



Municipality of Princeton

*Witherspoon Hall
400 Witherspoon Street
Princeton, NJ 08540-3496*

**ENGINEERING AND INFRASTRUCTURE
OPERATIONS**

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**MINUTES OF THE MEETING
of the
PRINCETON FLOOD AND STORMWATER COMMISSION**

September 9, 2022

The meeting of the Princeton Flood and Stormwater Commission was convened at 10:00 a.m. on Friday, September 9, 2022 via Virtual Meeting/Zoom Conference. J. Purcell opened the meeting in accordance with the New Jersey Open Public Meetings Act, Section 5, Chapter 231, P.L. 275. In conformance with the requirements of the law, notice was provided of the date, time and location of this regular meeting and filed with the Clerk of Princeton.

I. ROLL CALL

Members:

David Cohen, Princeton Council Liaison; Stuart Lieberman; Scott Sillars;
Barbara Vadnais, Chair; Daniel Van Abs; Louise Wilson;
Karen Zemle, Princeton Environmental Commission Liaison

Princeton Engineering:

Andrew Filippi, Sewer Engineer; Melissa Kampf, Project Manager;
Deanna Stockton, Deputy Administrator/Municipal Engineer;
Janice Most, Recording Secretary

Absent: Ian Baker, Construction Project Engineer; James Purcell, Assistant Engineer;

Environmental Commission:

Zenon Tech-Czarny

Absent: Tammy Sands; Harrison Watson

Watershed Institute:

Sophie Glovier

Absent: Mike Pisauo

Sustainable Princeton:

Jenny Ludmer

Absent: Christine Symington

Public:

Patrick Bobak, The Nadar Group (left 10:35 a.m.)

Wassim Nader, The Nader Group (left a 10:35 a.m.)

Paul Schorr

Sarah Smith

II. Approval of Agenda

D. Cohen moved to approve the September 9, 2022. L. Wilson seconded.
The Motion passed unanimously.

III. Approval of August 5, 2022 Minutes

D. Van Abs moved to approve the August 5, 2022 Minutes as presented.
K. Zemble seconded. The Motion passed unanimously.

IV. Public Comment

Sarah Smith, 92 Gulick Road stated that she is concerned about the change in the local water table elevation due to a nearby residential construction project, resulting in constant basement pumping which overloads the storm drains. The rain garden will absorb some surface water but not ground water; The front lawn has ponding, and she is concerned that the saturated ground will adversely affect surrounding trees.

Discussion: the Engineering Department will evaluate the ponding.

V. Update on Floodplain Mapping of Harry's Brook, (Bobak and Nader from the Nader Group)

Present for discussion were Patrick Bobak, Senior Engineer and Waseem Nader, Principal Engineer of the Nader Group.

Discussion: hydrology and hydraulics; water surface elevation for 100-year storm; mapping between Snowden Lane and Harrison Street with presentation of mapping of Snowden Lane through Harriett Drive; emergency stormwater data updates; FEMA flood information; since 1986 conditions on Harry's Brook have changed – a citizen asked how can fill that has been placed be accounted for; Harry's Brook north is significantly wider; questions regarding effects of Riprap on flood flows; Riprap vs. Rational Method.

D. Stockton noted when all data is checked information will be distributed. The Commission requested a report to review prior to completion.

VI. Discussions and Decisions

Municipal Update

D. Stockton stated that the Draft MS4 Permit is in review and comments are due by September 20, 2022 in participation with New Jersey Future and the League of Municipalities; there are many components, including budgeting.

A Filippi spoke to outfalls and water quality.

Discussion: are outfalls regulated? Princeton infrastructure releases stormwater into natural water source, the last pipe is the outfall, not the pipes that flow into a detention or retention basin; A. Filippi stated we do not have the in-house capacity to complete water quality testing; Environmental Commission is looking into drinking water testing; outfall testing was part of sewer impact study of 1988. Stony Brook Regional perhaps could partner with Princeton as they do frequent water quality testing.

D. Stockton stated that the Adopt a Drain Program is included on the Agenda for the September Infrastructure and Operations meeting.

S. Glovier will report on storm water absorption and trees at the October FSWC meeting.

Redevelopment Stormwater Ordinance and Updates

Nothing to report.

Stormwater Flows Mapping

A. Filippi stated the Consultant continues to review the maps.

Stormwater Utility (Sub-Committee)

A. Filippi stated that the Consultant submitted a questionnaire to staff, who are working on getting answers; Phase I digital work is progressing; considering an application for the DEP Stormwater Utilities Grant although this may not be in Princeton's best interest financially and with competitive from other municipalities, we are unlikely to be awarded the Grant.

Master Plan/Utility Element

D. Cohen stated that the Consultant is gathering information; there were no specifics at the Planning Board; there is not an internal working group. D. Cohen noted that there should be a subcommittee to look at the old FSWC utility element. D. Stockton noted that the utility touches on sanitary sewer, energy, and water which is still in Borough/Township form. L. Wilson will

invite Justin Lesko, Acting Director of the Planning Board to the October 7, 2022 meeting. D. Van Abs noted that the stormwater and flooding objectives would be discussed at the October 7, 2022, meeting, as the committee has completed their draft.

Stormwater Mitigation Plan

A. Filippi will send the Princeton Stormwater Management Mitigation Plan to all Members for comments and suggestions and to be reviewed at the October 7, 2022 meeting.

Discussion: how the Plan will get adopted.

VII. Reports from Liaisons

Princeton Environmental Commission

Nothing to report.

Sustainable Princeton

J. Ludmer stated that three neighborhoods have joined the Adopt a Drain Program.

Other: S. Glovier invited Members to a Zoom meeting at Noon, today, September 9, 2022 for a tech friendly session on Naturalizing Stormwater Basins. Also, in the near future, she will be meeting with a Princeton University Researcher on the subject of flooding and basements.

D. Van Abs congratulated S. Glovier on her promotion to Chief of Operations at the Watershed Institute.

VIII. Adjournment

At 11:40 a.m. D. Cohen moved to adjourn the meeting. D. Van Abs seconded. The Motion passed unanimously.

The next meeting is scheduled for Friday October 7, 2022 at 10:00 a.m. via Virtual Meeting/Zoom.

Janice Most
Recording Secretary

Adopted: October 7, 2022