

MEETING MINUTES
DEEP CREEK STREET & DRAINAGE ADVISORY COMMITTEE
November 13, 2008
9:00 a.m.

Attendees: Michael Brown, Philip Palmer, Daniel Gawenda, Rebecca Norton
County – Dawn Harrison, Mike Dallenbach, Kim Raymond
Absent – John Biluk

The meeting was called to order at 9:02 a.m.

Minutes: The September 17, 2008, minutes were unanimously approved as submitted.

Business:

- Rebecca Norton was welcomed to the Committee.
- Ms. Harrison stated that pipe inspection has been completed, but Maintenance and Operations (M&O) is compiling the data, which will be submitted to the members. She reiterated that the inspection only included road crossing pipes.
- Mr. Brown discussed increasing the rate for paving and said money should have been placed in reserves sooner. Mr. Palmer stated that, based on the economy, he is not in favor of an increase. For large projects, he said the Committee should be receiving time and cost estimates and the final cost breakdown. He added that they have previously discussed the issues regarding projects, and they need to have accountability. Mr. Dallenbach said M&O can provide estimated costs and time but, if the cost becomes more than estimated, Deep Creek will still have to pay for it.
- Mr. Brown discussed supervision charges for work done on Campinas Street and said a supervisor was never seen on the job. Mr. Dallenbach asked members to contact him if they witness anything at job sites. Mr. Brown suggested the County cut some layers of supervisors.
- The Committee reviewed the October 2008 Activity Report and inquired about charges for sidewalk maintenance on Deep Creek Boulevard, a diesel spill at the intersection of Deep Creek Boulevard and Sandhill Boulevard, and for obtaining a Federal grant.
- Mr. Gawenda agrees with Mr. Palmer regarding the assessment increase but stated it depends on the amount.
- Mr. Palmer stated the County needs to operate like a small business, but it cannot perform that way. He said the County needs to be more efficient, and he expressed his concern about increasing the rate. Mr. Palmer noted that street and drainage work needs to be done, but he does not want it done before it is necessary.
- Mr. Brown suggested increasing the rate by a small amount to help accumulate money for drainage work. Ms. Harrison stated the rate has remained the same since 2004.
- Ms. Norton said some work needs to be done in their area and discussed the poor performance from Public Works' crews on the Nuremburg project.
- Per Mr. Brown, the Mid-Charlotte Stormwater Utility has not received any volunteers. The Committee discussed ditches funded by the Utility.

- Ms. Harrison said the intent to increase the rate needs to be submitted to the Board of County Commissioners (BCC) by January 2009. Mr. Palmer made a motion to increase the assessment rate for 2009/10 by \$25 per ERU per year. Mr. Gawenda seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.
- Ms. Harrison asked the Committee to formulate a plan in sections, with plans for each section.
- Mr. Palmer stated that driveway swales will never be dry, and greenbelts are designed for drainage and will not always be dry. He noted they will have some swampy areas. Mr. Brown thinks the greenbelts are cut below the water table.
- Ms. Harrison said that residents who reside on the east side of Dumont Drive are paying into the Deep Creek MSBU but utilize Harbour Heights' roads. The Committee agreed to have the residents removed from Deep Creek's MSBU and placed into Harbour Heights' MSBU. Per Ms. Harrison, the change will be done next fiscal year.
- Mr. Brown said a request was made at the Section 20 Board meeting by Mr. Fred Stighttower, who spoke about the Deep Creek Preserve and requested a bridge at Seasons Boulevard to allow resident access. The Southwest Florida Water Management District (SWFWMD) owns a large portion of the property, and the County owns the big ditch and is responsible for the right-of-way up to it. Members stated that parking could become a problem for Seasons Boulevard residents. Ms. Harrison said that MSBU funds cannot be used on private property.
- Ms. Harrison suggested the Committee generate a priority list. The proposed increase will be formulated into the 2009/10 budget and presented to the members in March.
- Mr. Dallenbach offered to have Maintenance & Operations meet with the Committee next month to illustrate the processes and procedures of the department.

Open Floor:

- Mr. Ron Woods said this was the most constructive meeting he's attended and that the Committee needs to establish a selling point to the residents for the assessment increase, noting that the timing is bad, but the decision is prudent. He asked about additional information on the property connection with the Water Treatment Plant on Kings Highway. Mr. Palmer stated there is pressure from SWFWMD.
- George Kerns suggested presenting an educational program to the residents to help implement the increase. Mr. Brown stated the Committee will give a presentation and have the Commissioner give any comments.

The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, January 22, 2008, at 9:00 a.m. in the Public Works Conference Room at 7000 Florida Street, Punta Gorda.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:11 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Dawn Harrison
Municipal Services District Representative