

STORM WATER ADVISORY BOARD
Minutes of Meeting Held
April 9, 2018

LOCATION: County Administrative Center, Ste 205 TIME: 5:00 p.m.
155 Indiana Avenue, Valparaiso IN

MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE

Matt Keiser, Bob Gilliana, Jay Hunter, Paul Nelson and Jeremy Rivas were present. Also in attendance were Clay Patton-Attorney, Kevin Breitzke, Mike Novotney, Bob Thompson and staff. Jeff Good and Scott Severson were absent.

All Recommendations will be voted on at the next Storm Water Management Board meeting

New Business:

Docket No.: SM-18-0019

Applicant: NITCO

Location: CR 400 N, SR 2 & CR 400 E

Request: To install fiber optic cable conduits (2 crossings each) across Flint Lake Garden Terrace Ditch/Hutton Ditch, Arm 2

Donn Schoenbeck presented for NITCO.

Staff findings and Recommendations: Applicant is proposing to install fiber optic cable conduits across Porter Co.'s system of regulated drains in two locations. Two fiber optic cable conduits are to be installed at each crossing to allow for installation of a fiber optic network to serve the Washington Township Schools. The following ID numbers have been assigned to each crossing: Flint Lake Garden Terrace Ditch/Hutton Ditch Arm 2 at CR 400 N (C18-030) and Flint Lake Garden Terrace Ditch/Hutton Ditch, Arm 2 at SR 2 & CR 400 E (C18-031)

Applicant is crossing all regulated drain crossings via directional bore, with minimum separation distance of 6' between the proposed fiber optic cable conduits and the invert of the regulated drains. The entry and exit points for the directional bores will be located inside of the regulated drainage easements. They will be on the south side of the road throughout the project. Applicant has agreed to restore any disturbance to the regulated drainage easements to a condition as good as or better than those found prior to the commencement of the work.

Fiber Optic cable is to be installed along Silhavy Road within the regulated drainage easement associated with Hotter Drain as well as along CR 400 N within the regulated drainage easement associated with Flint Lake Garden Terrace Ditch/Hutton Ditch, Arm 2. There are no crossings in this project. Applicant has agreed to restore any disturbance to the regulated drainage easements to a condition as good as or better than those found prior to the commencement of the work.

Staff recommends approval of the crossings and use of the regulated drains and/or regulated drainage easements to install the fiber optic cable and/or conduits. The standard terms and conditions associated with conducting work within a regulated drain including the execution of a hold harmless agreement regarding any damages the improvements may incur during the maintenance of Hotter Drain and Flint Lake Garden Terrace Ditch/Hutton Ditch, Arm 2, shall apply to the project.

Discussion: Valpo Net will be running a line also. They have not been in contact with the County. They need to be advised this is a regulated drain.

Motion: Jeremy Rivas moved to approve staff recommendations. Bob Gilliana seconded the motion and so approved.

Docket No.: SM-18-0020

Applicant: Stonebridge LLC

Location: CR 500 E, approximately ½ mile north of US 6

Request: Discuss storm water management plan for proposed 40-lot Stonebridge subdivision and maintenance of storm water infrastructure to be located therein.

Todd Leeth presented. Representatives of Duneland Group were also present. This project is currently under review and will be presented to the Plan Commission at an upcoming meeting. The case is being presented to the Storm Water Advisory Board at this time to discuss the public versus private proposed storm water management plan and the maintenance of the storm water infrastructure to be located within the proposed development.

Charlie Ray of Duneland Group addressed the Board. This is a 73 acre parcel. It will be developed into 40 lots with three out lots that will function as detention areas. Currently the land is farmland. There is a pond in the center which will catch the water and it will then go to the ponds in front where the water will be metered off into the ditch.

Staff Findings and Recommendations: Staff submitted an initial review letter to the applicant. The applicant has resubmitted but Staff has not had a chance to review the resubmittal. There is off site flow that comes through this subdivision. There are existing flood and drainage problems. There is a three mile flow path before it reaches a defined channel. The big concern is how does it play with the existing flood problems in Beachwood Acres and adjacent to the subdivision. The proposal is a significant reduction in peak flow off this site. The work that will be done could be a help to the problems with Beachwood Acres.

The storm water infrastructure to be located within the proposed development may become public infrastructure which would charge Porter County with the inspection, maintenance, and repair of such infrastructure or it may remain private which would charge the property owners within the proposed development with the inspection, maintenance and repair of such infrastructure. Staff recommends making this public infrastructure and put the infrastructure in regulated drainage easement. The Storm Water Advisory Board may request that the applicant return at a later date with a complete storm water management plan that appears to conform to Porter County's Storm Water Standards before making a recommendation regarding the maintenance of the storm water infrastructure to be located within the proposed development.

Or it could recommend approval contingent on successful completion of the storm water management process.

Discussion: If the infrastructure is private, then at a minimum it should be with a POA and not individual homeowners. It was suggested that as more developments are requested in the County, the County should take over the storm water management but with a fee assessed. Part of the review will include determining if there will need to be work done to the ditch before the water exits from the detention ponds into it. Applicant agrees it should be public infrastructure. The streets will be public. The soccer field by the detention ponds has been removed. There was discussion regarding if the user fee is adequate to maintain the area. The subdivision will be bonded. All drainage has to be done up front. There was discussion regarding if the storm water management requirements are all met, can the Plan Commission change any of it. The proper procedure needs to be determined. There are two questions here. One is who is responsible for the long term maintenance. The second is who is the advisor to the Plan Commission; the Storm Water Advisory or Management Board.

Motion: Jeremy Rivas moved to send this to the Storm Water Management Board with the recommendation the infrastructure should be public. Bob Gilliana seconded the motion and so approved.

Presentation: Impacts of Land Use Change and the Need for Storm Water Management. Mike Novotney gave this presentation. It will be available on line. The County has to comply with Section 402 of the Clean Water Act. He explained the various regulations that need to be followed and permits that are needed. He discussed the reason why this is important. What happens here does not affect just this area. It continues on and affects the entire country.

Project Updates:

Mike Novotney gave an update on completed projects and future projects. All five consultants for the South Haven project are in place.

The next scheduled meeting is May 14, 2018 at 5:00 p.m. There being no further business, the meeting recessed at 6:10 p.m.



Matt Keiser, Vice – President



Mike Novotney, Engineer/Program Director