

STORM WATER COMMITTEE MINUTES SEPTEMBER 3, 2019

The Storm Water Committee meeting was held on September 3, 2019 at North Royalton City Hall, 14600 State Road. The meeting was called to order at 6:19 p.m.

PRESENT: Committee Members: Chairman Gary Petrusky, Vice Chair Dan Langshaw, Cheryl Hannan; **Council:** Larry Antoskiewicz, John Nickell, Paul Marnecheck, Dan Kasaris; **Administration:** Mayor Robert Stefanik, Law Director Thomas Kelly, Wastewater Supt. Mark Smith, Service Director Nick Cinquepalmi, City Engineer Mark Schmitzer; **Other:** Jessica Fenos, Vincent Weimer, Dawn Carbone McDonald, Mike Wos, Jeremy Dietrich.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Moved by Mr. Langshaw, seconded by Mrs. Hannan to **approve the July 2, 2019 minutes**. Roll Call: Yeas: 3. Nays: 0. **Motion carried.**

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

1. Storm Water/Infrastructure Maintenance Monthly Report

A copy of this report is attached to these minutes. Mr. Langshaw asked if the stormwater crew is doing any stormwater work at the church near Castle Drive and State Road. Mayor Stefanik said that the Water Department is running a water line.

2. Maintenance Projects

Mr. Cinquepalmi reviewed the report, a copy of which is attached to these minutes. He explained the catch basin work that is being done.

3. Turnpike Mitigation

Mr. Schmitzer said that they are working with First Energy on the York Road drainage project to get clearance over their easement for the high-tension power lines. He is also working on the environmental clearance for working near a waterway. Once the plans are approved by ODOT with these items completed, we are still looking at a spring of 2020 construction.

Mr. Nickell said that he sent in an Action Request form for a sink hole where the creek comes from the York Road ball fields exit going west towards York Road and asked if Mr. Schmitzer has seen it. Mr. Schmitzer said he doesn't recall getting the request and asked that it be resent.

Mr. Nickell asked if there is an update on how the Omni project is going to tie in their water. Mr. Schmitzer said that we are currently reviewing the plans that just came in from their engineer.

NEW BUSINESS

None.

MISCELLANEOUS

Dan Meges, 4617 Oakridge Drive, addressed the committee. He said that he is here with some of his neighbors because they are concerned about the severe flooding they had. He said that they had a meeting with the sewer district in his backyard with about 25 neighbors. He said they spoke to us about some of the solutions and listened to our concerns. He said that Mr. Antoskiewicz was there as well so he is aware of the situation, as is Councilman Petrusky. He said that we are here tonight to make sure that the rest of Council understands the urgency of this situation. Dr. Meges said that the two solutions to this is to either control the outflow from Royal Valley or the outflow from Oakridge Drive. The sewer district said that they feel it would be best if they could increase the flow and increase the size of the culverts so that it does not flood Oakridge and Maple Grove and maybe even increase the flow through his yard. He said that they would be very grateful if this could happen in the very near future. He said that some of us are very concerned about the 3 retention basins in Royal Valley. He said even if you increase the flow, there is an erosion problem that many of us have, plus we still have problems on Bunker that floods even if they increase the outflow from Oakridge. All

three retention basins are partially filled with water. He said that about a month ago he walked each basin during a moderate rain. It didn't flood, but all three have a muddy silt that flows into them so we know there is sediment there. He said that the sewer district told him that part of the usual and customary maintenance of retention basins that are partially filled with water is periodic dredging. He said that none of them have ever been dredged. If we actually lower the volume and empty them, the sewer district didn't think it would help very much. Dr. Meges felt that dredging won't help and unless we control the flow out of the retention basins, there are people that will never see a solution. He said that two of the basins, Pond 53 and Pond 54 have about a 3-foot capacity. Pond 55 is the largest and the drainage into this pond is easily twice what the other two are combined. He found it 2 inches below flood stage. He said that Mr. Petrusky told him that at most, there is one foot of capacity in the entire pond. He said that the problem we have is semantics. Everyone who investigates this issue says they function properly by overflowing when the rain is over the capacity of the retention basin to hold it back. When they overflow properly, as designed, is when they flood. Although these basins operate properly and the way they are designed to function, it's totally inadequate and causes horrible problems at Bunker, Oakridge, and Maple Grove. He said that as the silt builds up, the volume is going to decrease rather than increase. He said that the sewer district told them that it is the responsibility of City Council and the Mayor to make sure that these retention basins are maintained properly, and that includes dredging. He said that he was told that the city not only has the responsibility, but has the authority to see that this happens. He said that they are here tonight to encourage City Council to help them with this matter. He said that we can increase the flow of water outside his Oakridge backyard, but unless we decrease the flow of water in to the Oakridge neighborhood, none of the solutions will be 100% effective. He said there is a solution to this. All we have to do is increase the volume of the retention basins and increase the outflow. Unless we control the retention basin volume, we are still going to have erosion problems and Bunker Road will still flood during a heavy rain.

Mayor Stefanik said that the NEORSD should be wrapping up their study later this year. He said that he knows they came out to bring the residents up to date on what they have so far. He said that there are short term solutions and long term solutions. He said that he knows that Dr. Meges and his neighbors were told that increasing the capacity by either dredging or lowering the ponds would not do much as far as the flooding is concerned. He does not necessarily agree with this. He said that he sits on the NEORSD board, so he understands what they are saying. He said that in the short term, we are going to look at the three basins when NEORSD completes their report later this year. If it is determined to be time for them to dredge it out, he assures that the city will insist that they dredge it out. This would be at the cost of the Royal Valley Homeowners' Association. For the long-term solutions, he said that some houses may be torn down in the Bunker area. He said that there are two coming down in the Oakridge subdivision and maybe more. He said that we just applied for about \$2.5 million worth of properties with a federal program that just became available in order to take down these homes. He said that with both a short term and long-term approach, we are hoping to make a bad situation better. He does not know if we will ever be able to cure the situation. Some of the items that were brought up tonight are ones that he thinks we should move forward on, but he wants to wait until we get the final report that we should be receiving in a few weeks. At that point, he would like to have a meeting with everyone in Oakridge and Royal Valley to work on this collectively. He said that if we know a heavy rain is coming, there have been times where we have gone up and lowered the pond. However, on July 5th we did not expect 6 inches of rain. Dr. Meges said that he was led to believe that there was going to be a meeting in August where the sewer district would actually decide what they are going to put on their agenda for next year's work, and then in December when the budget is set, they will prioritize what they can afford to do next year. He asked if the Mayor knows yet if Oakridge has made the cut. Mayor Stefanik said that he does not, but we should know in a month or two.

Mr. Langshaw asked Dr. Meges if Oakridge has an HOA. Dr. Meges said that they had one when he first moved in but it just deteriorated due to lack of interest by the mid 80's. He said that the HOA fought the Bunker development being built because of flooding worries. He has discussed this with the incoming Council representative and knows that she is committed to this issue and shares their concerns.

Tim Barns, 4812 Oakridge Drive, addressed the committee. He said that 8 ½ years ago when the flood happened, the city installed culverts, dredged out the stream bed and installed gabion baskets. However, all this did was tunnel the water into the dirt wall and now the water comes up to his deck and has been on his deck 5 times this year and he is 25 feet to the base. He said after the event 8 ½ years ago, the city installed a back-flow valve in their basement. Since then he has had 3 claims and once it even pressurized so much that it blew the back-flow valve out. He said there is now a very large boulder that is fully exposed and oak trees are the only thing holding up the bank. When the gabion baskets were installed, all it did was channel the water to flow faster. He said emptying the basins will not stop the water. It will keep coming until the stream is back to its natural path, which basically comes through the center of his house. Mayor Stefanik said that this is one of the plans if they do in fact purchase your home.

Mayor Stefanik said that he sees that there are some residents present from Valley Lane. He said that the sewer district is continuing with the flow monitoring. He said that there will be a joint project next year between the city and Broadview Hts. with the Valley Lane retention basin. He said that meetings will be held with the residents when this happens. He encouraged anyone with questions from all of the areas discussed this evening to feel free to call him or the sewer district.

Mr. Petrusky asked if the study will also look at some of the other feeder lines farther down Bunker Road just past State Road. There are several issues with flooding in this area. Mayor Stefanik said that the whole storm water system in the area is being included in the study. Mr. Petrusky said that when the sewer district was here in August, they said that from what they saw in the preliminary study, the culvert under Oakridge and the culvert under Maplegrove were too small. He asked if these have to be done, who is going to have pay for this; the city or the sewer district. He said that he knows we have replaced these pipes in the past.

Darlene Meges addressed the committee. She said that she has one of the worst flooding problems in Oakridge. She said that Mr. Petrusky is right, the city did replace these culvert pipes around 12 years ago. When they went in, they said at that time that the pipes are too small and are never going to handle this water, but they put in the same size pipes. She said this was the city's mistake and should not have installed them in the first place. Mayor Stefanik said that this part of the creek is under the sewer district's jurisdiction.

Mr. Petrusky asked about the other creek that is farther up that runs behind what used to be the Double's house and under Bunker. He said that this might run between Stephanie and State Road. Mayor Stefanik said that he does not believe that this is under the sewer district's jurisdiction. Mr. Petrusky asked how they pick and choose which creeks are or are not under their jurisdiction. Mayor Stefanik said that you have to reach a 300 acre threshold of water coming into an area.

Patrick Carrabine, 8161 State Road, addressed the committee. He said that he moved in last September and this was his first experience with flooding. He said that it is the city that has directed the water through his backyard. He said the city is using his natural stream as a storm water exit to get out of the area, and now you are saying that it is not going to be covered underneath. Mayor Stefanik said that when the Oakridge subdivision was first built, there was a stream that went completely through Oakridge. The developer decided to take a couple of 90 degree turns so they could fit in the most houses possible. This is something that is no longer allowed. He said that he understands that this doesn't help Oakridge residents today; but it's our problem now and we have to deal with it. He said that the stream on Mr. Carrabine's property takes a 90 degree turn and this is probably not a natural stream. Mr. Carrabine said that the city allowed this to happen and it ended up being a storm water drainage creek. He said that 12 feet of water coming through this tiny stream is ridiculous. He said that he has 12 feet from the creek bottom to the top of State Road and the water was all the way up to State Road and flowing at 30-40 mph as it was going through. The culvert that is on the south side of Oakridge was completely flooded over the top. He said that he had 2 feet of water and it was half way up his mailbox. He said that another 30 minutes of rain and it would have been coming through his side door and down his basement stairs like a waterfall. Mr. Carrabine asked when the last time the creek was dug out or dredged. Mayor Stefanik said that you can't just go in and dig out something. You have to start at the mouth of the river and work your way up. You can't make it deeper so it holds more water. Mr. Carrabine

asked if they could make the flow so that it doesn't overturn the banks. Mayor Stefanik said that there are some areas that we are never going to be able to fix. He doesn't know if Mr. Carrabine's situation is one that can't be fixed but he said that we are going to try our best to fix this problem.

Steven Schultz, 4780 Bunker Road, addressed the committee. He said that he is one of the three homes that are in conversation about being bought out with the FEMA grant. He asked if the current hurricane will have any bearing on the ability to receive this grant. Mayor Stefanik said he doesn't know and doesn't think anyone has an answer to this right now. Mr. Schultz said that the grant states that FEMA will supply 75% of the purchase price. He asked where the other 25% comes from. Mayor Stefanik said that the city will pay 12.5% and the state will pay the other 12.5%.

John Zajac, 8250 State Road, addressed the committee. He said that he lives directly across the street from Oakridge and asked why the city has not done anything about the water coming from the west side of State Road flowing across State Road. He said that every winter when the water comes across the road it freezes and the city has to send salt trucks because it becomes a sheet of ice. He asked if they can put culverts in like they have on Sprague Road. Mr. Zajac said that the city put in a catch basin but it is not working. Mayor Stefanik said that they will look into it and send someone out the next time it rains.

ADJOURNMENT

Moved by Mr. Langshaw, seconded by Mr. Petrusky **to adjourn the September 3, 2019 meeting**. Yeas: 3.
Nays: 0. **Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 6:54 p.m.**

Street Department & Storm Water Monthly Report – August 2019

8/1/19-Thur.

Crack Sealing-Hunters Creek.

Culvert Pipe-remove and replace pipe at 8491 Parkdale install asphalt apron.

Catch Basins-continue our work in Spyglass.

8/2/19-FRI.

Storm Water-clear out in front of Wildwood culvert, clear off the 10ft grate at the end of Cartwright Pkwy. And ditch out in front of 9887 Akins Rd.

Catch Basin-continue in Spyglass.

8/5/19-Mon.

Catch Basins-continue in Spyglass.

Berming-Albion Rd from York Rd to Ridge Rd.

Signs-Replace lights per NRPD.

8/6/19-Tues.

Concrete-rip out and replace several slabs and catch basin knock out on Villa Grande Dr.

Berming-Albion Rd from Ridge Rd to York Rd.

8/7/19-Wed.

Concrete-continue work on Villa Grande Dr.

Asphalt-grind out several strips and replaced with hot mix on Donmar Rd.

8/8/19-Thur.

Concrete-continue work on Villa Grande Dr and repaired a catch basin at 7920 Hi-View Dr.

Asphalt-finish work on Donmar Rd.

Mowing.

8/9/19-Fri.

Concrete-poured 2 slabs, started work on other side of road on Villa Grande Dr.

Storm Water-repaired several sinkholes on Goodman Dr, Royalwood Rd, Royal Valley Dr, Jamestown Dr and Bristol Ct.

Mowing.

8/12/19-Mon.

Concrete-continue work on Villa Grande Dr.

Asphalt-replace aprons at 4107 Akins Rd and 3448 Akins Rd (previous culvert pipe replacements).

8/13/19-Tues.

Concrete-continue work on Villa Grande Dr.

Storm Water-rebuilt vaulted catch basin at 12235 York Rd.

Landscaping-State Rd and Willow Lake (previously repaired sinkholes).

8/14/19-Wed.

Concrete-poured the rest of Villa Grande Dr.

Foxwood Dr repairs-Started installation of a trench drain at 3273 Foxwood Dr.

Storm Water-finished catch basin rebuild at 1225 York Rd.

Crack sealing-finished Hunters Creek, started Castle Dr.

8/15/19-Thur.

Foxwood Dr repairs-finished trench drain.

Asphalt-grind out several strips and replaced with hot mix on Mapleridge Dr.

Storm Water-replaced concrete around 6" drain in cul-de-sac in front of 5119 Waterbridge Dr.

8/16/19-Fri.

Foxwood Dr repairs-tear out 60ft of sidewalk and set up for Monday morning pour at 3273 Foxwood Dr.

Ditching-10060 & 10181 Delsy Dr and at the dead-end of Highland Dr.

Crack sealing-finish Castle Dr, also sealed repairs on Mapleridge Dr and Donmar Dr. Same crew patched a few holes in Swan Lake at the end of the day

8/19/19-Mon.

Foxwood Dr. Repairs-pour sidewalk around manhole and the rest of sidewalk over sinkhole. In the afternoon start work on Ridge Rd. catch basins [we will repair several basins and curbs south of Wallings Rd.].

Storm Water-clean out in front of storm structure at 19444 Buckingham Shire. In the afternoon repaired a sinkhole at 5252 Akins Rd.

Street Sweeping-Ridge Rd. Parade Rt. Also, litter clean-up.

8/20/19-Tue.

Ridge Rd-finish work on basin & curb repairs.

Storm Water-repair sinkhole around basin at 3161 Fir Tree Dr.

Crack Sealing-Ridge Rd. between Rt82 & Wallings Rd.

8/21/19-Wed.

Storm Water-10278 Abbey Rd. replace pipe going into basin [it was damaged from a car accident].

Catch Basins-start in Timber Ridge Estates [5 basins to be rebuilt].

Crack Sealing- Pioneer Trl., Bennett Rd. from Ridge to Rt82.

8/22/19-Thur.

Storm Water-8521 Yorkview remove & replace 10-foot section of 30-in. pipe in our storm structure [collapsed].

Catch Basins-continue in Timber Ridge.

Rec-Dept.-Sent two guys down to help out cutting grass.

8/23/19-Fri.

Storm Water-finish the pipe job 8521 Yorkview. [backfill & landscaped].

Catch Basins-Finish repairs in Timber Ridge.

Ditching-clean up all 4 corners of Abbey & Albion intersection in the morning,

Crack Sealing-Yorkview in the afternoon, we'll finish Monday.

8/26/19-Mon.

Crack Sealing-finish Yorkview then move over to Glen Abbey.

Ditching-start ditching Edgerton Rd.

Storm Water Ridge Rd.-Catch Basin repairs between Wallings and Albion [both sides, we will address all basins 26 total].

8/27/19-Tue.

Asphalt-Mapleridge Dr. install two more long strips of hot mix in the morning, in the afternoon went back to ditching on Edgerton Rd.

Storm Water Ridge Rd.-continue working on basin repairs.

8/28/19-Wed.

Storm Water Ridge Rd.-continue working on basin repairs.

Ditching-in the morning finished our ditching on Edgerton Rd. in the afternoon start a culvert pipe replacement at 10181 Delsy Dr. we will install asphalt apron Thursday.

Mowing-Guardrails.

8/29/19-Thur.

Storm Water Ridge Rd-continue working on basin repairs.

Asphalt-finish install of asphalt apron at 10181 Delsy Dr. then went to 10514 and 10716 Ridge Rd. to install asphalt around basin repairs.

Mowing- finish cutting around our guardrails.

8/30/19 Fri.

Ditching-10290 Abbey Rd.

Storm Water-Ridge Rd. continue working on basin repairs.

Signs-replacing old signage on State Rd. Install new No Outlet sign at Louis & Lindbergh.