MEETING SUMMARY

SUBJECT: STORMWATER COMMISSION MEETING
MEETING DATE: Monday – July 1, 2019 at 5:00 p.m.
ATTENDANCE LIST: ☒ Mike Butterfield, Commission Chair, term expires 6/30/21
☒ Mike Dryden, Commission Member, term expires 6/30/20
☐ Stacie Johnson, Commission Member, term expires 6/30/21
☒ Frank Bellon, Commission Member, term expires 6/30/20
☒ Jason Rogers, Commission Member, term expires 6/30/22
☒ Cara Matteson, Stormwater Coordinator, City Staff
☒ Dave Wallace, Storm Utility Engineering Manager, City Staff
☒ Debbie O’Meara, Administrative Assistant, City Staff

DISCUSSION ITEMS

1. Meeting called to order at 5:03 p.m. by Commission Chair Mike Butterfield.
   A. Mike Butterfield made a motion to approve the minutes from the May 6, 2019 meeting. The motion approved by Mike Dryden; seconded by Frank Bellon. All were in favor to approve the minutes.
   B. Mike Butterfield welcomed everyone to the first Stormwater Commission meeting of FY 2020; in addition, welcomed incoming Stormwater Commissioner Jason Rogers, and introductions were made around the table. Jason is a commercial real estate broker with Pivot Real Estate, a division of Ahmann Companies; lives in Cedar Rapids with his wife and two children.

2. Public Input
   A. There was no public comment.

3. Commission Goals Update – Mike Butterfield
   A. Mike Butterfield, for background purposes, explained that the Stormwater Commission meets every other month, and in an off month last spring (April 2018), a broader think session was held to identify some major goals for the commission to work towards over the next year and however long it takes.
   B. Reviewed Priorities of FY 2019:
      • Water Quality Overlay Districts & Incentivizing Water Quality for Development in Priority Basins
      • BMP Cost Share Program Enhancements
      • Program Information Sharing
      • Use of Regional Detention Basins
   C. Discussed where to go next. Do we just add on to current list?
   D. Proposed Priorities of FY 2020:
      1) Regional Detention Basins
         a) Frank Bellon suggested developing a policy to work with developers to make this succeed.
         b) Some research revealed that regional detention basins’ construction costs are high; however, building several smaller detention basins could be more expensive since one large basin would be more efficient.
         c) Mike Dryden suggested allow developers to sell to other developers in watershed; decide what mechanism to allow that to happen. This takes cost from City and City does not get involved – or may want City involved for committal/decorum purposes.
         d) Basins could be phased/built to be expanded.
         e) Discussed basin maintenance and association costs.
         f) Jason Rogers suggested to develop basins as assets/amenities – i.e., urban fishing, pollinators – make people friendly.

   ACTION: Dave Wallace said he would research topic and will check out Prairie Village and Coralville (Coralville established an ordinance to recover cost) – it was recommended to look at other states (MN…Madison, St. Paul).

   ACTION: Dave Wallace asked Commissioners to send him ideas to put in a policy.

   ACTION: Cara Matteson will work from the Stormwater Master Plan – already have some areas for potential regional detention basins identified, and suggested to show these areas to the development community. Jason Rogers will pass along developer contact information to Cara.
2) Water Quality
   a) Continue water quality efforts in McLoud Run.
   b) Address thermal problems (fish, hydrants, etc.).
   c) To increase buy-in, it is essential to contact the right person at nearby companies (e.g., put trees in at Rockwell to keep stream cool/keep warm away).
   d) Continue to push the marketing and partnership aspects of the BMP program within McLoud Run basin and do the research needed to find owner of property.

3) Do we put any other goals back on from FY 2019?
   a) Continue discussion next meeting.

5. City Staff Reports:
   A. Cost Share Applications – Cara Matteson
      1) Cara explained the cost share applications and process for Jason Roger’s purpose.
      2) Cara distributed the fiscal year-end summary.
      3) The summary shows how BMPs have been funded and details the cost share program spending.
      4) How do we get more money spent? Presently it is a 50/50 cost share. City to discuss and possibly incentivize to get more takers.
   B. Storm Drain Murals – Cara Matteson
      1) Will be in the Cedar Rapids downtown area.
      2) 8 murals to be painted.
      3) Timeframe: July 29 – August 2
      4) Cara distributed location maps of the planned murals.
      5) Not only are the murals focusing on stormwater, but also are providing a feature of art.
      6) IDNR reached out to the City to do a spotlight feature on this.
      7) Jason suggested allowing local companies to sponsor the cost of storm drain murals, and incorporate “Sponsored by…” around the ring.
   C. Active and Upcoming Stormwater Projects – Dave Wallace
      1) Dave distributed a list of the significant City stormwater projects as of June 27, 2019.
      2) There are additional smaller projects not on list.
      3) Reviewed list and Dave mentioned costs for each project.
      4) City stormwater rates bring in $5,000,000 per year in revenue. City is on the Equivalent Residential Unit (ERU) system.
         a) $2,000,000 goes to City Operations and Maintenance (for equipment and personnel to manage our stormwater detention basin systems).
         b) $3,000,000 goes to City Capital Improvement Projects
      5) Prior to the ERU system, did not have enough capital to do much. Currently have at least $100,000,000 in projects identified.
      6) Cedar Rapids’ stormwater billing rates are in middle range among Iowa cities.

ACTION: Dave to share the Stormwater Utility Rates Survey with Commissioners.
ACTION: Dave to provide the Stormwater Commission at each meeting (or monthly) with an updated Summary of Stormwater Projects.

6. Commissioner Reports
   A. There was no commissioner reports.

7. Adjourn Meeting
   A. Agenda Items for Future Meetings
      1) ReZone CR
      2) Review Goals of Stormwater Commission (continued)
   B. The next regularly scheduled Stormwater Commission meeting is scheduled for Monday, September 9, 2019, at 5:00 p.m. City Services Center (Public Works) - 2nd Floor – Greene Square Conference Room, 500 15th Avenue SW, Cedar Rapids, IA 52404 - Ph. (319) 286-5802
   C. The meeting adjourned at 6:12 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Debbie O’Meara, AAI, Cedar Rapids Public Works

This summary documents our understanding of items discussed. Please contact our office within five working days with any omissions or discrepancies.

cc: Stormwater Commission Meeting Distribution List