

**Storm Water Board  
Public Meeting  
June 28, 2011**

The Storm Water Board for the Town of Cedar Lake held their regular Public Meeting on June 28, 2011. The meeting was called to order at approximately 7:00 p.m. Members present were: Jerry Wilkening, Vice Chairman, and Walter Crissey. James Cornett of Public Works, Jennifer Montgomery, Recording Secretary, and Greg Parker, Town Council Liaison were also present. Greg Wornhoff, Chairman was not present at tonight's meeting.

- I. **Minutes:** Motion to accept the Minutes from the May 24, 2011 Public Meeting was made by Walter Crissey. Jerry Wilkening seconded. Motion carried. Minutes from the June 14, 2011 Work Session were handed out for review.
- II. **Public Comment:**
  - Sandy Brownfield of 11396 W 133<sup>rd</sup> Lane explained to the Board that she has lived at this residence for over 20 years and that she has experienced drainage issues since she purchased the home. Ms. Brownfield explained that she has had a trench dug through her yard, and then had a swale, but still has issues with flooding during heavy precipitation. She explained that she is not sure where exactly the water is coming from. The Board told Ms. Brownfield that Chairman Greg Wornhoff and the Town Engineer will go to the site to investigate and discuss possible solutions. Jerry Wilkening explained that if the problem exists on Ms. Brownfield's property, she may be responsible for the expense of fixing the problem. Ms. Brownfield also told the Board that she will take pictures of her property should it rain before then. The Board suggested that Ms. Brownfield attend the next meeting for an update.
  - Ronald Irvine of 9409 W 143<sup>rd</sup> Place attended tonight's meeting in response to a letter sent by the Storm Water Board. Mr. Irvine stated that the trees in his backyard are about eighteen (18) inches from the center of the easement. The house was built approximately fifteen (15) years ago and the trees were planted about the same time. Mr. Irvine explained that he just bought the house about seven (7) years ago, and that other factors may be contributing to the flooding problem his neighbors are experiencing. Mr. Irvine suggested that the property at 9408 W 143<sup>rd</sup> Lane may not have been graded properly, causing their yard to flood. Mr. Irvine also suggested that there may be blocked drainage somewhere else. Mr. Irvine also stated that these flooding issues have only recently come up. Walter Crissey inquired if there is a drainage pipe between these houses, to which Jim Cornett stated he only saw open swale. Greg Parker and the Board suggested that more investigation be done with the Town engineer. Greg Parker also suggested that Public Works go out and televise the line to see if there are other unseen issues. The Board agreed that they will look into these issues before they force Mr. Irvine to remove his trees. The Board informed Mr. Irvine that they will contact him via telephone if they need him to attend another meeting.
- III. **Written Communication:** The Building Department forwarded a letter to the Storm Water Board concerning the property at 11113 W 133<sup>rd</sup> Avenue, where Greg and Dawn Wornhoff have applied for a variance to build on that property. The letter was received from Ralph and Lois Schillo, who are adjacent property owners. The Schillos explained their concerns about building on that property due to drainage concerns, standing water on the property, etc. and enclosed photos evidencing such. This address is in the same area that will already be investigated by the Board and the Town engineer, so it will be included in the assessment.
- IV. **New Business:**
  - A. Jill Helsel, 7112 W 131<sup>st</sup> Place; drainage concerns. The Board agreed that several recommendations have been made to the homeowner to alleviate the issues and that nothing can really be done by the Town, as the problem lies on private property. It was agreed by the Board that until the homeowner follows these recommendations, they will not seek any more solutions. Remove from agenda.
  - B. Hanna Celorio, 9408 W 143<sup>rd</sup> Lane & Ronald Irvine, 9409 W 143<sup>rd</sup> Place; drainage concerns. See Public Comment.
  - C. Walter Singleton, 9400 block of 143<sup>rd</sup> Place; drainage concerns. Jerry Wilkening inquired if anyone had been out to the site to inspect. The recording secretary indicated that Greg Wornhoff and the Town engineer, Sandra Bucklew, would be going to the site to inspect in the near future. Greg Parker indicated that the Town Council made a motion at their last meeting to reestablish the swale by the new middle school. Discussions occurred explaining the situation and that the Board will explore the issues at the next meeting.
  - D. Jennifer Filar, 14734 Dewey Street; drainage concerns. Jim Cornett stated that Public Works and he got some pictures of the location, and that the culvert is collapsed under the homeowner's driveway. Mr. Cornett also stated that there are two (2) different pipes

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running through the property and that the driveway culvert must be replaced. If the homeowner pays for a culvert, Public Works will install it for the homeowner.

- E. Anthony Putzbach, 7316 W 142<sup>nd</sup> Avenue; drainage concerns. Jim Cornett stated that the culvert and basins have been put in. Grading needs to be finished, and once Public Works has time, it will be out to complete the work.

**V. Other Business:**

- A. American Legion, Washington Street/CLEA; possible drainage project. Walter Crissey stated that they are in the process of designing right now.
- B. Public Works projects.
1. Grading and swaling during significant precipitation. Jim Cornett indicated that Public Works is keeping busy with all the rain the Town has had and that both his chippers will be in use the next month and a half.
  2. Potawatomi Park; responsibility of maintenance of sediment pond. Jim Cornett and Matt Lake were out to the site and that they want to do away with the culvert pipe and direct the water to one channel. By doing this, it will clean itself up and eliminate the sediment pond.
- C. Delinquent Storm Water drainage fees. Delinquent payments are still being received. The Utility Department will be sending out another batch of delinquent notices in July 2011. The Board discussed changing the language of the letter. Greg Parker advised the Board that any changes to the letter should be checked by the Town Attorney first.
- D. Edison Avenue and 131<sup>st</sup> Place, drainage concerns. No new information.
- E. 8125 Lake Shore Drive, Water's Edge Condominiums and 128<sup>th</sup> Place, north of Lake Shore Drive; drainage project. No new information.
- F. 127<sup>th</sup> and Cline Avenues; drainage concerns. No new information. Public Works is still waiting for the weather to clear up to start work on the area.
- G. South side of 133<sup>rd</sup> Avenue, west of Robin's Nest; drainage monitoring. No new information.

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

- VII. Board Comment:** Walter Crissey indicated that he and Matt Lake spent some time together and that Matt Lake would like to see someone from the Storm Water Board have the ability to write citations to those who are in severe violation and/or non-compliance of storm drainage related ordinances. The Board discussed violations in Winding Creek Estates II, where a silt fence needs to be put up at a site off 137<sup>th</sup> Avenue. The Board discussed who is responsible for the area and maintenance. Discussion occurred regarding what the scope of the Building Inspector is, as well as the Code Enforcement Officer. The recording secretary indicated she would ask the Town Administrator for answers to the Board's inquiries.

**VIII. Adjournment:**

The Work Session ended at approximately 8:20 p.m.

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Greg Wornhoff, Chairman

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Jerry Wilkening, Vice Chairman

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Walter Crissey

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