

DRAFT
STORMWATER ADVISORY COMMITTEE MINUTES
TUESDAY July 14, 2020
6:30 P.M.
Virtual online meeting

Members Present:

Jim Sefcik, Chair	Susanne Gow
Matthew Werhner, Secretary	Elizabeth Grant
Don Knapp	William Sweetnam
Karen Mullins	Jill Gunn
Larri Gerson	Belle Gruber
Eleanor McCook	Christopher McLaughlin

Staff Present:

Whitney Marsh, Public Services

Guests: Jeff Gow, City Commissioner

Call to order: 6:33 PM

Approval of January 7, 2020 minutes: Moved for approval by Karen Mullins, seconded and passed. It was noted that the scheduled April meeting was cancelled due to the CoVid-19 pandemic.

Draft Agenda Adoption : Moved for approval by Bill Sweetnam, seconded and passed.

Unfinished Business:

- Stormwater Master Plan: A copy was sent to the committee prior to the meeting for review. Whitney reported that the plan has been approved and the City is in possession of a full working model to allow for project scenarios. Eight capital improvement projects have been identified and prioritized (see SMP), and it included Environmental, Vulnerability, and CRS assessments. Discussion and questions followed.
- Stormwater Enforcement – A copy was sent to the committee for review prior to the meeting. Will be presented to the City Commission on July 16 and August 6. Whitney reviewed the policy, especially the violation and fine schedule. The purpose is to put teeth in enforcement by levying fines (after warnings). The hope is that it will encourage good behavior rather than punish bad behavior. Funds collected as fines will be earmarked for projects improving the environmental health of our community. Discussion and questions followed.
- 2020-2021 initiatives for SAC – at a previous meeting the committee decided an initiative would be educating HOA's and other private property owners on their responsibilities regarding storm water runoff from their properties. The

committee had decided at the last meeting to mail to HOA's the letter previously composed by Bill Sweetnam regarding maintenance of stormwater treatment areas within these HOA communities. However, given the present pandemic situation, Whitney recommended and the committee agreed it would be better to email the information rather than mail it. Whitney will work on getting email addresses of HOA's.

New Business:

- SAC Annual Report: A draft copy was sent to the committee prior to the meeting for review. Karen Mullins moved to approve the report, it was seconded and passed unanimously.
- Curlew Creek Nutrient Source Tracking Study: Whitney reported that this started in May in partnership with Pinellas County and that it was very cost effective for the City. A consultant will be looking at hot spots for nutrient loads to identify sources. It will be a one year study. Jim Sefcik asked that the next meeting agenda include an update on any data collected at that point.
- Pinellas County 2020 LMS (Local Mitigation Study) Adoption: This is updated every five years and is needed to be approved for FEMA funds. The city has been approved for such funds to improve lift station #20 and is hoping to receive funds for lift station #26.

Discussion on holding/cancelling any future meeting:

- Next Regular Meeting: Tuesday, October 6, 2020, 6:30 pm, location TBA (possibly virtual)

Next Agenda - development and suggestions:

- Review SAC initiative to educate HOA's and other private property owners on their responsibilities regarding storm water runoff from their properties.
- Wastewater COVID tracing
- Stormwater Enforcement follow-up
- Update on Curlew Creek Nutrient Study
- Talking point: with the shutdown of the Coca Cola plant resulting in less discharge into St. Joseph's Sound, what impact will possible new usage have on the environment?

Public Comment – none

Adjourned at 8:07 pm

Respectfully submitted:

Matthew Werhner, Secretary