

**Storm Water Board  
Work Session  
June 14, 2011**

The Storm Water Board for the Town of Cedar Lake held their regular Work Session on June 14, 2011. The meeting was called to order at approximately 7:00 p.m. Members present were: Greg Wornhoff, Chairman, Jerry Wilkening, Vice Chairman, and Walter Crissey. Jennifer Montgomery, Recording Secretary, was also present. James Cornett of Public Works and Greg Parker, Town Council Liaison, were not present at tonight's meeting.

- I. **Minutes:** Minutes from the May 24, 2011 Public Meeting were given out for vote at the next Public Meeting.
- II. **Public Comment:** None.
- III. **Written Communication:** The Board received a letter from Matt Lake of Christopher B. Burke Engineering, Ltd. regarding a complaint filed against La Gaviota Supermercado, located at 10800 W 133<sup>rd</sup> Avenue. The site had issues concerning the cleaning of their dumpster and waste draining into the nearby catch basin. Matt Lake discussed several BMPs (best management practices) with the owner to avoid such a problem from occurring again.
- IV. **New Business:**
  - A. Jill Helsel, 7112 W 131<sup>st</sup> Place; drainage concerns. Ms. Helsel provided several pictures showing a hose coming from the neighbor's property that is causing her property to flood. Because the hose isn't actually on her property, there is nothing that can be done until the neighbor is actually breaking a Town Ordinance. More pictures were provided showing the flooding issues the property owner is having. Ms. Helsel recognized that the rain the town experienced was extreme, but she explained that any amount of rain is causing her sump pump to run all day and night. The Board discussed elevation issues and that the size of the drainage pipes may be too small. Ms. Helsel mentioned that James Cornett had suggested that maybe installing a catch basin may be the best bet for correcting the issues. Older pictures suggested that the issue is that the water is backed up and has nowhere to go. The Board discussed possible solutions and benefits of putting in catch basins or swales. The Board also discussed obtaining a storm drainage easement between the properties and if there is enough room between the properties to obtain it. Ms. Helsel then inquired about why the builders who built her house were allowed to build a basement when the area is so prone to flooding. The Board informed Ms. Helsel that that issue would have to be taken up with the Building Department and that they wouldn't have that information. The Board then discussed the size of Ms. Helsel's sump pump and that getting a bigger size or a second pump might help with it running constantly. Greg Wornhoff stated that he would like to come to the property to investigate with James Cornett to try to find the best solution.
  - B. Hanna Celorio, 9408 W 143<sup>rd</sup> Lane & Ronald Irvine, 9409 W 143<sup>rd</sup> Place; drainage concerns. The Board discussed that trees were planted in the easement on Mr. Irvine's property by the previous owner. The issue is that the root base of the trees are growing out and forcing water onto the Celorio property. The Board directed the recording secretary to compose a letter to Mr. Irvine explaining that the trees are obstructing the flow of water and that he needs to remove them. If the trees are not removed, the Town will have them removed. Mr. Irvine will have until the next meeting to respond to the letter before the Board will take further action.
  - C. Walter Singleton, 9400 block of W 143<sup>rd</sup> Place; drainage concerns. Mr. Singleton explained to the Board that the neighbor is experiencing problems with drainage due to the flow of drainage from the new middle school currently under construction. He provided video evidence of the drainage issues he is dealing with after all the recent rainfall. The Board requested that the recording secretary obtain the drainage plans for the new middle school to find out if the water is being discharged the proper way.
  - D. Jennifer Filar, 14734 Dewey Street; drainage concerns. The culvert on Ms. Filar's property still has not been replaced, and she stated that she has not heard anything back from Public Works regarding same. Ms. Filar also brought some pictures evidencing the drainage issues she and her neighbor have been experiencing. One of the major issues is that they are at the top of a hill, but they are still dealing with several drainage problems. Ms. Filar expressed frustration because of the amount of money she has spent to try to resolve this issue and nothing has been done to date. The board indicated that there are culvert pipes going under the road along 147<sup>th</sup> and that they would take another look at the area to try to find a solution to the issues at hand.
  - E. Anthony Putzbach, 7316 W 142<sup>nd</sup> Avenue; drainage concerns. Jerry Wilkening indicated that Jim Cornett stated that the area was being worked on and that there was one more culvert that needed to be repaired. There still seems to be an issue with the culvert under in the owner's property, and that nothing can be done unless the

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homeowner pays for new pipe. The Board will get an update for the next Public Meeting.

**V. Other Business:**

- A. American Legion Washington Street/CLEA; possible drainage project. The American Legion is going forward on a project with CLEA. A silt fence is yet to be installed on the property, but the pile has now overgrown with vegetation. The Board stated they would get more information from Matt Lake and the status of the area.
- B. Public Works projects.
  - 1. Grading and swaling during spring season. No new information.
  - 2. Potawatomi Park; responsibility of maintenance of sediment pond. Jerry Wilkening indicated that Bob Gross said that the Town should scrape off a few inches of dirt and lay more grass seed and let it go and it should be ok.
- C. Delinquent Storm Water drainage fees. The Utility Department is still seeing positive feedback and will be sending out delinquent letters in July 2011, once the billing program is updated.
- D. Edison Avenue, drainage concerns. No new information.
- E. Water's Edge Condominiums, 8125 Lake Shore Drive and 128<sup>th</sup> Place, north of Lake Shore Drive; drainage project. The Town got a working video and that the culvert running under the garage is totally collapsed and that they are working on solutions.
- F. 127<sup>th</sup> Avenue and Cline Avenue; drainage concerns. No new information.
- G. South side of 133<sup>rd</sup> Avenue, west of Robin's Nest; drainage concerns. No new information.

**VI. Final Public Comment:** None.

- VII. Board Comment:** Jerry Wilkening looked at 129<sup>th</sup> Avenue, and noted that no ditch or culverts were put in from the railroad tracks west to US 41. Also, Mr. Wilkening stated that a retention pond was installed at Winding Creek. Culverts were put in under some property owners' driveways, but no ditch was put in for the water to run to the retention pond. Mr. Wilkening stated there are many problems with the area and water flow, or lack thereof.

**VIII. Adjournment:** The Work Session ended at approximately 8:45 p.m.

Attest: \_\_\_\_\_  
Recording Secretary