



## **MEETING SUMMARY**

**SUBJECT:** STORMWATER COMMISSION MEETING

**MEETING DATE:** Monday – Marcy 2, 2016 at 5:00 pm

**ATTENDANCE LIST:**

- Carole Teator, Commission Chair, term expires 6/30/17
- Mike Dryden, Commission Member, term expires 6/30/17
- Craig Seeley, Commission Member, term expires 6/30/16
- Stacie Johnson, Commission Member, term expires 6/30/18
- Mike Butterfield, HDR, Inc., term expires 6/30/18
- Sandy Pumphrey, Project Engineer, City Staff
- Sara Baughman, Utilities Communications, City Staff
- Martin Smith, Friends of Cedar Lake Organization Member
- Tammy Schnell, Administrative Assistant II, City Staff
- Debbie O'Meara, Administrative Assistant I, City Staff
- Bev Snider, Kirkwood Estates Mobile Home Park Resident
- Bette Klein, Kirkwood Estates Mobile Home Park Resident
- Christine Mauseth, Manager & Resident, Kirkwood Estates Mobile Home Park

## **DISCUSSION ITEMS**

1. Meeting called to order at 5:05 p.m. by Commission Member, Mike Dryden
2. Introductions were made by Bev Snider, Bette Klein and Christine Mauseth, all Residents of Kirkwood Estate Mobile Home Park
3. **Public Input**
  - A. Speaker: Christine Mauseth, Manager & Resident of Kirkwood Estates Mobile Home Park
    - 1) The make-up of the residents of the mobile home park consists of older residents on Social Security or disability and very fixed incomes; families who are trying to raise their children in a very affordable manner of living; and younger people who are trying to establish a life for themselves by living very affordable now, so they may be able to become homeowners in the future.
    - 2) The office at Kirkwood Estates hosted a petition for residents to sign who oppose the recommended stormwater fee changes. Christine handed a petition with 123 signatures on it to Tammy Schnell.
    - 3) A letter from Rev. & Mrs. Clinton E Jeffers, also residents at the Mobile Home Park, which explains how the amended fees will impact them negatively, was also given to Tammy by Christine.
    - 4) Sandy Pumphrey discussed how the billing changes will affect the mobile home park and the timeframe for implementing the recommended amended changes. He also explained the number of ways the money will be used to assist with stormwater.
    - 5) Mike Dryden added that the reason they started looking at the fee structure to begin with, was to come up with a way to make the stormwater fee more fair.
  - B. Speaker: Bev Klein Resident of Kirkwood Estates Mobile Home Park
    - 1) Bev explained how the new fee structure will impact her personally.
    - 2) Mike stated the new ordinance includes improvements that the Mobile Home Park could implement in order to reduce their fee and then pass it onto the residents at the park.

- 3) Sandy added there is a currently a cap on the fee anyone would pay. This means anyone with a 40 acre lot or more would pay the same rate, whether it is Walmart, K-Mart, etc. A lot of the larger businesses are actually getting a big break for the fact that a lot of residents were subsidizing. The City trying to remove that cap and go with a completely fair system.
- 4) Sandy and Mike discussed the schedule for the ordinance to go the City Council for approval.

#### 4. Stormwater Commission Charter Review

- A. Speaker: Sandy Pumphrey, PE, Project Engineer, City Staff
- 1) There is a charter for this commission.
  - 2) Sandy will send a copy out to the commission for review and comments.

#### 5. Topsoil Status

- A. Speaker: Sandy Pumphrey, PE, Project Engineer, City Staff
- 1) City looking at it as a local issue and has presented it to the Infrastructure Committee twice.
  - 2) Eight methods from the Iowa Stormwater Management manual are referred to. Should they ever change, our ordinance doesn't need to, because it's by reference. One of those methods will be required to be used by Developers when they develop lots.
  - 3) A couple submissions were made by Developers for cost data and were presented to the Infrastructure Committee. There was a difference of opinion about unit costs.
  - 4) More discussion is required and this will likely come back to the Infrastructure Committee a third time. Would like to receive approval in FY 2017.
  - 5) A discussion was held about proof that it has a positive impact and whether this information has been provided to the Developers. We are still looking into getting comparable data. It would be key to include in the ordinance calculations from an Engineering standpoint to prove the reduction based on less compaction in the organic matter content.
  - 6) Stacie Johnson added the Iowa Stormwater Education program is working on a Soil Quality Demonstration Day. On May 5<sup>th</sup>, either on Blairs Ferry Rd or at Frank Bellon's development on Boyson Rd, the different various equipment and methods will be tried out. Stacie will send Sara Baughman information on this and then it will be distributed to the Commissioners.

#### 6. Stormwater Utility Fee Structure for FY17

- 1) Cara explained the main goal of the Outreach Credit is a credit to have some ownership and buy-in by the property owner. The credit coupled with green infrastructure would be the best. Larger businesses could provide training to their employees to receive a credit, but specific protocol would have to be followed for the training. Measuring this education is a hard thing to do, but that's where a lot of this is at.
- 2) The property owner would fill out the Credit Application form (which is still being finalized) and this form provides guidance, which explains the credits available and what they need to do to receive them. Sandy read those guidelines and credits aloud to the Committee. He will provide a copy of the form to Stacie. Further discussion was held on whether it would be beneficial to do a pilot program first, as Stacie suggested.
- 3) Discussion was held on how the education would be measured. Cara said that measuring education is the hardest thing to do, but that's where a lot of it is at. It's going to have to be on a case by case basis. Part of the education credit is also getting people out to creeks and getting credit for doing it for a certain number of hours. Martin said that since there is a requirement in LEED credits for some education for staff members and residents in dormitories, we might want to align our education with that.
- 4) For larger businesses, they won't see the credits until the fifth year, when they're not being capped anymore.

#### 7. Reports

A. *Commissioners' Reports*

- 1) *Stormwater Ordinance Game Plan*
  - a. Discussion was held on how the ordinance is based on pre-development and how things are going to be developed from here on out, and that the stormwater fee is based on past development and that they are billed based on impervious surface and are given credits to retrofit and reduce their bill.

- b. Sandy will gather the original ordinance, the ordinance with the changes proposed in the past (but never formally adopted) and the ordinance with most recent changes recommended.
  - c. No other update was provided, since Carole was absent from the meeting.
- 2) Topic(s) from Commissioners:
- a. Craig Seely discussed an article about a technique called the Laparoscopic Technique that could save the City millions of dollars if a water crisis ever occurs here like it did in Flint, MI.
  - b. Craig asked how much damage is done to the stormwater system from all of the sand that's on all the streets. Mike Butterfield explained that if there's a low flow, some sand and sediment is going to settle into the sewers. But, only if there is some kind of corrosive, is it going to corrode the sewer pipe. Larger rain events should pass the sand and sediment through.
  - c. Craig discussed an article about the Prairie Plan Resource Institute in Aurora, NE native grass planting and how something like that might help adjust nitrate levels in the northern part of the Cedar River Corridor so we won't have to spend millions down here to get it out of the drinking water.
  - d. Stacie asked what the protocol is for submitting items for this agenda. After discussion on this, the following process was agreed upon:
    - After Sandy, Carole and Cara meet on the off month to discuss the agenda items for the next meeting, Tammy will email a draft agenda to the Committee.
    - All additions must be submitted to Tammy by the Monday prior to the next meeting.
    - The final agenda will be posted no more than two business days before the meeting, per the Open Meeting law.
  - e. Stacie asked what the City's approval process is when approving infiltration-based practices or stormwater practices, as there is a lot of sediment getting into the practices.
    - Mike said that typically the Engineer would prepare a design and drainage report for Development Services for review and comment. The plan must demonstrate it meets the City ordinance.
    - Sandy suggested staff from Development Services attend the meeting to answer this. He will invite Joe Mailander to the May 2<sup>nd</sup> Committee meeting.

**B. City Staff Reports**

- 1) EPA Grant
  - a. We have not heard if we've been awarded this grant, which was an educational grant applied for in partnership with the Indian Creek Nature Center to do an educational program for kids focused on Indian Creek.
- 2) IDALS Grant
  - a. We received a letter from IDALS confirming we have been awarded \$99,337 to put in four infiltration practices in the right-of-way, which will be implemented over the next 12 months.
  - b. We would use this as a pilot project to learn from the infiltration practices and to be used for educational purposes by the schools that are right next to where they will be installed.
- 3) Stormwater BMP Cost Share Report
  - a. We received one application for a rain garden. It was denied because it had already been constructed.
  - b. We need to do a better job at getting the word out.
- 4) Stormwater Masterplan Progress
  - a. We're coming to the end of the exercises, which included two phases. The first phase is getting done early, which was to determine a list of projects in FY17. The second phase was to do modeling and determine whether there's a way to kill two birds with one stone on some of the projects; and it's coming to the end of that.
  - b. In June of this year, we will receive the first iteration of the plan. We are applying a dollar amount each year in our budget to update that masterplan on a yearly basis, so that as we move forward it can be adapted.
  - c. An executive summary will be done for the Infrastructure Committee in April or May.
  - d. Sandy will share with Commission, as soon as we receive it.

**8. Agenda Items for Next Meeting**

- Approval process when approving infiltration-based practices or stormwater practices (Development Services)

**9. Next Meeting Date**

- Stormwater Commission meeting scheduled for May 2, 2016, at 5:00 p.m. City Services Center (Public Works) - 2nd Floor – Greene Square Conference Room 500 15th Avenue SW, Cedar Rapids, IA 52404 - Ph. (319) 286-5802

10. Commissioner Mike Dryden adjourned the meeting at 6:30 p.m.

*Respectfully submitted by Tammy Schnell, AAll, Cedar Rapids Public Works*

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This summary documents our understanding of items discussed. Please contact our office within five working days with any omissions or discrepancies.

cc: Stormwater Commission Meeting Distribution List