

MINUTES
CITY OF HERMITAGE - BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
WORK SESSION MEETING
August 23, 2017

President William J. Moder called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. in the Commissioners' Meeting Room in the Hermitage Municipal Building located at 800 North Hermitage Road, Hermitage, PA.

Members in attendance were:

William J. Moder, III, President
Duane J. Piccirilli, Vice-President
Rita L. Ferring, Member
Maria A. Koledin, Member

Brett W. Stedman, Solicitor

Staff members in attendance were:

Gary Hinkson	Gary Gulla	Eric Jewell
Marcia Hirschmann	John Flynn	Joel Ristvey
Jeremy Coxe	Brian Merz	Don Kizak
Sherry Iversen	Don Cannon	Neil Hosick
Amy Gargiulo		

There were seven (7) members of the public in attendance.

MS4 BOBBY RUN WATERSHED POLLUTANT REDUCTION PLAN

Emily Mussarelli of WallacePancher Group explained that they have developed a pollutant reduction plan for the City of Hermitage as required for renewal of the MS4 permit and are in attendance to review the plan with the public and obtain comments. The permit submission deadline for the 2018 renewal is September 16, 2017. Each permit has new requirements that need to be met for renewal and is good for five years. For this session one of the new requirements is the pollutant reduction plan. DEP looks throughout the state and identifies watersheds they feel are impaired. The Bobby Run Watershed has been identified as impaired for nutrients (phosphorus, nitrogen, etc.) In order to meet the requirements of the permit the plan explains how we would reduce the loading of the nutrients, specifically phosphorus, within the Bobby Run Watershed by completing a stream restoration project along the corridor.

The nutrients can come from many sources, most notably from the soil, agriculture, roadway runoff, etc. that get in to streams. DEP's tests of Bobby Run indicated higher levels than acceptable. The impairment may not necessarily be at the site. It could be anywhere along the entire length of the stream.

Mr. Bruce Kelley, 656 Lillian Drive, asked how many times DEP has tested Bobby Run. Ms. Mussarelli answered that the last time it was tested was 10-15 years ago. When WallacePancher asked DEP about going back and testing again, DEP indicated that generally the results would be higher. This new requirement for the 2018 permit is based on the level from 10-15 years ago.

Ms. Diane Syphrit, 182 S. Kerrwood Drive, questioned that if all of this work and cost will be based on what was found fifteen years ago, what if the source is still there and it's not really being fixed. She is concerned that all this money and time is being spent on something that was found fifteen years ago.

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Ms. Mussarelli replied that a lot of nutrients come from the soil so by doing the restoration along Bobby Run it would be preventing some of the erosion and sediment from going into the stream. It is going to address the sediment issue of at least a portion of the Bobby Run Watershed. It is not correcting 100% of the issue which is not generally feasible in a watershed. DEP has developed these different techniques to meet these reductions and the pollutant reduction requirements would have to be met by the end of the permit cycle in 2023.

Ms. Syphrit then asked when it would be tested again and Ms. Mussarelli replied that it would be up to DEP to determine if/when they would retest the watershed.

Mr. Moder added that we have to do this to comply with the DEP mandate of the MS4. We have no vote.

Mr. Hinkson then stated that if you have concerns they should be submitted in writing and they will be included with the application.

In reference to a different matter, Mr. Piccirilli commented that he was asked to look at the restoration project completed for Baker Run. When there is a heavy rain, residue is pushed under the culvert and just sits there. Ms. Mussarelli replied that it is a common problem with culverts and one way of addressing the issue is by doing restoration upstream.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Mr. Moder opened the public comments.

Mr. Chris Carfano, 2625 S. Keel Ridge Road, stated that in May he called the City about his neighbor's birds (turkeys, ducks, chickens and geese) coming across the street and making a mess in his driveway and yard. He has not seen any geese, turkeys or ducks for a while, but every day at least twice a day he is chasing chickens out of his yard. He spoke to the zoning officer and never heard anything back. In July he saw animal control at his neighbor's property, but he is still having trouble with chickens. Ms. Hirschmann stated that the City sent an enforcement notice to the property owner about not having sufficient acreage for animals. Mr. Hinkson commented that the City will follow up on the matter and will get back to him by the beginning of next week.

Mr. Carfano expressed his appreciation for help and time on the issue.

There being no further comments, Mr. Moder closed the public comments.

AGENDA REVIEW

There were no questions or comments on the agenda.

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ANY OTHER BUSINESS / OLD BUSINESS

There was no other business to discuss.

ADJOURNMENT

Ms. Koledin moved to adjourn the work session. Second by Mr. Piccirilli. The meeting adjourned at 6:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Gary P. Hinkson
August 25, 2017

The minutes will not be approved until the Board of Commissioners Regular Meeting on September 27, 2017.