



**City of Cedar Rapids
Joint Flood Control System and
Finance & Administrative Services
Committee Minutes
City Hall – Council Chambers
Monday, May 2, 2016
4:00– 5:00 p.m.**

Present: Council members Ralph Russell (Chair of Flood Control System Committee), Justin Shields, Kris Gulick (Chair of Finance & Administrative Services Committee), Susie Weinacht, Sandi Fowler, Assistant City Manager; Rob Davis, Flood Control Program Manager; Bill Bogert, Anderson Bogert; Teresa Stadelmann, HR Green

Absent: Mayor Ron Corbett

Meeting called to order at 4:04 a.m. by Councilmember Russell.

Rob Davis presented two documents included in the packet that had been requested by the committee: the Finance Update and the Grant Submission Log. Rob Davis clarified that the city secured an additional \$5 million in unused funds by other cities in 2015. He also reviewed the grants that have been received, denied, withdrawn and currently pending.

Bill Bogert reviewed design and bid activities for 2016 included in the packet. He informed the Committee the trail from 2nd to 3rd Avenue behind the new CRST building and Lot 44 at the 10th Avenue Pump Station have been bid this spring. The Sinclair Levee from the African American Museum to the Alliant Substation will be bid in August; the Czech Village utility relocation is projected to be bid in October along with the Sinclair Pump Station in November. He noted a total of \$19.6 million in projects will be bid this year. Councilmember Russell inquired about the material used to build the levees and how they ensure it will prevent water from seeping through. Bill Bogert explained they use a non-permeable clay material and insert a wall into a cut-off trench. In addition, they test each levee structure to make sure water does not leak through to the other side.

Rob Davis presented the Czech Village re-alignment map included in the packet. He pointed out the map on the right reflects a more reliable, less expensive solution for the new roadway alignment for 21st Avenue. This design will bring the road over the top of the levee eliminating the need for a gate saving \$2 million. Councilman Shields inquired about the prospect of raising the 8th Avenue Bridge. Rob Davis explained although it will be costly to raise, it would provide the city with a new, reliable bridge that would require less gates to maintain and install during a flood as well as provide another route for transportation during a flood.

Rob Davis presented the Flood Control System History and Recap report included in the packet. He pointed out that the schedule can be accelerated once the balance of the funding is secured; in the later years of the flood control system installation, however at this time, the City would not gain anything by accelerating with additional funds. Councilmember Russell asked how staff and contractors are going to manage the interim flood control plan during construction of the system. Rob Davis stated they have included protocols in their contracts. They are limiting the amount of the system that could be worked on at a time and requiring protection to be in place within 48 hours. He added that these contractors must use their own Hesco barriers and are required to conduct a set up demonstration that meets the requirements.



Teresa Stadelmann with HR Green presented the Interior Drainage Pump Station Sizing Policy located in the packet. This policy relates to both the volume and intensity of rainfall behind the Flood Control System. HR Green has conducted urban modeling and updated the Army Corps of Engineers previous work to reflect how urban centers address more robust storms' (i.e. thunderstorms/downpours) impact to properties and drainage systems. Existing system conditions show runoff exceeding the storm system causing interior ponding, independent of the flood control system or river flooding. It is recommended the City's Stormwater Master Plan policies address these issues. Increased ponding where the levee will block overland flow is recommended to be addressed with increased pipe capacity and dry-side detention. Finally, the cost and risk associated with pumping flows from a 1% coincident probability rainfall event is \$39-79 million, where all stations were budgeted at \$7.4 million due to sizing for a 3-month storm of average intensity and without a pump station building. The recommendations are to build pump stations for current flows at additional cost as well as pursuing watershed reduction strategies.

Councilmember Gulick moved and Councilmember Weinacht seconded to recommend to the City Council approval of the following Interior Drainage policy:

- Stormwater pump stations for interior drainage runoff are recommended to have a pumping capacity equal or greater than the peak runoff from the 5-year storm event, and
- The City will pursue upland stormwater runoff detention and infiltration in each watershed.

Councilmembers Gulick, Weinacht, and Russell voted aye. Councilmember Shields voted no. Following additional discussion clarifying the estimated one percent chance of a 5-year storm occurring during a high-river event, Councilmember Shields changed his vote to aye. Motion passed.

There was no public comment.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
April Wing
Project Coordinator
Development Services