

**CITY OF SHOREVIEW
MINUTES
CITY COUNCIL SPECIAL WORKSHOP MEETING
June 16, 2014**

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Martin called the workshop meeting of the Shoreview City Council to order at 8:40 p.m. on June 16, 2014.

ROLL CALL

The following attended the meeting:

City Council: Mayor Martin; Councilmembers Johnson, Quigley, Wickstrom and Withhart

Staff: Terry Schwerm, City Manager
Mark Maloney, Public Works Director

Richmond Property
Owner Maryann Duke and Neighbors

RICHMOND AVENUE STORM DRAINAGE

Public Works Director Maloney stated that the house on this property was built in 1957. Today there are regulations regarding building pads, elevations, foundation plans, drainage, which are all under permit and review. When this neighborhood was built, the houses were built and the emergency overflow to Lake Judy was ignored. There is now a 40-year history of flooding water at this one house. There is no other way for water to flow out of the area other than through this property.

Councilmember Quigley questioned that proper civil engineering was not done at the time this development was built. Mr. Maloney explained that standards at that time were radically different from today. The City has added high flow catch basins in the street in an effort to get water off the street faster. In 2011, a swale was built in an effort to help the flow of water. Despite these improvements, whenever the storm sewer is overwhelmed, water flows down Ms. Duke's driveway into her garage. No formal drainage study has been done of the area. Because of the 100-year event storms that have been occurring more frequently, this property is often deluged with water.

He noted that other houses upstream from this one have been making requests to the City for help in getting water to leave their property faster, which would only bring more water to Ms. Duke's property.

Councilmember Wickstrom stated that a friend of hers with a similar problem put a berm at the top of the driveway, which has made a significant difference in the amount of water flowing down the driveway and into her garage.

Mayor Martin stated that any engineering solution with the street would be extremely expensive. She asked if it would be possible for water flowing from other locations to be diverted in another direction. Mr. Maloney answered that could be done, but he is not sure what impact it would have. It might mean the property is flooded every 10 years instead of every 5 years. There is also an equity issue in working with this one property. His concern is that even with some improvements, the property would still be flood prone.

Councilmember Quigley stated that the solution seems to be to remove the excess water from the driveway and redirect it and pump it into Lake Judy.

Mayor Martin stated that there have been cars floating down the street. The amount of water is insurmountable. Mr. Maloney added that up to 2 feet of water has been measured against the garage wall. The idea of collecting water and redirecting it is limited by the fact that there is not enough vertical elevation between the lake level and the lowest elevation on Ms. Duke's property. The lake rises and pushes the water back overwhelming the storm sewer pipes. Then the water goes to the lowest point which is in front of her garage. The soil is clay so water does not drain well. It sits in back yards for a long time. There have been no land use changes in this neighborhood for a long time. No larger redevelopment would offer an opportunity to address drainage. Changes will be small and incremental.

Councilmember Withhart stated that the lots appear larger than standard lots. He suggested the possibility of adding a garage onto the home and slope the driveway up into the garage.

Ms. Duke stated that other homes have been impacted. The City has done a nice job with the swale, but there was a storm in 2013 when trees blew down and the water just came. Neighbors are as frustrated as she is.

One neighbor stated that the swale has helped a lot, but during a 100-year storm, the swale is not enough.

Ms. Duke stated that in 2011 she lost three rooms of carpeting, and wall paneling. Her car and lawn mower in the garage were both totaled because of water. There is a house on the south side of Ms. Duke that is going into foreclosure. She suggested the City buy that property and make that property the swale.

Karen Eckman stated that she and Ms. Duke surveyed the downspouts in the watershed. On Ingerson, out of 22 properties, 17 have downspouts that flow into the driveway. A good practice would be a financial incentive to route downspouts onto grass or gardens rather than to the street.

Mayor Martin stated that she wanted the whole Council to hear this discussion. The City has worked to make the situation better, but it is not solved. There are other homes with this problem and the question is whether the City can help. Staff will be directed to continue to assist

Ms. Duke with potential interim solutions, but also consider what might be the best long term solution to this issue.

CLEANUP DAY DISCUSSION

City Manager Schwerm reported that this year Cleanup Day was free to encourage participation and to eliminate the bottleneck of waiting for others to pay. However, more than 1000 vehicles came (almost a 50% increase) and many had to be turned away. One of the problems is that there are limits on the number of hours that larger vehicles can be driven and Allied needed to complete their work by 4:30 p.m. The general amount collected this time doubled from 44 tons to 75 tons. E-waste increased from 8 tons to 25 tons.

Solutions being considered include making it a paid event by charging a flat fee. Cash or check only would be accepted because of difficulties and time in processing cards. Preprinted receipts could then be used. Hazardous waste is done by the County throughout the year and could be eliminated from Cleanup Day. A major bottleneck is space with only room for three trucks to collect items.

Councilmember Quigley stated that what residents want help with most is getting rid of hazardous waste and electronics, items that cannot be donated. Charitable donations can be given at any time. The real value of Cleanup Day is to get rid of difficult items not accepted in many places.

Councilmember Johnson suggested that too much is being attempted in one day, which is exhausting staff and confusing residents. She suggested a two-day process or limiting what can be collected.

Councilmember Withhart stated that some communities have curbside pickup, which is a popular service. Councilmember Wickstrom noted that communities with curbside pickup have organized collection. Mr. Maloney added that curbside pickup brings people who are scavenging, and debris is blown around. Not taking charitable contributions would alleviate a lot of vehicle stops and unloading. Information can be provided to residents on where to take donations.

Mr. Schwerm stated that a meeting with Allied is scheduled to discuss these issues. Staff will continue to monitor Cleanup Day in the fall for further modifications next year.

Mayor Martin stated that these are good suggestions. Cleanup Day is a good service and should be continued. The consensus of the Council was to modify the event for the fall consistent with the changes outlined in the memo, but continue to look at ways to improve the event in future years.

OTHER ISSUES

Councilmember Withhart stated that Ramsey County will be putting in new Highway 96 crosswalks. He suggested using the same brick applied on Victoria, Lexington and Rice Street.

Mr. Schwerm stated that he will talk to County officials but noted that brick crosswalks cost approximately \$2500 each. They may be more difficult to install on concrete.

The meeting adjourned at 10:00 p.m.