues down at the end of Wildwood in Ward 1; 8700 Boston Road; the retention basin at Royal Valley; Bunker Road between Ridge and State where the creek goes underneath both sides of the road; the berms on Cady Road; Elmwood Oval; Kingston Oval; the creek that goes behind Lynn, Hawley and Delsy; and the headwall behind the homes on Shenandoah. We should know by the end of July if we are going to get reimbursement of 75% so that we can contract these jobs out. He said there is no guarantee but if we don't get the funding we know that we are going to have to get into a couple of these areas right away. He said unfortunately, sometimes the best we can do is just put things back the way they were before a storm and then fix it again after the next storm. Ms. Pafford said that the contract for the project in her area had a two year guarantee. She said that she would argue that the situation is not rectified. Mayor Stefanik said that our City Engineer and Law Department will look into this. Ms. Pafford said that she understands that putting things back the way they were is a solution, however she said that these concrete slabs are now making the situation worse. She suggested not putting them back the way they were but rather place them in such a way that they actually disperse the energy correctly, or take them out. Mayor Stefanik said that the more we have worked the last 6 years, the more we have seen that the slabs really don't work as effectively as the gabion baskets. He said that we may need to think about using the gabion baskets exclusively in the future. Ms. Pafford said that if you look back at the documentation on this project, one of the original proposed solutions was the installation of the gabion baskets. Mayor Stefanik said that we will look into this and will have an answer by the next Storm Water meeting. Ms. Pafford said that she has a lot of documentation and photos of what has been done over the years and said she would be happy to share this with the city.

2. **2014 Projects**

Mayor Stefanik updated the committee on work being done throughout the city in the last month. He said the crews were on Bennett Road today working on the creek that goes under the road. He said tomorrow they are going to the Callas development retention basin and will be meeting with the two people who have taken over the development and get them to put the basin back the way it should be. He said that the city has cited Cutter Oil for all three of the areas where he has been dumping debris. He said that we will be on Beechwood next Monday to show the people what we want to do with the retention basin; he said he took a tour with Ed Biesiada a few weeks ago and showed him what we were doing. Mayor Stefanik said that the Army Corps of Engineers is coming on July 8th to see Cinnamon Lake and Worthington, Rt. 82 Hill, Bunker Road, and the property we purchased from Callas. We are hoping to get final approval on this so that we can get started on the design for the retention basin. Mayor Stefanik said that the bids are going out on Monday for Cedar Estates for Phase 1. Mr. Schmitzer said we will be upsizing a good portion of the pipes to make the flows come up to current standards for a storm sewer designed for any subdivision. He is hoping to get some direction at the Army Corps meeting that he can move forward with. Mr. Nickell asked if the work will take place in the fall or the spring? Mr. Schmitzer said it will depend on what the Army Corps tells us. If they tell us that there are going to be a lot of restrictions, it

might change the design enough that it may restrict us to work in a certain season based on the sensitivity of certain items. He said it may grow into a third phase so that we can get at least part of the second phase done and then wait until the correct season for the last bit. Mr. Nickell asked for a copy of the bid specs so that he has an idea of what is being done so that he can communicate this to the residents. Mr. Schmitzer said that he will get him an informational packet for the residents. Mr. Nickell asked if the work is being done on the tree lawns. Mr. Schmitzer said yes, this is where all the storm sewers are. Mr. Schmitzer said that they are going to follow the existing storm system to the creek for the northern part of Cedar Estates. Based on this, certain pipes and manholes will be replaced and upsized to allow for better flow. He said there will be a couple hundred trees that will need to be cut down. Mr. Nickell asked if the pipe that enters in behind Elmwood Oval is part of this project. Mr. Schmitzer said that they will look at it but it really just needs to be patched in areas. Mr. Nickell said that it needs to be looked at. Mr. Schmitzer said we opened up the outlet. Mr. Nickell said that we need to do our due diligence to ensure that the pipe is clean.

3. **Hawley/Delsy/Lynn/Beechwood creek erosion and maintenance**

Discussion occurred under Item 2.

4. **Turnpike Mitigation**

Mayor Stefanik said that we have been awarded almost \$1 million, along with Strongsville and Olmsted Falls. The three cities will sit down in the near future and discuss bidding the project out as one project. Mr. Schmitzer said that the parameters for the project as submitted were between the overpasses on York Road and Bennett Road on the north side of the turnpike, the west bound lane side. He said that the Turnpike Commission now wants to do some more studies to make sure that this is the right place for the project and the right type of project. He said that they might modify it slightly based on some additional parameters and then send that on to us saying here's the money, here's the project, go ahead with it. Mr. Antoskiewicz said that even though we submitted a specific area in the project, can we tweak the area. The Mayor said yes. Discussion on the types of sound barriers that can be used was held. Mr. Schmitzer said that the original study proposed straight walls. He said that we are waiting to hear more from the Turnpike Commission and ODOT on the next steps.

NEW BUSINESS

Mrs. Vozar said we have a problem with collapsed culverts. In an effort to make sure that the storm system works effectively, we get permission from the resident to fix the culvert and the resident agrees to pay for the materials and supplies. We have run into a problem where some residents are unwilling to pay for this work. In order to protect the health, safety and welfare of the city and to keep the storm sewer system working, we need a policy where we can go in and do the work and then assess the cost to the property taxes after all due process has occurred, similar to how we handle grass cutting. Mr. Antoskiewicz asked if we have the manpower to go in after the 10 day notification and perform this work, or are we going to contract this work out. If we do contract this out, then will we be adding the cost of labor as well. Mrs. Vozar said that it is her understanding that we will be doing this in house like we have always done. She said that if that changes and we decide that we need to contract this work out, then obviously we would assess whatever the cost of this work would be, including labor. Mr. Antoskiewicz asked if we need to include this stipulation in the legislation. Mrs. Vozar said that it would actually be in the notice sent to the homeowner. Mr. Antoskiewicz asked if this is something we can do in house on this kind of timeframe. How quickly after the 10 day notice expires will we be able to perform this work. Mr. Cinquepalmi said that this is typically a one day job and did not see this timeframe as a problem. He said the biggest hurdle is getting permission to do the work. If one person holds out then the rest of the street suffers. This is why we are taking this step. Mayor Stefanik said that if a resident needs a longer time to do the work and contacts us about it, we will work with them within reason. Mr. Cinquepalmi said that the cost for this work is usually low, sometimes as little as a few hundred dollars. Mayor Stefanik said that he wouldn't be surprised if some people would prefer to have it assessed to their taxes. Mr. Cinquepalmi gave an overview of the work involved. Mrs. Vozar said that this proposed legislation makes sure that the culverts are in good repair, and if they are not in good repair and collapses, then we

have the authority to fix it and recoup the cost for the city if the homeowner does not pay. Mr. Langshaw asked for an explanation the \$70.00 fee. Mrs. Vozar said that his is the same as we do for the grass cutting. It's a way to make people more responsive to paying the bill. Mr. Schmitzer said that this legislation might enable us to look into the problem with gravel aprons and driveways that can cause culvert blockage as well.

ADJOURNMENT

Moved by Mr. Langshaw, seconded by Mr. Muller **to adjourn the July 1, 2014 meeting.** Yeas: 3. Nays: 0.
Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 7:24 p.m.

Storm Department Monthly Report

- June 3rd – 12705 Pioneer Trl – manhole buried under sidewalk removed 2 concrete squares raised manhole 15" to grade formed sidewalk
- June 4th – Applewood Dr – excavate trenched 4' in depth 250'
York Rd & York Alpha Dr – jet 46" storm main
- June 5th – 8880 Wildwood Dr – televise storm main
12705 Pioneer Trl – poured 2 sidewalk squares
10785 Montauk Point – excavated and removed silt & stone from entrance to culvert pipe
- June 6th – 10785 Montauk Point – excavated and removed silt & stone from entrance to culvert pipe
York Rd & York Alpha Dr – jet and vac 46" storm main
6178 Castle Dr – excavate removed silt from entrance to inlet pipe
- June 9th – 6178 Castle Dr – excavate and remove silt from entrance to inlet pipe clean spillway, excavate and remove debris from exit pipe
York Rd & York Alpha Dr – jet and vac 46" storm main
3275 Helen Dr – reset manholes, excavated around manhole and removed, installed a 4" grade ring and mortared casting onto grade and backfilled, backyard – excavated around manhole mortared casting to grade and backfilled
- June 10th – York Rd & York Alpha Dr – jet and vac 46" storm main
Buckingham Shire Retention Basin – restore spillway
*Storm Water operator working with Waste Water to repair force main
- June 11th – York Rd & York Alpha Dr – jet and vac 46" storm main
Buckingham Shire Retention Basin – restore spillway
- June 12th – York Rd & York Alpha Dr – jet and vac 46" storm main
- June 13th – York Rd & York Alpha Dr – jet and vac 46" storm main
Buckingham Shire Retention Basin – restore spillway
- May 15th – Storm Clean Up – clean culvert North on Abbey Rd
8778 Wallings Rd – cleaned and removed silt and rocks from inlet of pipe and hauled away
- June 16th – 9445 Chesapeake Dr – removing large deposits of shale from inlet pipe
- June 17th – 9445 Chesapeake Dr – chip trees, grading and restoring, clay mound
- June 18th – 9445 Chesapeake Dr – excavating and installing gabion baskets
- June 19th – 9445 Chesapeake Dr – excavating and installing gabion baskets

- June 20th – 9445 Chesapeake Dr – installed top course of gabion baskets added clay to top of mound and graded
- June 21st – 9445 Chesapeake Dr – spread top soil on mound, seeded and straw, landscaped yard and reinstalled fence
- June 23rd – 9445 Chesapeake Dr – topsoil clay mound seeded and straw mats, seeded and straw easement
- June 24th – 9331 Chesapeake Dr – moving clay dirt to spillway and grading
- June 25th – 4692 Bennett Rd – saw cut driveway
12812 Kingston Way Retention – repaired grate at the exit pipe
- June 26th – 9331 Chesapeake Dr – excavating and grading spillway
- June 27th – 9331 Chesapeake Dr – grading spillway replacing “B” rock on top and backside of spillway, landscaped backside of spillway seed and straw, landscaped road to retention basin seed and straw