

**TOWN COUNCIL OF LEO-CEDARVILLE**  
**MEETING MINUTES**  
**FEBRUARY 19, 2008**

**COUNCIL:**

John Clendenen – Council President  
Paul Steffens – Vice President  
Mike Young  
John Eastes  
Gordon Liechty, Jr.

Pamela Spannuth, Clerk-Treasurer - Peggy Garton, Town Administrator - Jim Lauer, Town Engineer – Tom Kurtz, Stormwater Utility Chairman

7:00 – Mr. Clendenen called the meeting to order.

MINUTES – The February 5, 2008 meeting minutes were approved with corrections.

WITMER PARK STORMWATER UTILITY RECOMMENDATION – Mr. Lauer, town engineer, was at the council meeting to present three storm relief options for the Alta Vista and Sunnyside Lane intersection and surrounding area. Although the option of side ditches within the right of way alongside the road was presented as one of the options, Mr. Lauer recommended either of the following options.

Option A - Storm sewer with beehive inlets, as well as two-foot deep culverts (side ditches). Water would be directed to the main stormwater line under Michael Drive. Estimated cost of this option is \$85,000.00; engineering costs are not included.

Option B - Storm sewers with inlets along with curbs and gutters. The proposal utilizes the Michael Drive storm sewer, east/west along Alta Vista to include inlets at low points. Mr. Lauer recommends a 12” culvert pipe under 12” of cover. Inlets would be placed in the street as well as behind the curb and gutter due to the low elevation of the land. Estimated cost of this option including road reconstruction and sidewalks is \$275,000.00; engineering costs are not included.

Mr. Liechty asked the engineer to provide a breakdown of costs within the \$275,000.00 estimate, such as, the cost of the curbs and gutters, road reconstruction, and stormwater conveyance system. Mr. Lauer provided a rough estimate of \$22,000.00 for the curb and gutter. The estimated cost for a sidewalk was approximately \$10,000.00 (\$10.00 per foot @ 4’ x 1,025 l.f.); sidewalk cost is not included in the \$275,000.00 figure. A sidewalk could go on either side of the street. The storm sewer would be located on the south side since sanitary sewer runs on north.

Mr. Eastes asked about the estimated cost to survey a proper road placement and if it was a part of current estimates. Discussion ensued regarding a resurvey of the adjacent properties. Property pins may be able to be located on some properties but possibly not all. Mr. Lauer cautioned that surveys can be very costly. There is 50' right of way on this road.

Mr. Liechty said that historically water in the area was successfully handled by two foot side ditches in the area. Unfortunately, they have been completely filled in over time. Concerns were acknowledged regarding the maintenance of side ditches and enforcing that they be maintained and not filled in. Mr. Lauer agreed that this system would work, but addressed the fact that this choice requires more maintenance. Local enforcement would have to be utilized to maintain the side ditches. Establishment of an ordinance enforcing that ditches not be filled in was mentioned. A rough estimate of \$6,000.00 in maintenance costs every five years was provided if the council chooses to reestablish side ditches.

Mr. Kurtz stated that the stormwater utility recommended 'option A' for financial feasibility reasons; it is the lowest cost option for establishing a viable storm drain system.

Mr. Young expressed concern that reconstructing streets with curbs, gutters and sidewalks all throughout the town would require a significant percentage of the town's annual road budget for many years; further, he would like to see the town continue with resurfacing multiple streets every year.

Discussion ensued pertaining to the manner of improving the properties in the area. There was a difference of options expressed amongst the council, clerk-treasurer and the two affected residents present as to the extent of improvements in the area.

Mr. Clendenen expressed his concern that due to the poor quality of the road, it will likely be destroyed by the use of heavy equipment during the storm drain work. Further, resurfacing over a destroyed road will not be an option. Mr. Clendenen cited the development standard as adopted in the town's subdivision control ordinance which addresses the use of curbs, gutters and sidewalks. He feels that the town should be held to the same standard as developers when roads are reconstructed; no financial contribution should be sought from the homeowners. His recommendation is that the town chooses option B which includes road reconstruction, curbs and gutters as well as sidewalks to ensure the safety of children in the area.

In response to questions regarding the expected longevity of the road if curbs and gutters are not used, Mr. Lauer said that if water is properly led away from the road, the asphalt will remain stable and in good condition for a long time.

Discussion ensued regarding on street parking if side ditches were used. Since the pavement would be 24' without curb and gutter, cars would be unable to park

alongside the road. If curbs and gutters are used, the width (27') would enable parking on one side.

**STORMWATER FUNDING OF PROJECT** – Discussion ensued on the availability of funds in the stormwater budget to help pay for this project. Mr. Eastes sought financial information from the stormwater utility; Mr. Kurtz and Ms. Spannuth addressed this request. The current fund balance was discussed, but it is not reflective of cash available for capital projects. The current cash balance does not reflect payment for several significant financial obligations of the utility for master stormwater mapping plans and related engineering work, as well as several other stormwater repair projects in other areas. Since the utility is still in its early stages, significant capital funds have been used, and obligated, to fund stormwater master planning. Mr. Kurtz suggested that the utility pay for the stormwater engineering design costs plus contribute up to \$30,000.00 in stormwater capital improvements. This is subject to the Leo-Cedarville Stormwater Utility Board's approval.

This will remain on the council's agenda for further discussion and a final decision. Mr. Lauer recommended that the project be bid by mid April with bids to be received in May. This timeline would ensure that the project is scheduled early in the construction season.

Mr. Eastes sought information regarding the vision of the stormwater utility fund's intention of continuing storm drain improvements in the Witmer Park area. Mr. Kurtz responded by stating that at this time, capital improvement funds need to go toward storm drain relief projects versus the establishment of complete storm drain systems. A complete storm drain system within the Witmer Park area would only be possible through a bond as a conservative estimate for such system is between \$550,000.00 - \$600,000.00.

**CLAY STREET CULVERT** – A resident present brought to the council's attention another flooding problem. The problem is the result of a broken culvert located at 12716 Clay Street. Ms. Garton indicated that the maintenance department and stormwater utility will be notified of this problem.

**FINANCIAL REPORT** – Ms. Spannuth presented the current financial appropriation and fund balance report. Discussion ensued relating to the availability of capital improvement funds for the purpose of road resurfacing. Mr. Young expressed his desire to stay within the recommended maximum sum of \$300,000.00. Ms. Spannuth urged the council to consider the funding requirements of future major capital projects such as the proposed Amstutz Road project in conjunction with short term capital funding commitments. A summary of the 2007 annual report was also distributed to council members.

**PARKS DEPARTMENT APPOINTMENT RECOMMENDATIONS** – Ms. Garton and Mr. Steffens presented their recommendations for appointments to the town Park Department Boards. Mr. Steffens discussed the interviewing procedure

followed, as well as the general information sought from the people interviewed for board positions. Mr. Eastes asked for information regarding the various individuals' vision for the parks as well as the terms they may be appointed to. Mr. Steffens moved to accept the appointments of the following parks department board members. Mr. Tom Kurtz (4 years), Ms. Cindy Kimm (2 years), Ms. Deana Wright (3 years), Ms. Marggie Faley (1 years). Mr. Liechty seconded; the appointments passed by a unanimous vote.

RESOLUTION REGARDING THE GOVERNMENT WEBSITE – Mr. Eastes presented a resolution he drafted addressing the maintenance of council, boards, and commissions minutes for two years on the town's website as well as maintaining a two-year posting of the town's budget. Mr. Young seconded for the purpose of discussion. Mr. Clendenen addressed the manner in which this resolution was presented to the council. Heated discussion ensued pertaining to the manner in which this resolution was presented. Specifics of the ordinance were also addressed. The motion failed due to a lack of a majority. Mr. Clendenen voted against, Mr. Young, Mr. Steffens and Mr. Liechty abstained.

VOUCHERS – The February 19, 2008 line item voucher form was approved by a majority signature of the council members.

ADJOURNED – The meeting was adjourned until March 4, 2008.

APPROVED:

ATTEST:

John Clendenen  
Council President

Pamela Spannuth  
Clerk-Treasurer