

MINUTES - ENVIRONMENTAL COUNCIL COMMITTEE MEETING 1/13/2011

The meeting was called to order @ 6:07 PM, Thursday, January 13, 2011, in the North Conference Room @ 21630 11th Avenue South, Des Moines with the following in attendance:

Council Members

Scott Thomasson, Chairman
Dave Kaplan, Mayor Pro Tem
Dan Sherman

Guests from Normandy Park

Doug Schulze – City Manager
Peter Landry – Public Works Director

City Staff

Tony Piasecki, City Manager
Grant Fredricks, PB&PW Director
Loren Reinhold – Environment/Utilities Engineer
Linda Wright – Admin Asst.
Lorri Ericson – Asst. City Manager

AGENDA:

1. Approve minutes of September 8 and December 9, 2010
2. Normandy Park Drainage Project
3. 24th Avenue South (S. 226th to 228th)
4. Des Moines Creek Trail (west of bridge)

MEETING:

1. Motion made and seconded to approve minutes from September 9th and December 9th, 2010, without exception.
2. 1st Avenue South Drainage – Normandy Park

Introductions were made and Loren was asked to give a quick briefing of the issues involved. He made reference to a drainage study that was done by Roth Hill which was Normandy Park's consultant concerning drainage along SR509 south of 208th Street. Loren explained that Normandy Park is requesting Des Moines to participate in a joint project for installing new drainage along SR509. The study recommended installation of 21-inch pipe from between 216th Place and 4th Place South and 24-inch downstream of 4th Place South. The Committee asked Normandy Park specifically what they wanted from Des Moines.

PW Director Landry indicated that most of the water causing them problems is water overflowing off 216th Place north down into specific neighborhoods in 5th and 6th Avenues – Des Moines water. Want help with containing the flow as 90% or better of the water comes from Des Moines. Mr. Landry plans to have survey done as he feels sidewalk area is actually in Des Moines – Loren believes the map is correct; but that the boundary legal description should be reviewed to confirm.

Loren presented photos of the ditches along the proposed route indicating heavy vegetation growth that is limiting the capacity of the ditches. Loren also showed a photo of a small debris guard on the inlet of the culvert south of 4th Place that may easily be clogged and is critical to most of the North Hill drainage area. Mr. Landry also indicated there may be a pipe collapsed in that area because the drainage recently installed by NP is not draining; he believes the pipe crosses 1st Avenue and may be connected by tee rather than a structure. Both parties need to have a better understanding of how the infrastructure works and what parts of the system are in each jurisdiction. The Committee mentioned the "common enemy doctrine" which suggests Des Moines is not responsible for impacts from drainage to downstream areas and also expressed the need to

determine what Des Moines is responsible from a legal standpoint to justify any impacts to its ratepayers. **Committee members indicated that Normandy Park should take care of the maintenance issues first – clearing the ditch, fix pipe, etc., (starting now through the summer) to see what problems that resolves and what issues are left that may need to be specifically addressed by Des Moines. The Committee also directed Loren to work with NP in addressing the following issues of concern:**

- **City limits**
- **Infrastructure and Maintenance**
- **Legal Water Issues**
- **Responsibility for various issues/problems**
- **If there is shared responsibility what options are available given the budget constraints of both parties**

The SR 509 road improvement project is about 4 years out on Normandy Park's TIP and keeps getting pushed back due to lack of funding. Des Moines has the same money issues and their priority will be Des Moines issues first. Rate payers in Normandy Park pay a little higher rate than Des Moines residents. City of Des Moines stated that they would not make money available to assist with any work on the system in the 2011 year.

3. 24th Avenue South. Mayor Pro Tem Kaplan asked about this as he had seen water spewing out of pipe area 226/24. Said he had never been aware of any water issues in this area and wondered what would be causing this? Loren indicated there were different size pipes leading into 12" and 18" pipe – ideally 36" is best. Priority is listed for 2014 or 2015. Ideally, project would be done in conjunction of a street project or with street improvements as part of school district project. Loren mentioned that the system does not meet the 25-year storm standard and overtops at even moderately sized storms. **Committee decided to re-visit the project's schedule for the 2012 CIP following construction of several other large projects (Redondo culvert, DM Creek, Barnes Creek Detention and 223rd culvert).**
4. Des Moines Creek Trail – west of MVD Bridge. Again Mayor Pro Tem Kaplan requested this item as he has seen water running off hill west of bridge to traffic circle – Normandy Park area. Not fully sure how water is being conveyed but looks like potential problem. Loren mentioned that it is a 700+ foot long ditch that is fairly flat but does discharge into the creek through a culvert just at the end of the trail before the cul-de-sac and debris tends to accumulate onto the catch basin inlet to the culvert. **Requested Loren to look into the problem report back on this issue.**

Policy question: SWM / Parks – who does drainage belong to? Committee determined that it is a park issue/problem but if SWM is needed to address the problem then Parks can offset any incurred costs by in-kind services to SWM.

Adjourned @ 7:10 PM

Submitted by: Linda Wright, Administrative Assistant