The Watershed Erosion Task Force meeting was called to order by Co-Chairs Remy & Archeski, at 6:30 p.m., on Wednesday, August 26, 2020, at Wildwood City Hall, 16860 Main Street, Wildwood, Missouri 63040, and on Zoom.

I. Roll Call of Task Force Members

A roll call of members was taken, with the following results:

Present: Citizen Members Guenther, Boykin, Sturman, Holthouse, Patton, Archeski, and Donaldson. Council Members Clark, Edens, Remy, Farmer, McCutchen, Rambaud, and Garritano (arrived at 6:40 p.m.).

Absent: Citizen Member Tripp and Council Member McCune.

Staff Present: City Administrator Anselm, Director of Planning and Parks Vujnich, and Assistant Director of Planning and Parks Arnett.

II. Welcome and Opening Remarks by Co-Chairs Remy and Archeski

Co-Chair Remy welcomed everyone to the meeting.

III. Approval of Minutes from the June 17, 2020 Meeting

A motion was made by Member Guenther, seconded by Member Farmer, to approve the minutes from the June 17, 2020 Task Force meeting, with a single modification on the top of Page 2 referencing the Master Plan. A voice vote was taken, with no opposition, and the amended minutes were declared approved.

IV. Public Comment

None

V. Boy Scout Creek Event On September 12, 2020, With Dr. David Hammer

Co-Chair Remy requested this item be postponed until later in the meeting to accommodate the Boy Scout representative’s schedule.

Council Member Garritano arrived.
VI. Reports On Consultant And Task Force Member Activities Within The City’s Watersheds

Dr. Hammer noted his concern with improvements completed at the headwaters of Bonhomme Creek, including a retaining wall built for the new roundabout on State Route 109. He noted his concerns with an existing aqueduct and the density of a development proposed at the headwaters (The Reserve at Wildwood). Dr. Hammer then explained he visited the Highlands at Wildhorse Subdivision’s common ground area and the cutbank has fifteen (15) downed trees associated with it and it has been cut sized three (3) to four (4) feet in the past two (2) months. He also visited the Quaethem Farms Subdivision’s meander and noted it has breeched to bedrock near the new Strecker Road bridge and it needs to be moved up on the priority list.

Dr. Hammer noted he is reviewing the more than four hundred (400) pages of ordinances and will have some feedback in several weeks. Additionally, he is working on getting precipitation data for the last thirty (30) years, drafting the potential tax wording, and the text for the educational webinar series.

Discussion was held among the Task Force Members regarding the following: the density of the proposal on the Reserve at Wildwood (Ackerley Place) and what recommendations should be given regarding the proposed stormwater plan for this development; the fact that Metropolitan St. Louis Sewer District (MSD) has reviewed the stormwater proposal for the Reserve at Wildwood and did not deny the unique design; the Department noted a copy of the plans could be provided to anyone who would like to review and comment on them; the potential to extend the riparian corridor on the site and the need to evaluate the existing roundabout, so the roadway does not wash out; the field work completed in the mid-1990’s in this area; the assistance offered by Member Holthouse to review the text on the webinar; the need to draft a primer on the permitting process and remediation process; and concerns with the Reserve at Wildwood’s compliance with the Town Center Plan.

VII. Strategic Plan Of The Task Force For Year 2021

A. Development of a Stormwater Master Plan

Co-Chair Archeski noted this item was a goal of the group and several are available online from other local communities. It was noted Master Plans are necessary for public funding.

Discussion was held regarding the following: other communities that already have Stormwater Master Plans; the approach on how to develop the plan; the need to review other city stormwater plans; the potential for dedicating a future meeting to the development of a master plan; the potential for the work being completed by the task force members or a consultant; the need to take time with the sales tax to form a clear message of its need; the existence of 5 subcommittees already and the potential for reworking the structure of the subcommittees; the timing of getting a tax initiative on the ballot; the availability of free classes to educate the members on stormwater
issues; and the desire to modify the subcommittee structure to two (2) of them, one (1) to address ordinance review and one (1) to work on the stormwater master plan.

A motion was made by Member Edens, seconded by Member McCutchen, to modify the subcommittee structure into two (2) subcommittees to address ordinance review and the creation of a stormwater master plan. A voice vote was taken, with a unanimous, affirmative result, and the motion was declared approved.

**Boy Scout Creek Event On September 12, 2020, With Dr. David Hammer**

Ken McGohan, Troop Leader and organizer of the Boy Scouts participation in this effort, noted the plan is to conduct a training session, via Zoom, with Dr. Hammer and then have them conduct field work thereafter. Scouts will earn a Soil and Water Conservation Merit Badge for their work. The training session is scheduled on Thursday, September 10th, with the field work on Saturday, September 12th.

Discussion was held on the importance of reaching out to print media and television stations to attempt to garner press coverage of the event and add information to the City’s website.

**B. Creation Of An Advisory Group To Architectural Review Board (ARB) And Planning And Zoning Commission**

An overview was provided regarding the recent meeting held between this group, the Planning and Zoning Commission, and the Architectural Review Board. The group discussed creating an advisory group of Watershed Erosion Task Force Members to review plans for construction and development for stormwater impacts.

Discussion was then held and included the following: the importance of not delaying projects, but instead provide additional review; the potential to provide a liaison to those groups, instead of a separate group, or provide billable hours for Dr. Hammer to review proposals; the concerns with the timing on proposal review, since the Code requirements relating to such; the review process within the Town Center versus other areas within the City; the eventual inclusion of review processes, as part of the completed stormwater master plan, and, therefore, not lengthen review time; the ability of staff to send submittals to members with a timeframe to provide comments, and Member Sturman’s willingness to compile the group’s comments and send back; the question of what criteria is going to be used for the group to use on review – MSD or City ordinances; the desire for a best practices list, but concerns it will be difficult to draft because of the varying soils in Wildwood; and the ultimate consensus of the Task Force Members to wait on a final decision on the creation of this group.
C. Mapping Efforts for Watersheds

Director of Planning Vujnich noted the process of mapping the detention/retention basins within the City is underway and will be ready for the next meeting.

D. Other Considerations and Opportunities

None

VIII. Funding Mechanisms For Priority Projects Within The City’s Nine (9) Watersheds

Discussion was held on the following issues relative to funding mechanisms: if there is an assessment that can be charged to developers for a stormwater purposes; the belief the stormwater and parks sales tax is the best mechanism to fund projects; the update that no additional responses on funding have been provided to Mr. Sturman; the need to dedicate money each year to work on necessary repairs due to stormwater issues; and the ability to borrow against stormwater tax, if passed.

IX. Next Meeting Date – Tuesday, September 29, 30 or October 1, 2020 at 6:30 p.m.

The dates for the next meeting of the Task Force will be provided to check Members’ availability.

X. Closing Remarks and Adjournment

A motion was made by Member Edens, seconded by Member McCutchen, to adjourn the meeting. Hearing no objections among the membership, the meeting was declared adjourned by Co-Chair Remy at 8:40 p.m.