



City of Harrisonburg Stormwater Advisory Committee
Meeting Minutes
November 2, 2016 5:00 – 6:30 p.m.

Members in attendance: Joanna Mott, Daniel Michael, Dale Chestnut, Eldon Kurtz, Rob Alexander

Staff/Others in attendance: Staff: Tom Hartman, Erin Yancey, Kelley Junco, Rebecca Stimson; Erin Johnson (JMU Graduate Student), Dan Rublee, the other JMU student

Review and Adopt Minutes

Daniel Michael called for a motion to adopt the August 2016 SWAC meeting minutes. The motion was made, seconded, and passed.

Public Comment

No public comment.

Stormwater Utility Fee Update

Kelley Junco summarized the Stormwater Utility Fee billing rate reduction and explained steps that staff has taken to secure the transition from a \$10.50 per 500 square foot billing rate to a \$6.00 per 500 square foot billing rate. She asked committee members if they had any additional comments on the reduction or on the presentation given to Council during the August 9th meeting. The Council meeting and fee reduction was discussed amongst the SWAC and staff.

Dan Rublee mentioned the stream erosion along Mountain View Drive Kelley Junco said that staff is aware of that area and a restoration project will be vetted through the Stormwater Improvement Plan (SWIP).

Updated Website

Rebecca Stimson reviewed the new stormwater utility fee website updates. Updates were made to streamline the credit application process and included an update to the credit application forms themselves.

Updated GIS Tool

Rebecca Stimson overviewed the changes to the web GIS tool, which were made after the credit fee reduction. The new version of the web GIS tool shows impervious surface from the new flyover data taken in 2015, and also shows the up-to-date fee for property owners.

Stormwater Improvement Plan

Tom Hartman overviewed the process staff went through to select the consultant to assist in developing the Stormwater Improvement Plan. There were 7 consultants who applied, 3 interviewed, and A.

Morton Thomas & Associates, Inc. (AMT) was chosen. AMT's sub consultants are Tetra Tech and Hirschman Water and Environment, LLC. Kelley reminded SWAC that their input will be needed during this process. After Tom overviewed the public input process for the SWIP, Rob asked how drainage and flooding concerns will be gathered from the public, especially if fixing neighborhood issues are considered ancillary benefits of SWIP projects and are not a priority. Tom said staff and AMT will be very clear during the public input process, to let the public know what the scope of their input will be and how SWIP projects and programs could benefit their properties. Kelley asked SWAC to think about different prioritization criteria that would include the public (ex: neighborhood impact, public access, outreach and education).

Kelley and Tom reviewed the approximate SWIP schedule in regards to SWAC:

- SWAC assists with first public meeting (April-May)
- AMT presents draft document to SWAC
- SWAC assists with second public meeting where AMT will present the draft SWIP (September)
- AMT and staff present final SWIP to planning commission (October)
- AMT and staff present final SWIP to City Council (November)

Tom Hartman says this SWIP will guide Capital Improvement Projects and stormwater program budget

Kelley Junco reviewed the Green Infrastructure Center's (GIC) technical assistance grant the city recently received to study tree canopy/planting areas/ordinances to benefit stormwater through tree canopy. This grant will take place at the same time as the SWIP and both will be coordinated together for increased benefit.

TMDL Action Plan and MS4 Annual Report Submitted

Kelley shared that the MS4 Annual Report, Chesapeake Bay TMDL Action Plan, and MS4 Program Plan were submitted to DEQ on October 1. Street Sweeping was re-submitted in the TMDL Action Plan. Kelley reminded SWAC that if the guidance changes after the 2018 permit cycle, the street sweeping credits received will drop drastically for TN, TP, and TSS. Tom stated this information was presented to council; however, the reduction in fee was made based on the current permit cycle information. Future TMDL Action Plans will hopefully include storm drain cleaning and tree planting. This year staff submitted homeowner BMPs in the TMDL Action Plan to potentially take credit for the downspout disconnections, rain barrels, and nutrient management practices homeowners have put into place as a part of the stormwater utility credit program. If accepted by the DEQ, this BMP will give us credits of 4 lbs TP and 71 lbs TN for the 2015 homeowner applications.

East Market Street RGC

Tom updated the SWAC on the East Market Street Regenerative Stormwater Conveyance project: costs have been reduced after a geotechnical survey allowed staff to remove the majority of the impermeable liner, and the majority of the existing rip-rap will be re-used. This project will go out to bid in December. There was some discussion about the trees used in this plan – staff plans to use diverse and native

species. Kelley Junco mentioned that the new GIC Grant will help provide ordinance review and guidance as to what species/location/amount of trees should be replanted when trees are removed.

New Street Sweeper

A new street sweeper was purchased using stormwater utility fee funds and is now in operation. This will help staff meet MS4 requirements. The new sweeper can travel at 7-9 mph with 15mpg fuel efficiency, while the old sweeper could travel at 4-5 mph with 5 mpg fuel consumption.

Meeting was adjourned at 6:30pm. The next meeting will be held on February 1, 2016 at the Public Works Department.