



Storm Water Task Force Meeting Minutes

May 27, 2021

6:30 pm

Attendees	
Dave Odom – Councilman	Ron Costa – Borough Resident
Paul Dern – Councilman	Dave Vento – Councilman
Bob Mitall – Borough Engineer*	Mike Diguilio – Municipal/Water Authority*
Dave Reynolds – Borough Resident	Terry Siefers – Borough Resident*
Mike Thomas – Borough Manager	Tyson Miller – KU Engineering*
Bill Bonura – Municipal/Water Authority*	Lenny White – KU Engineering
Bill Chapla – Borough Resident	Dave Soboslay – Asst. Borough Manager*

*Not Present

1. Review Status of Proposed Long Term Solutions (KU Resources Recommendations Update)

The O’Block/Keywest project permit was submitted to the DEP/Conservation District. The completeness review from the conservation has been conducted and was received. Land acquisition is no longer required for this project due to the Boro’s existing stormwater usage rights. Potential project start date is Spring of 2022.

Center Beach project is awaiting land acquisition. The offer has been accepted by the land owner and will be on the June agenda for Council to vote. Joint permits to DEP and Army Corps of Engineers have been submitted and accepted.

2. Update on Other Storm Water Work Completed Since Last Meeting

Chapparral Dr. Boro Crews replaced 257 feet of 15-inch pipe and 1 inlet replacement. Material cost of \$9921.05.

Ozark Dr. Boro Crews replaced 24 feet of pipe and installed 1 inlet. Material cost of \$1449.50.

Gibraltar Dr. Boro Crews Repair failing inlet. Material cost of \$699.55.

Sardis Rd. W.A. Petrakis installed new water line on Sardis when they discovered a deteriorated storm water pipe. Boro Crews replaced 30 feet of pipe. Petrakis provided traffic control for the Boro to do the crossing. Material cost of \$1179.00.

Center St. Boro Crews replaced 2 inlets, 2 pipe crossings, and repaired damaged section of terra cotta pipe. Use of 70 feet of pipe, 2 new inlets, new grates and frames. Total material cost of \$3915.25

Abers Creek Rd. Boro Crews Installed 180 feet of underdrain due to icing conditions in winter months. Total material cost \$2042.50

Holiday Park Phase 2. The contract for phase 2 has been awarded to Quigley Construction. This project should begin in June/July of this year.

East Oakmont Phase 2. Completed by Liberoni. Total cost \$400,000.

Inlet inspections. Public Works Department inspected 984 stormwater inlets.

GIS Mapping. Boro Staff inspected and mapped 90 outfalls and inspection points per the MS4 permit.

MS4 Inspections. Violation notices are currently being prepared to notify those private retention pond owners that are in violation of maintenance of their ponds.

3. Review New Storm Water Issues and Emails Sent to Storm Water Task Force

a. Holiday Park Phase 2 Project/Surfside Resident Concerns (Received on 5/11)

Resident was concerned regarding Holiday Park stormwater work impacting the perimeter fence on their property. Boro staff confirmed that only a portion of the fence will have to be moved to replace the storm line. Given the relatively small amount of fence impacted by this part of the project, the contractor will remove and replace that portion of the fence.

Resident also contacted SWTF regarding a fairly large tree down across the creek about 70-80ft away towards Rainier from the pipe that goes under Surfside. There were no indications that anything was blocked at this time but possibly something that should be looked at because it may become a problem with heavy storms over the summer. Boro staff indicated that this was investigated upon receipt of the message. Staff noted that trees do present a potential problem in the event that they would be moved down stream in a large rain event. As such, there are a number of significant factors/issues that need to be considered:

1. First and foremost, the trees are all on private property and the Boro has no easement or right of way to access the property. This would require obtaining temporary easements to do any work and could establish a precedence regarding other residents in the Boro that desire to have sections of the stream cleaned and debris removed.
2. The DEP only permits removing debris from the stream bank and we can work within 50' upstream or downstream of a bridge or culvert crossing. This debris is not within the 50' or on the stream bank and would require entering the stream with heavy equipment as well as obtaining a permit from DEP.

The Boro does remove those large trees and branches that are within the areas that are permitted to be removed. The task force discussed this issue in detail and were concerned that there appears to be a significant amount of regulations or "red tape" to get through just to remove a tree from the stream. The inability of the Boro to quickly act on behalf of residents due to these regulations is not acceptable. Boro staff indicated that the DEP does provide emergency permits to address scenarios that require immediate action. The overarching question is where should the line be drawn regarding taking action.

Task Force members indicated that there needs to be a concerted effort to communicate to residents the importance of picking up debris when seen in an effort to proactively reduce the potential for problems. Providing reminders associated with the importance of construction in the proximity of easements was also discussed. It was recommended that the Boro hold a 'Creek Clean Up Day' to have one day that is dedicated to policing and cleaning streams. It was also recommended that the DEP and other state regulating authorities be invited to a task force meeting to explain the rationale behind these regulations that prevent the Boro from accomplishing needed work within a stream.

Boro staff also discussed the formation of an Environmental Advisory Committee (EAC) that is designed to address these and other related issues.

- b. Chaparral Drive Resident Complaint Regarding Storm Grate (catch basin) and Lawn Erosion (Received on 5/18 via Boro Staff)

Resident does not want the cast iron plate on the back of the catch basin installed because he believes it will cause erosion on his lawn. However, Boro staff indicated that the back plate is necessary to avoid having a large gap in the grate that a child or car tire could fall into and that it is a safety issue. It was also explained to the resident that the Boro is repaving Chaparral this summer and they would alter the wedge curb to allow more water to flow into the catch basin and direct it away from the resident's lawn.

4. Review Storm Water Retention Pond Listing

Boro staff provided the listing of the 9 retention ponds with no identified owner/responsible party that the task force will propose the Boro taking ownership of following completion of a cost estimate review. The 9 retention ponds are: Briarwood Hills, D-Vac, Highlands-1, Highlands-3, Highlands-4, Markhaven, Meadow Hill Village, Rockland Manor and Rosewood. The cost estimate is expected to be completed by the June taskforce meeting.

5. Discuss Rain Barrel Program on June 21st

The first rain barrel event will occur on Monday, June 14th at the Farmer's Market. Boro staff indicated that a representative from HRG would be providing a presentation. PRC will also provide a sample rain barrel if at least 10 individual express interest in obtaining one. The cost is \$80. Boro staff would create a jot form to collect the information for residents who are interested. SWTF members also recommended that the program be conducted at Summer Fest as well. A member of the task force also indicated that he has reached out to both the Nine Mile Run Watershed Association and Stormworks regarding the rain barrel program and has not received any reply to date.

6. Discuss Date and Agenda for Public Meeting

Given that the COVID-19 restrictions on public gatherings have been lifted, the next public meeting is scheduled for Saturday, July 17th at the Boro Building (Council Chambers) from 10:00 – 12:00. The following agenda was developed:

- Long Term Projects Update
- Annual Stormwater Work Summary
- Retention Pond Review
- Community Stream Cleaning Day
- Rain Barrel Program
- Penn State Cooperative Education

The next Storm Water Task Force meeting is tentatively scheduled for June 24th.