



CITY OF NORTH RIDGEVILLE

**Engineering Department
Daniel Rodriguez, P.E., City Engineer**



DRAINAGE AND FLOOD CONTROL BOARD

Minutes for the Tuesday, January 28, 2020 Meeting

Meeting called to order by City Engineer Daniel Rodriguez at 7:00 p.m.

In attendance were:

Paul Balog, Ward 1	James Smolik, Zoning Board Rep.	Rick Szalkowski, Resident
Michael Borow, Ward 2	Dennis Boose, City Council	Mike Gillespie, Resident
James Cleveland, Ward 4	Clifford Winkel, City Council	Gene Kleinholz, Resident
Kenneth Wilson, Ward 3	Holly Swenk, City Council	
Brendan McCool, Ward 3		Christina Eavenson, Asst. City Engineer
Ed Dunham, Ward 2	Mike Sakal, West Life News	Daniel Rodriguez, City Engineer
Rayborn Ford, Ward 1		

Old Business

A. Minutes for October 22, 2019 Meeting

City Engineer, Mr. Rodriguez asked for a motion to approve the minutes from the October 22, 2019 meeting. The minutes were unanimously approved by vote.

New Business

A. Mills Road Ditch Update

Mr. Rodriguez noted that the service department continues to work on the ditch along Mills Road. They are shaping the channel and will be applying a low grow/low mow grass seed. Once complete the mounding will be maintained by the Northborough HOA.

B. French Creek Ditch

Mr. Rodriguez noted that the service department is cleaning and shaping the French Creek Ditch south of the new bridge on Center Ridge Road around the area of St. Peter Church. They have also added rock channel protection along the bend of French Creek in this area to minimize erosion of the banks. The service department is making use of a Fecon attachment on their excavator to clear the banks of the ditches. The Fecon attachment is a heavy duty rotary head used to cut large brush.

C. Stormwater Utility Fee

Mr. Rodriguez noted that the 2020 residential stormwater utility fee went up \$0.07/month for a total of \$3.95/month. This rate increase is based on the average construction cost index published in the Engineering News Record.

D. Mill Creek Flood Control Basin

Mr. Rodriguez noted that Bramhall Engineering continues to work on the design. He reviewed the preferred drainage route that would take the flow at the I-480/Ohio Turnpike intersection area, which brings flow from North Olmsted, then convey it through the Cypress property; across Chestnut Ridge Road; and then through a property east of Boulder Dr. Once at the City owned property, drainage would flow through a series of retention basins and meandering streams before it outlets to Robinson Ditch.

This project will create a park like setting incorporating wetlands and trees. Improvements will include a parking area and walking paths. The project may include additional sidewalks to the neighboring areas.

The next step will be to hire a right-of-way consultant to assess and negotiate for the properties. There is currently about \$400,000 left in the project from the \$1.4M that was secured through grants and local funds. This \$400,000 can be used for right-of-way acquisitions, tree clearing and start some of the construction at the end of this year. It is estimated that the City will need another \$3.5M to complete the project which is expected to be complete by 2022.

E. Overall Ditch Update

Mr. Rodriguez noted that the service department is tasked with maintaining approximately 75 miles of ditches. Last year the service department was able to get to 5 miles. At this rate, it would take about 15 years to get to all of the City maintained ditches. The equipment used for ditch maintenance may not entirely be dedicated for this work.

The service department works within the designated setbacks for the City's named ditches which are 25 feet on either side of centerline for the minor ditches and 37.5 feet from either side of centerline for the major ditches. The storm water utility fee is projected to generate revenues of approximately \$800,000.

F. Items from Committee Members and Audience

Mr. Kleinholz inquired about illicit discharges. Mr. Rodriguez noted that we will discuss the report prepared by Cuyahoga County Board of Health at the next meeting.

Mr. Gillespie inquired about how wetlands are designated. Mr. Rodriguez explained that a wetland delineation needs to be performed by an Environmental Consultant and that the United States Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) will confirm the findings. Developers of the property may choose to leave the wetlands in place and work around those areas or mitigate/remove them.

Mr. Dunham inquired about the maintenance schedule of the French Creek Ditch section near Chesterfield Drive. Mr. Rodriguez noted that he would inquire with the service garage.

Mr. Cleveland inquired about the drainage behind 5266 Main Ave. Mr. Rodriguez noted that the City has no jurisdiction in these rear yards. At the time of development there were no mandates put in place that explicitly prohibited encroachments. Therefore, owners are responsible for clearing these areas and maintaining positive drainage.

Mr. Cleveland inquired about any proposed improvements for Frontier Park off of Mills Creek. Mr. Rodriguez noted that the Engineering Dept. is not aware of any improvements.

Mr. Winkel inquired about the regulations we have to maintain ditches. Mr. Rodriguez noted that NRCO 1028 defines ditches and prohibits any obstructions from impeding flow.

Mr. Winkel inquired about future capital improvement plans from the storm water utility funds. Mr. Rodriguez noted that the funds will be used for additional equipment, maintaining the main ditches and then any smaller tributaries.

An inquiry was made to the enforcement of storm water pollution controls. Mr. Rodriguez noted that NRCO 1056 defines the corrective action schedule and penalties for violation of not complying with our storm water ordinance. However, we do not typically write citations to owners but rather work with the developers and contractors to remedy the issues.

Mr. Gillespie inquired about the restrictions of wetlands. Mr. Rodriguez noted that each wetland permit will typically define what can be done within the delineated areas and the buffer around them.

Mr. Cleveland inquired about public awareness of maintaining ditches and drainage courses and not impeding the flow. Mr. Rodriguez noted that we use the water bill mailers and City newsletters to remind residents to maintain their ditches.

Mr. Szalkowski inquired about the availability of sharing the mapping information. Mr. Rodriguez noted that the City currently has a GIS system we use internally. Updates are made by an outside consultant with GPS information from the Engineering Dept. and the Service Garage. This mapping information isn't available yet to the public but we can screen capture detailed areas for reviewing with the Board and the public.

Mr. Rodriguez adjourned the meeting at 8:00 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Christina Eavenson, P.E.
Assistant City Engineer

**BOARD OF DRAINAGE AND FLOOD CONTROL
SIGN - IN SHEET**

Date: Tuesday, January 28, 2020
Time: 7:00 p.m.

NAME	ORGANIZATION	PHONE NUMBER
DENNIS BOOSE	CITY COUNCIL	440 327 8528
MIKE SAKA	West Life	440-871-5797
Jim Smolik	BZA) Planning Com.	440-452-2758
PAUL BALOG	F&D Board	440-327-8496
MIKE BORROW	WARD 2	440-327-4834
CLIFF WINKEL	CITY COUNCIL	440 346 4125
James Cleveland	Ward 4	440-591-3450
Ken R Wilson	ward 3	216-832-3689
Holly Swenk	Ward 1	440-310-4129
Rick SZALKOWSKI	Resident	440-327-1249
Brendan Hood	Ward 3	440-759-4230
Ed DUNHAM		440 327 6643
MIKE GILLESPIE	WARD 1	440 327 0846
GENE KLEINHOLZ	WARD 1	440-327-5873
CHRISTINA EAVENSON	ASST. CITY ENG	440 353 0842
Rayburn E FORD		215-513-9789
Daniel Rodriguez		440-353-0842