

GSWA Stormwater Sub-committee Meeting
2013 -01 -14 7:00 pm
Minnow Lake Place
Meeting Notes

Present: John Lindsay, Brad Bowman, Elaine Porter, Lilly Noble, Shannon Dennie, Linda Heron, Margaret McLaughlin, Lesley Flowers, Dot Klein, Paul Sajatovic, Tony Cecutti

- A. Paul Sajatovic, Manager of Conservation Sudbury spoke about the responsibilities of the Conservation Authority regarding storm water control and erosion control.

The issue is that there is a public perception that there is inaction or lack of concern regarding storm water control.

The Conservation Authorities Act provides for flood control, erosion and storm water management under Section 28. Applications must be made to the Conservation Authority for section 28 for permits if a water way or wet land could be impacted, if a water course is to be altered etc. The Conservation Authority looks at the impact on land and water and has the legal authority to impose conditions on development, pre and post development and continued issues of run-off.

The Clean Water Act and the subsequent Source Protection Plan provide the requirement that a comprehensive Storm Water Management Plan be in place in the Ramsey Lake watershed within 5 years of the approval of the Source Protection Plan. This plan requires annual reporting by the city. There is also a salt management plan that the CGS must develop as part of the Source Protection Plan.

The Ontario Great Lakes Strategy which also provides for storm water management has been released. Unfortunately the legislation to support the strategy is stalled because of the prerogative of provincial parliament.

No one will disagree that the MOE storm water management guidelines need to be updated.

Progress also needs to be noted because the Official Plan's sections on storm water control have "taken a giant step forward"

The Conservation Authorities Act provides for guidelines to review applications. Under Section 28, the Conservation Authority can issue a permit without conditions, with conditions or a permit can be denied.

There was a question about the kind of follow-up or enforcement that takes place. The answer was that about 50% of the applications include a follow-up. There are definitely returns if the parties involved are non-cooperative. There is a lack of money to fund the needed personnel for more follow-up so much depends on the complaint process. Legal action can be undertaken through the Conservation Authorities Act, however litigation is a last resort.

B. Tony Cecutti , Manager of Infrastructure for the City of Greater Sudbury first of all said that he or someone from his department would be willing to give a formal presentation about the CGS Storm water management plans. Tony has quite a lot of experience in the storm water management field prior to his return to Sudbury.

Big changes to storm water management will be soon evident again because of the Source Protection Plan. There is awareness now on the part of council regarding storm water management as evidenced by an extra budget allotment of \$35,000.

There is a refocus on a Drainage Master Plan. Priorities will be re- assessed and sub-watershed plans may set the framework for development.

Tony made it clear that collaboration and discussion were part of the way things would operate under his direction.

A question was asked regarding the feasibility of fees for storm water usage and it was answered that in some jurisdictions that has worked but in others not. With heightened public awareness and an administrative culture and capability, fees can work.

Criteria for storm water management and erosion control need to be established on a sub-watershed basis.

Developers want clear rules and they then can comply easily.

A point was made by a committee member who said that it was important in the planning process to involve the public through CANs or GSWA at a early stage in the process.

Tony will check to see how far along the Storm water Review is.

There was little discussion at the end of the meeting except to say that the public and councillors need to be much more aware of the importance of storm water management and erosion and sediment control. Storm water needs to be the next buzz word so that those who allot the budget do, so that the standards are raised and there is money to implement them.

Next meeting: I would propose that we meet on Monday February 18, at 7:00 pm at hopefully Minnow Lake Place.

L.F.