
MEMORANDUM

TO: MAYOR TERRY WEPPLER
VILLAGE BOARD OF TRUSTEES
VILLAGE CLERK

FROM: NICHOLAS MOSTARDO, DIRECTOR OF FINANCE

SUBJECT: STORMWATER UTILITY RATE STUDY – PHASE II PRESENTATION

DATE: 2/23/2021

CC: KELLY AMIDEI, VILLAGE ADMINISTRATOR

Background

In late summer 2020, the Village Board directed staff to move forward in completing Phase II of the Stormwater Utility Rate Study with the goal of implementing a stormwater utility fee to fund the capital projects identified in the Master Stormwater Management Plan.

Phase II of the utility rate study included the following major activities:

1. Creation of the billing database – Completed December 2020
2. Public Education – Website launched December 2020; Town Hall Meetings held January 28, 2021 and February 11, 2021.
3. Preparation of the Stormwater Utility ordinance – Draft included in agenda materials

During the February 23, 2021 Committee of the Whole meeting, Eric Callocchia with NewGen Strategies and Solutions will provide a summary of the final Phase II findings. Staff and the Village Attorney will also provide an overview of the proposed utility ordinance and answer any other questions.

Analysis

The first town hall meeting was attended by 18 residents, plus the Village Board and staff, while the second town hall meeting was attended by 21 residents in addition to the Board and staff. Both town halls were held in a virtual format. Several excellent questions were asked at the town hall meetings, with the questions not already addressed in the online FAQ document added to the list of FAQs. The town hall meetings were advertised on social media and the Village’s website. Videos of the town hall meetings uploaded to the Village’s website have been viewed 242 times. If the stormwater utility fee ordinance is adopted, staff will continue maintaining a communications strategy up through and after the fee goes into effect on September 1, 2021.

Questions received during the town hall meetings included questions about the mechanisms driving the overall proposed fee structure, the capital plan, financial management of stormwater revenues, and several questions that were specific to individual properties or subdivisions in the community. Staff continues to respond to questions received through email and phone.

Based on some of the comments received during the town halls and via direct communication from residents, the Village expects to have to address various applications for appeals and credits; this is not unusual with any new stormwater utility fee. Staff do not believe that there were any objections raised during the town hall meetings or via direct communication that would warrant delaying adoption of a stormwater utility fee ordinance.

Recommendation

1. Direct staff to prepare a final version of an ordinance amending the Village Code to implement a stormwater utility fee for consideration during the March 9, 2021 meeting of the Village Board.

Attachments

1. Stormwater Utility Rate Study Phase II Report
2. Stormwater Utility Rate Study Phase II Presentation
3. Draft Stormwater Utility Ordinance