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## Verbatim Minutes, 25 Talbot Lane Hearings re: Newberry Brook Drainage

November 9, 2021

Timestamp: 3:41:13

Commissioner Dexter (CD): The other thing is - Jeff, I'm still not confident about this Newberry Road culvert, and the water, and - I'm just not confident.

Jeffrey Doolittle (JD): So there's two things to that – two sides to that question. One, the development of this facility as designed meets all the standards. They're decanting all these storms, up to and including the hundred-year storm onsite, so they're not increasing the amount of stormwater that leaves the site. It will percolate out at a slower rate, and it will be more lengthy of a flow, but they're not increasing the flow off the site. It does go through several other detention basins before it gets to Newberry Brook. So that's one thing. They're not increasing the stormwater flow off the site. Every other facility in town is designed in a similar manner and it has worked. The second thing is, Newberry Brook is – floods down alongside Newberry Road before it gets to Main Street, that's where it's flooded this year. It's very constrained right there. It's physically constrained by the road on one side, and the embankment on the other side. It's a very small brook. When there's an excess amount of water, it has no place to go but to flood the road. **(3:42:28) That is a different item, it's a different issue not related to this application.** That's something that would take a little bit of – a fair amount of research to try and figure out how to resolve, because as I said, it's constrained by the road and the embankment on the other side.

CD: Well, I'm sure it's on your radar now.

JD: Yes.

November 23, 2021

Timestamp: 2:46:09

Chairman Pacekonis (CP): Mr. Jameson. Would you like to come up, please? Do you have any comment regarding the testimony we just heard?

Daniel Jameson (DJ): Yes, Mr. Wiley is absolutely correct, we do have an increase in volume. Consistent with all the projects we've done before – I've always worked on them, we've always matched peak flows, which is the State and normal Town requirement. The thought behind it is if the peak flow is matched, then there's less chance of scour because of the velocity that would be associated with that peak flow. Also, the hydraulic gradeline, the velocity would also impact the water surface elevation what happens downstream. What we do is we look at our site and all the stuff running offsite, running through our site, and just from the location of our site we are at the top of the Newberry watershed, it's about 1,140 square miles of area and we are – I'm sorry, 1,140 acres of area and we are 30 acres out of that, so about 2.5% of that whole watershed area, at the top of it. So although yes, the volume will be increasing, the rate that

we are releasing that water to the Newberry Brook is at a consistent rate so that we won't be compounding peaks of other – of the downstream effects that happen at the Newberry Brook. So by the time that the downstream watershed areas get to the flows and get to that area, that should occur before our site gets there and has a compounding effect.

Timestamp 2:47:53

DJ: We've asked the Town Engineer Jeff Doolittle about this and he agreed with our approach, he didn't ask us to look further into anything of potential impacts down the stream. It is a known problem of the Newberry Brook, that there is an issue there, it is a constraint pipe issue there that should be solved. I believe the Town has plans to solve that in the future, but it is in my opinion, it is not our project that will further impact this, it is an existing problem and we won't be adding to that existing problem.

CP: Ok, thank you. Jeff, does the Town have a plan to remedy the situation in the future?

Timestamp 2:48:39

Jeffrey Doolittle (JD): Not a specific plan. There's two issues I mentioned that were raised, one is Newberry Brook actually, my understanding is it flooded on Newberry Road worse than it flooded on Main Street – Newberry Road was closed – because of the constraint where the brook is right next to the road, so when it overtops it just floods the road. I don't know how that would be solved. That's something we have to look at and it would take some time to figure out how to solve it. The other point that was raised was the culvert under Main Street – I don't know what the exact condition of that culvert is – we don't have any plans immediately to replace that culvert, but it's something we can certainly look at in the future. As far as we know, it's operating. It's operating satisfactorily except during these extreme rain events.

CP: From the testimony I saw from Mr. Wiley, he had four feet of water in his backyard, which was substantial from the pictures that I viewed. But it was cleared two hours later, or substantially cleared by then.

JD: Right.

CP: I just have concerns about what the future holds.

*Transcribed by: Samara Haddock 5/2/2023*

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