

*Town of Canandaigua*

5440 Routes 5 & 20 West  
Canandaigua, New York 14424

**DRAINAGE ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

*Established October 16, 2017*

**TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 13, 2018, 11:00 A.M.**

**MINUTES—APPROVED**

- Meeting Called by:** Charles Oyler, *Chairperson*
- Committee Member Present:** Richard Krebs
- Committee Member Excused:** Kathy Page
- Town Representatives:**
  - Doug Finch, Town Manager, Town of Canandaigua
  - Jim Fletcher, Canandaigua Highway Superintendent
  - Greg Hotaling, MRB Group, D.P.C.
  - Chris Jensen, Town Code Enforcement Officer
  - Kaitlynn McCumiskey, Canandaigua Highway Department
  - Kevin Olvany, Canandaigua Lake Watershed Council
  - Kevin Reynolds, Canandaigua Town Board Member
  - Thomas Schwartz, Canandaigua Planning Board
  - Chairperson
- Guests:**
  - Jim Edwards, 4800 Deuel Road, Canandaigua, N.Y. 14424
  - Edmond Ruppel, 3329 Dandelion Trail,  
Canandaigua, N.Y. 14424
  - Donna Torrens, 3537 County Road 16,  
Canandaigua, N.Y. 14424
  - Diane Zimmerman, 2535 Cooley Road,  
Canandaigua, N.Y. 14424

**1. CALL TO ORDER BY THE CHAIR**

Mr. Oyler called the meeting to order at 11:00 a.m.

**2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF OCTOBER 23, 2018**

The minutes of the October 23, 2018, meeting were approved. The minutes will be posted upon the Drainage Advisory Committee web page and will be distributed to the Town Board members and Town staff via e-mail.

**3. HILLCREST DRIVE DRAINAGE**

Mr. Fletcher: Said that he has not heard from Greg Novak (4964 Hillcrest Drive) or Keith Cutri (4963 Hillcrest Drive), or from the Hillcrest Drive homeowners' association, regarding Mr. Cutri's and Mr. Novak's proposed drainage mitigation plan which would be an alternative to the plan which was proposed by the Drainage Advisory Committee earlier this year. Mr. Fletcher will brief the Committee on the residents' proposal when it is received.

**4. LAURA LANE: DEC WETLANDS DETERMINATION AND MAPPING**

Mr. Hotaling: Said that the location points of the wetland delineation are complete and have been sent to the Canandaigua Lake Watershed Association (Mr. Olvany's group) for plotting on the map.

**5. FINGER LAKES COMMUNITY COLLEGE PROJECT UPDATE**

Mr. Finch: Said that Ontario County is in the process of obtaining the required easements for the Finger Lakes Community College project. The easements will permit access onto the adjacent Genecco/Star Cider property. The project will integrate the drainage flow from the adjacent 17-acre drainage area—which now bypasses the Finger Lakes Community College canoe pond—and direct the flow into the pond to provide for one overall engineering design. It is expected that the Request for Proposals (RFPs) for engineering design services will be sent to engineering firms this month. A County committee will review the RFPs to make a recommendation on the selection of the engineering firm. The project will be funded by the County. The engineering contract will be awarded by the Ontario County Board of Supervisors.

**6. DRAINAGE AREA MAPPING PROJECT UPDATE**

Mr. Olvany: The drainage area mapping project is in progress by a staff member of the Canandaigua Lake Watershed Association.

Mr. Finch: Discussed the Sucker Brook remediation project which is taking place in the vicinity of State Route 21 and County Road 32.

**7. 3329 DANDELION TRAIL**

Mr. Ruppel, 3329 Dandelion Trail, attended the meeting.

Mr. Ruppel: Said that his and other backyards flood habitually, are always soaked and cannot be used. He presented a photograph taken yesterday (November 12, 2018) which depicted ruts in the grass created by his lawn tractor (photograph attached).

Mr. Oyler: Said that he and Mr. Fletcher visited the site and spoke with Mr. Ruppel last week. Mr. Oyler said that Mr. Ruppel has a walk-out basement and that his property flattens out in the backyard toward a shallow rear-yard swale. He said that water is supposed to flow to a catch basin which is located on land which is slightly lower than the Ruppel property. Although an uphill drainage swale functions as it should, the land near Mr. Ruppel and several other homes flattens out and water does not flow well into the catch basin which serves these properties.

Mr. Oyler: Said that the existing rear-yard swale serves a large drainage area in this subdivision.

Mr. Oyler: Said that the Town has only two easements for access to maintain the two catch basins in the vicinity of these homes. He said that the Town has no easements or rights to enter upon the rear properties of the homes along the Dandelion Trail drainage swale.

Mr. Jensen: Said that the Town regulations have changed since this subdivision was constructed. He said that the Town now requires specific grading plans to assure that drainage issues on one specific property will not affect adjacent properties.

Mr. Oyler: Suggested that a solution is to install an under drain below the existing swale along the backyards of the affected properties and outlet to the existing catch basin at the lower end of the swale. This work would occur on privately owned property. Mr. Oyler also explained that the Town is not able to enter upon private property without releases and easements from the affected property owners. He also said that the funding of this suggested solution must be considered.

Mr. Ruppel: Said that drainage concerns increased when the adjacent playground was installed. He said that there were approximately six inches to eight inches of standing water in the playground in September.

Mr. Hotaling: Said that the installation of sheds, swimming pools, fences and other accessory structures in the backyards of the homes have affected the function of the existing drainage swale. Mr. Fletcher said that there are also some underground springs in this area which are adding to the drainage which flows through these rear yards.

Mr. Hotaling: Discussed the drainage flow along the rear yards of Lots #66, #67, #68 and #69 on the subdivision site plan map.

Mr. Finch: Said that there are some funds available in the drainage district in which this subdivision is located which could be used toward the payment of an initial engineering review of the issue. He said that additional funds would be required and that a drainage district funding phasing plan could be considered.

Mr. Hotaling: Suggested that the existing shallow swale be better defined to deal with the sheds, swimming pools, fences and other obstructions which have affected the drainage.

Mr. Oyler: Said that the Town may have an obligation to mitigate the drainage issues if the water is coming off the adjacent Town parkland. He said that this should be determined.

Mr. Ruppel: Said that the way that the grading was done on other properties causes water to flow onto his property. He said that he has no control over how others have built their properties and that he is stuck with the situation as it now exists.

Mr. Oyler: Asked that the Town staff review this issue and suggest mitigation measures which could be done from the adjacent parkland to which the Town has access. He again noted that the Town may not enter upon, or encroach upon, private property without an easement or a right of way.

Mr. Ruppel: As discussed previously, he suggested that the installation of drain tile, which could tie into the inlet, may alleviate much of the problem.

## **8. 2535 COOLEY ROAD**

Diane Zimmerman, 2535 Cooley Road, attended the meeting.

Ms. Zimmerman discussed her concern in an e-mail to Mr. Oyler on November 2, 2018, as follows:

I plan to attend your first November meeting to share my drainage issues in relationship to the culvert that goes under Cooley Road and dumps into the drainage ditch running alongside my property, along with the drainage ditch in front of the north end of my property at 2535 Cooley Road.

The “creek”/drainage ditch was cleaned out around two years ago. It was hopeful that it would help the flow of the water, but there is still a problem with the force of the water coming out of the culvert. Brocklebanks cleared more land and it has caused more runoff to come down off the hills on the west side of Cooley. With the heavier flow, the banks are eroding at dramatic rate. An island has formed in the middle of the “creek” and the water is breaking down the banks.

Mowing my lawn is now hazardous because of the pitch of the ground, as a result of the erosion. I have five leach lines out back—it's an evaporation bed. If this keeps up, I fear it could be compromised.

I am requesting that some stone/rocks be used to line the creek to prevent any further erosion, and the upper shoulders of the banks to be cleaned up.

When my home was built in 1980, we had pictures of the ditch. It was barely noticeable and less than six feet across. The effects of the larger culver that was added to alleviate the flooding that was happening over Cooley Road in front of Robert Beck's home has caused a tremendous impact on my property. Brocklebank's clearing has made it even worse.

Also of note, when the ditch was cleaned out, the roots of my ash tree were ripped out and many exposed. Now, the lower branches are all dead.

—Diane M. Zimmerman, 2535 Cooley Road  
November 2, 2018

Ms. Zimmerman: Said that she invested approximately \$3,000 for the installation of a catch basin, drainage tile, and gutters on the barn. She said that this alleviated some of the problems but that water from the front ditch is wicking directly at the garage. She said that the culvert pipe sits too high and needs to be pitched.

Mr. Fletcher: Said that the work which was done within the Town right of way to remove the fire hydrant may have softened and may be affecting the culvert pipe.

Mr. Jensen: Said that this is a low-lying area with existing wetlands and a New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC)-designated stream. He said that this is a difficult lot for drainage.

Ms. Zimmerman: Said that she would like to be sure that nothing from along the north side of the drainage ditch encroaches upon the five leach lines in the back of her property.

Ms. Zimmerman: Said that the ditch has become massive and deep from the velocity of the water.

Mr. Oyler: Suggested that rip rap be installed in the outfall of the pipe to reduce the velocity of the water.

Ms. Zimmerman: Said that her driveway is never dry. She said that three tons of stone were installed last year, but that much of the stone was pushed back during snow plowing.

Mr. Oyler: Requested that Mr. Fletcher look into the installation of rip rap in the area of the ditch which is within the Town right of way.

**9. 5875 YERKES ROAD**

Mr. Fletcher: Discussed a drainage concern expressed by Candace Peck, 5875 Yerkes Road. He said that the property owner did some drainage work about two years ago but that the drainage structures have not been maintained and that water collects in the vicinity of Avon Road and Yerkes Road.

Mr. Finch: Said that Ms. Peck contacted the Town about work which was done on Avon Road. Mr. Fletcher said that nothing was done by the Town on Avon Road and that water follows a channel through the Peck property. He said that an existing 12-inch pipe is undersized for the drainage area. He suggested that a pipe which could be installed under Yerkes Road to channel water to the north may relieve some flooding in Ms. Peck's yard but would not relieve the overall wetness of the area and the rest of her property.

Mr. Fletcher: Said that he walked the property with Ms. Peck and found that the previous drainage work which had done by others has not been maintained.

Mr. Finch: Said that Ms. Peck believes that the Town must correct the flooding issue, but that it is completely on her property and that the Town has not done anything to contribute to the issue.

Mr. Olvany: Suggested that perhaps the culvert under the road could be lowered to provide for improved draining of the land.

Mr. Oyler: Said that this issue will be added to the Town's spreadsheet of drainage locations. He said that it will be up to Mr. Fletcher to prioritize this issue, and to determine the cost and availability of funding.

**10. COUNTY ROAD 16**

Donna Torrens, 3537 County Road 16, attended the meeting.

Ms. Torrens: Asked about the maintenance of the drainage ditches along County Road 16 by the Ontario County Department of Public Works. She said that she has not seen any of this work in the vicinity of her home.

Mr. Jensen: Said that some of this work has been in progress by the County but that it may not yet be completed. He said that it seems as though the County is cleaning out the drainage ditches in certain locations.

Mr. Oyler: Said that the Town has been notified of this work by a standard electronic telephone alert and not personally by a County representative.

## 11. DEUEL ROAD

Jim Edwards, 4800 Deuel Road, attended the meeting.

Mr. Edwards suggested the following drainage projects:

1. Installation of a corrugated pipe along the frontage of his property on the north side of Deuel Road to stop the wash-outs of the ditch. He said that this would pay for itself by avoiding Town crews having to come out every year or two to clean out the ditch with equipment.
2. Installation of a cross-over pipe between two existing ponds in the vicinity of Deuel Road to stop the overflow and the damage which the water creates between the ponds.
3. Interception of the drainage as it flows down Deuel Road to a proposed pipe under Deuel Road. From this point, the water could flow toward the organic farm and then east to County Road 16 where there is an existing drain pipe. This would eliminate the flooding which now occurs on the property which is located on the northwest corner of County Road 16 and Deuel Road.

Mr. Olvany: Said that the size of the pipe under County Road 16 would have to be increased. He said that there are always unknown consequences to push water where it does not intend to go on its own.

Mr. Jensen: Asked about the retention of stone check dams in drainage ditches and swales after the growth of vegetation in the ditches. Mr. Olvany said that the check dams may be left in place to maintain the integrity of the ditches.

## 12. DISCUSSION

Ms. Torrens: Discussed the presentation of the Ontario County Road 16/West Lake Road Pedestrian and Bicycle Accommodations Feasibility Study which was presented at a public meeting on August 8, 2018, at Onanda Park. The purpose of the study, funded by the Genesee Transportation Council, was to make County Road 16 safer and more attractive for pedestrians and cyclists while improving the safety of the road for all users.

Key recommendations proposed in the draft study report include:

- Increased maintenance schedule
- Additional signing and stop bars at intersections with steep grades
- Asymmetrical shoulders

- Hillcrest warning systems
- West Lake Schoolhouse Park and Beach–Butler Road intersection improvements
- Shoulder improvements
- Onanda Park and Canandaigua Yacht Club road crossing improvements
- Education, outreach and enforcement
- The establishment of five feet as the standard width of the shoulder of the road on both sides of County Road 16 is recommended in the draft report. The width of the shoulder currently varies along the length of the road.

Ms. Torrens: Said that she would like the County to work on the existing drainage issues along County Road 16 before expending efforts on bicycles and pedestrians.

Mr. Finch: Said that the report—which is available for review on the Town website—has more ideas than actions. He noted that the Town has applied for a grant to make pedestrian improvements on Middle Cheshire Road—as suggested in the report—to provide an alternative to County Road 16 for pedestrians and bicyclists.

Mr. Reynolds: Said that the County is aware of the Town’s interest in drainage improvements on County Road 16.

Mr. Oyler: Said that the County had planned to pave a portion of County Road 16 but that the Town and the Drainage Advisory Committee encouraged the County to deal with the drainage issues first.

Mr. Oyler: Reminded members of the Committee and Town staff of the joint meeting of the Town boards and committees on Monday, November 19, 2018, at 5:00 p.m. at the Town Hall.

**13. NEXT MEETINGS AND ADJOURNMENT**

The next meeting of the Committee will be:

***Tuesday, November 27, 2018      11:00 a.m.      Highway Dept. Conference Room***

Subsequent meetings will be:

Tuesday, December 11, 2018	11:00 a.m.	Highway Dept. Conference Room
Tuesday, January 8, 2019	11:00 a.m.	Highway Dept. Conference Room
Tuesday, January 22, 2019	11:00 a.m.	Highway Dept. Conference Room

The meeting was adjourned at 12:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

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John M. Robortella L.S.

Attachment:

Photo from Edmond Ruppel, 3329 Dandelion Trail, re: backyard drainage

**E-mail distribution:**

Krebs, Richard  
Oyler, Charles  
Page, Kathy

**cc. to:**

Bloom, Tina  
Brabant, Lance  
Chrisman, Jean  
Cooper, Eric  
Davis, Gary  
Dworaczyk, Linda  
Fennelly, Terry  
Finch, Doug  
Fletcher, Jim  
Hotaling, Greg  
Jensen, Chris  
Marthaller, Joyce  
McCumiskey, Kaitlynn  
Menikotz, Cathy  
Nadler, Christian  
Olvany, Kevin  
Reynolds, Kevin  
Reynolds, Sarah  
Rowlinson, Michelle  
Schwartz, Tom