

Storm Water Task Force Meeting

May 28, 2019

6:00 p.m

City of St. Marys Main Street Office

Members Present:

Tommy Sailors – Chairperson
Gregg Marx
Larry Newton
Dave Reilly

City Officials Present:

Bobby Marr, Public Works Director
Alise Pate, Public Works Senior Admin.
Courtney Reich, GMC Consultant
Rob Brown, GMS Engineer
Steven Blackerby – City Attorney

Call to Order

Mr. Tommy Sailors called the Storm Water Task Force meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

Roll Call

Mr. Sailors conducted a roll call confirming a quorum of members present for the meeting.

Approval of Minutes

Mr. Reilly made a Motion to approve the minutes from the May 14, 2019 meeting. Mr. Newton seconded the Motion. The Motion passed unanimously.

Approval of Agenda

Mr. Reilly made a Motion to approve the agenda with a correction to Approval of Minutes being May 14, 2019. Mr. Marx seconded the Motion. The Motion passed unanimously.

Old Business

a. Review and Final Approval of Vision Statement, Mission Statement, and Goals

b. Finalize Survey

The Vision Statement and Mission statement were reviewed. Mr. Reilly made a Motion to approve the Vision Statement as presented. Mr. Marx seconded the Motion. The Motion passed unanimously. Mr. Marx made a Motion to approve the Mission Statement as presented. Mr. Reilly seconded the Motion. The Motion passed unanimously.

The Goals and Objectives were discussed with the following amendments to the draft document:

Item #1 – add “effective”; Item #2 – add “Inform the public about how to prevent stormwater pollution, eliminate dumping in waterways, and treat stormwater runoff.”; Item #3 – add “future needs”

Mr. Reilly made a Motion to approve the Goals and Objectives as amended. Mr. Newton seconded the Motion. The Motion passed unanimously.

The Public Survey was discussed with the following amendments to the draft document:

Question #10 – add “ yes or no”; Question #11 - add “ yes or no”

Ms. Reich will create an online link to the survey for the City to make available on the City web page and social media page. A printed copy of the survey will be available at City Hall and will be published in the local newspaper for participants to either drop off or mail back into Public Works or City Hall. The survey will remain open through July 4, 2019.

New Business

- a. Future Cost of Service**
- b. Stormwater User Fee Methodology & Revenue Projection**
- c. Billing Mechanism Discussion**
- d. Public Education Plan**

Ms. Reich presented a review of stormwater treatment costs from 2017, 2018 and 2019 and projected costs for 2020 and 2021 that include future costs for two new Public Works crews.

Ms. Reich reviewed splitting stormwater maintenance cost between the existing sanitary sewer fund and a proposed stormwater utility fund that could be established by charging a user fee to each customer. The funds generated from the proposed stormwater utility user fee would be used for stormwater issues only. Mr. Marr stated areas would need to be identified that need immediate attention and be prioritized before a user fee is established.

Ms. Reich stated if a stormwater utility fund is established it would also be necessary to establish a billing mechanism. Ms. Reich said billing options included the fee being added to the monthly water bill, added to the yearly tax bill or creation of a separate stormwater bill.

Ms. Reich reviewed information that could be part of the Stormwater Public Education Plan including the Vision and Mission Statement and Goals of the Task Force, recommendations of budgeting issues, and the extent of services of the City. Ms. Reich stated the extent of services could be adopted by the City to legally determine the areas the City is and is not responsible for maintaining including the different boundaries of easements, roads, detention ponds, drainage pipes, public drainage, private property in HOA's and any non-jurisdictional areas, culvert pipes under driveways, and the level of services the City is able to provide.

Ms. Reich stated she would provide a summary document of recommendations on public education for the Task Force to review at the June 11, 2019 meeting with the final recommendation being sent to the City Council for approval. Mr. Marr stated public hearings need to be held to gather public input on the stormwater issues. Mr. Reilly stated the Task Force would discuss and determine a public meeting date at the June 11, 2019 meeting and once the public meeting date was determine that a presentation would be needed to tell the public what a stormwater utility includes.

Other Business

Mr. Jay Moreno, a member of the public, requested information on the tour that the Task Force members recently took. Mr. Marr stated members were driven around and shown areas in Downtown, Mission Trace, Crooked River, Shadowlawn and Sugarmill to see easements, beaver dams, drainage ditches, culvert issues, roads with inverted crowns, and drainage canals.

No further business was discussed

Adjournment

Mr. Newton made a Motion to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Marx seconded the Motion. The Motion passed unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 7:59 p.m.