The meeting was called to order at 6:30 P.M. in the Second Floor Conference Room at the Public Works Center.

Members present:
Thomas Burke
Adele Sturgis
Craig Hetue
Leonard Rago
Pedro Cevallos

Members absent:
Peter Rosner
Bill Pappas
Greg Hoeft

Others present:
Doug Gerleman
Camille Stauber
Mugurel Bazavan
Stratos Rounis
Village Engineer, Matt Farmer
Sue Anetsberger, Recorder

Minutes:
On a motion made and seconded, the minutes from the November 15, 2018 meeting were approved with the following corrections. Page 3, Bolded heading, change to read, “Doug Gerleman and Camille Stauber presented the proposed implementation” Page 3, under the heading Doug Gerleman and Camille Stauber presented the proposed implementation, line item number 4, change “How to involve the residences...” to “How to involve the residents...”.

Hear From the Audience: None

Verbal Update on the Stormwater Projects
MSMP Projects are between 60% and 95% complete. Projects expected to be let in August include Neighborhood Projects listed below:

Project # 8 - Work on flooding in the Dehne subdivision has grown. It is the whole intersection and ditches. Member Sturgis asked for the estimated additional cost.
Project # 23 – The Blackthorn Street flooding solution means going through the street vs. going through the parkway. The cost of the project will increase having to go to the street and significant tree removal. Farmer will send a revised estimate.

Project # 24 – Brittany Road has flooding in the center of the roadway. A new storm sewer will require one-half of the lane to come out and water main work will require the other half of the road. The road from curb to curb will be replaced once the project is finished. Farmer will send a revised estimate.

Project # 26 – The red house at 2300 Landwehr Rd. gets significant property flooding during moderate rain fall events. The project is scheduled for 2019 construction but may need to be pushed to 2020 due to permitting through Cook County.

Project # 27 – Longvalley Drive has street flooding. This project has low benefit in a 10 year rain event. This project will be discussed under New Business.

Project # 28 – Two residents at 956 and 959 Surrey Ln. cannot get out of their homes during significant rain events due to flooding. Land acquisition is scheduled for 2019 and construction in 2020. The Village is working with two property owners at 951 Surrey Ln. and 940 Lee Rd. to obtain easements to push a pipe through the side yards.

Project #470 Voltz – The homeowner has structure flooding due to the surcharging storm sewer near his back door. The storm sewer system on private property is connected to the public system at the intersection of Voltz Rd., South Ln., and Driftwood Ln. There are no records of the storm sewer system in the area or when it was installed. The Village performed some minor excavation in the ditch on the south side of Voltz Rd. providing some relief from minor rain events. The existing 15” CMP has failed on the homeowner’s property and water is entering the structure from an opening in the pipe. The project price with RFP and design is $150,000. If funds are available, this will be done in 2019. Significant easements are needed and a mortgage company would need to sign off. Design of the project is at about 90% complete. Member Sturgis asked for how long the Village was aware of the flooding. Farmer stated that the answer was “the summer before last”. The project was added into the RFQ to get the design.

Old Business

a) MSMP 29 (First Street/Center Avenue Project)

The Board recommended that the design of the project be moved up. Construction savings and easement savings will be known in August for FY 19/20. The cost for project design is approximately $63,000. There is a home that foreclosure has been filed on that may be helpful for creating a storm water detention area. A design is needed to see if enough detention can be created to be beneficial prior to considering purchasing a property. The project could be moved up when going for RFQ for design in the fiscal year of 2019/2020. Potential ways to find funding is from #30 Wendy Drive, the street only has flooding. When Village staff advertises for RFQ for design #30, we will do an alternate for #29 if funds are available. The Commission felt that the engineering is needed for #29 in the amount of $63,000 to see if the property is worth purchasing and if it would create enough detention. Farmer
stated that if we do not get the property, the solution is still available to add a bigger pipe per the MSMP. Member Sturgis asks that the Village attorney be contacted to find out the next steps in purchasing a property in foreclosure. The Commission recommends if $63,000 can be found in the budget, move forward but #30 should not get bumped.

b) Discussion of Green Infrastructure Program referred from B.O.T.
Farmer asked what the Commissioners’ thoughts were after a review of the October 9, 2018 Working Group Meeting Minutes. Chairman Burke and Member Sturgis gave a short summary of the meeting. Ms. Stauber then presented a short review of her presentation regarding how we have increased storm water and how soil is becoming harder with more runoff. She stated that stormwater is an opportunity to be used more fully. She stated that instead of using pipes and detention to deal with the water, she advocates the use of soil and plantings, the use of swales, and homeowners modifying their own landscapes. She suggested designating study areas where the water is kept in the soil instead of draining it off. Chairman Burke stated the cost of benefit numbers were missing from the presentation. He asked for information on where this has been tested, tried and what the results were, but has not received any information. Member Sturgis offered statistics on the cost of the water retention vault located at Wescott School vs. the cost for sustainable landscape modification with regard to benefit ratio yield. She stated the cost of the detention at Wescott School is approximately $1.29 per gallon vs. $5 to $6 per gallon (cost calculated from data provided by Ms. Stauber of 2 gallons held per SF of plantings and planting costs of $10 to $12 per SF) for the planting option. Ms. Stauber questioned the cost vs. fiscal responsibility stating that standing water creates the breeding of mosquitoes and that we are sending storm water downstream. The Commissioners stated that Ms. Stauber’s report was enlightening and the public should be educated on alternative ways to reduce stormwater. The Commission stated that because the Village cannot control private property, they could not recommend Village funding of a pilot sustainable landscaping project or program at this time. The Commission must be fiscally responsible to the issue of storm water runoff. The proposed project does not fit into the parameters of the type of work attended to by the Stormwater Management Commission. The Stormwater Management Commission recommendation is that while it is not recommending a Village sustainable landscaping project or program, it does recognize that sustainable landscaping does produce both stormwater and environmental benefits which the Village should consider encouraging through other avenues. The Commission is in favor of a public relations program but does not have knowledge where the funds would come from. Mr. Gerleman suggested that EQC might be a better fit for this topic. Mr. Farmer clarified that the Stormwater Commission has been asked to evaluate the Green Infrastructure from a stormwater perspective. If this issue were to be referred to another commission, that would be the decision of the Board of Trustees. Mr. Cevallos likes the concept and thinks it could be promoted to Northbrook residents, but does not have a recommendation of who should be promoting the concept. Mr. Rago does not think we need to meet any more on the subject, and does not believe it is the Village’s responsibility to prove that the proposed system works or provide additional public information on this item. Mr. Hetue does not recommend promoting this system and does not recommend investing Village funds. Ms. Sturgis stated she has tried to bring sustainability education to Northbrook for 25 years. Generally speaking, it is difficult to generate interest in education for this type of program. Mr. Burke said that he has learned a lot through this process. He doesn’t want to say “No” to this type of program entirely, but this is not something he can say “Yes” to for now. The Commission suggests the
following; information to be considered for the Village website and Village newsletter, and potentially using Earth and Arbor Day events to educate residents.

Chairman Burke thanked Ms. Stauber for her presentation and stated he will find some brochures and links that could be attached to the Stormwater Management Commission website. Ms. Stauber suggests having a dedicated ground site on Village Hall property with sustainable landscaping.

New Business

a) Discussion of street and yard flooding near 2980 Koepke Road
Farmer and Northbrook resident, Stratos Rounis met several months ago regarding the flooding on Koepke Rd. Farmer referred to pictures of Stratos Rounis’ property on Koepke Road that were distributed in the packet. Mr. Rounis stated that he cannot walk in his backyard for a couple of days after a hard rain. Farmer stated that Koepke Road is an undeveloped street with no curbs and gutters and that the storm sewers are not all the same size. Farmer stated that GIS is inadequate and that a crew will be sent out after the weather warms up to start a survey of existing pipes. Mr. Rounis questioned how to proceed to get curbs and gutters. Farmer stated that all the parties would need to get together for a SSA. Farmer provided information as to what an SSA is. Ms. Stauber asked if Mr. Rounis was interested in planting impervious plantings to help stop the flooding. Mr. Rounis was not interested in the use of plantings. Member Sturgis stated that there is a large amount of redevelopment on Koepke Road with very large homes on a substandard street that was likely built under Cook County standards. Farmer added that Keopke Road is not on the five year plan for repaving. Farmer asked if this situation should be considered as a stormwater project and to investigate possible solutions. Mr. Farmer stated that the sewer has been cleaned and looks like it is flowing, but it cannot been televised due to the inconsistent pipe types. Chairman Burke asked if there is a possibility that only a partial piece needs to be repaired. Farmer stated that it may be possible to do an assessment of the existing system during the next heavy rain storm. He would then have a better idea if there is an interim solution to reduce the frequency of flooding. Farmer asked if this should go through the Stormwater Management Commission as a new project or to an SSA and reconstruct the roadway. If the homeowners are not interested in waiting four years, they are free to do their own study, but would have to pay for design. Chairman Burke asked if this should be considered a priority over what has already been established. The Commission does not recommend that this project gets moved up in front of other projects. Farmer suggests assessing the problem and addressing any sections that are broken or blocked.

b) MSMP 31 Willow Creek Pre-Study
HLR is performing a pre-study of MSMP #31 to determine if the Techny Drain work has improved this area enough to eliminate the project or significantly change the scope. The pre-study is 60% complete. One intersection is flooding more than the other two and it does not appear the Techny Drain is helping the area much. Cleaning out two inches of sediment from the ditch will lower the water level 0.2 feet. The purchasing of the one property the Village is looking at does not seem to be as beneficial. Taking advantage of the “left over” detention with the high school is more promising.

c) MSMP 27 Longvalley Drive
Farmer asked if the Commissioners recommended only replacing inlets, grates, and adding one extra inlet at a cost of about $20,000. He asked the Commission’s thoughts regarding postponing this project
until after all projects are complete in the MSMP. $108,000 has been budgeted; however, costs are coming in at $179,000 if we proceed with the original MSMP scope. The 10 year rain event is not captured in the storm sewer. The 5 year storm event is contained in the storm sewer if the current MSMP project is constructed. Member Sturgis is concerned about the number of downspouts that may be connected to the storm sewer. Farmer stated that increasing inlet capacity will improve the situation because the total volume in the pipe has not been taken advantage of. The Commissioners were in favor of adding inlet capacity and in deferring the project and determining if the cost was still worth the benefit after the Village observes if the additional inlet capacity helped enough. Discussion followed whether it was advisable to add an Addendum 3. Chairman Burke suggested not adding it now. Farmer stated that stormwater projects occupy the next five years of the CIP.

**Hear from Commissioners concerning new topics**
Member Sturgis would like a discussion on the following topics:
Rain garden standards, back flow prevention in rear yard drains where the water surcharges, potential use of the Green Acres property as a regional stormwater detention for the Middle Fork.

**Next Meeting Date: to be determined**

**Adjourn**
On a motion made and seconded the meeting adjourned at 9:45 p.m.
Respectfully submitted,
Sue Anetsberger
Recorder