



Board of Drainage and Flood Control
REGULAR MEETING AGENDA OF OCTOBER 28, 2025
CITY HALL COUNCIL CHAMBERS

CALL TO ORDER

Meeting called to order by Mr. Reitz at 7:00 p.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

ROLL CALL

Board members present: Mr. Balog, Mr. Cleveland, Mr. Fanning, Mr. Ford, Mr. Gontkovsky, Mr. Reitz, Mr. Scott, Mr. Weaver, Mr. Wilson, Mr. Winkel

Board members absent: Ms. Awig, Mr. Devries, Mr. Loparo

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mr. Gontkovsky moved, seconded by Mr. Ford, to approve the minutes of July 22, 2025. Motion approved 10-0.

OLD BUSINESS

Mills Creek Flood Control Basin Project Update

Mr. Reitz said this project is ongoing. The final plans are being revised with a more detailed design to hold TC Energy's gas line, which will then be submitted to TC Energy for approval. Wetlands approval from the Army Corp was received last week. The project is expected to go out for bid in early 2026.

Fortune Ditch Update

Mr. Reitz said this project is being administered by the Lorain County Community Development Department. There is a property owner access issue. The design is complete and ready for bids once the judge makes a ruling.

Maddock Road Culvert Replacement Update

Mr. Reitz stated this project is complete. Mr. Reitz thanked Public Works for their contribution.

SR 83 Culvert over Phelon Ditch Update

Mr. Reitz said the preliminary drawing should be received by end of the week from K.E. McKartney Engineers. This project is anticipated to go out for bid in early 2026. An OPWC grant was awarded for this project. This project will require a short-term road closure for the precast structures to be installed quickly. If the road is not closed for the installation of the structures, the project time will be much longer to accommodate the detours. The mayor approved of this road closure.

Sugar Ridge Road Bridge over Ridgeway Ditch Update

Mr. Reitz said the project is being funded by the Lorain County Engineer's Office and is expected to go out to bid in 2028/2029. Design has not been started due to the timeline. The Lorain County Engineers office is monitoring the culvert regularly and will move up the timeline as needed.

Bridge Replacement over Mills Creek on Center Ridge (SR 20)

This project is ongoing. Paving is starting tomorrow for the base and intermediate course. The work will begin at 6:00 a.m. as approved by the mayor. Mr. Reitz stated that the contractor is working hard to complete the project before winter.

Stormwater Ordinance Updates

Mr. Reitz mentioned an ordinance will be proposed to address drainage in backyards for new developments. There are concerns about drainage easements being approved in an individual's property and the city wants easements to be located on HOA property.

NEW BUSINESS

Service Department Review of Ditch Maintenance

Photos about various projects undertaken by the Public Works Department were shared. Mr. Ford reviewed the current work happening across the street from City Hall on Avon Belden Road. In the past, Public Works has worked in different sections of Aurensen and the area north of Avon Belden Road. Cameraing pipes revealed pipes and blockages that need repaired. Sections have been excavated in five areas to camera the pipe where they were able to get through. They will continue inspecting the lines up to the fire station.

The Meyer Ditch, a tributary to Meyer Ditch Main 2 to Main Ditch, outfalls on Case Road. The ditch runs through multiple culverts, some of which are failing. Public Works is going to replace these, some with larger 36-inch culverts to maximize the flow north to Camelot in Avon. Approximately 70 percent of the job is completed at this time. Many trees were removed; grading work had been done and riprap was installed. They are hoping to wrap up in the next month.

Work was done south of the train tracks on old Avon Belden Road to eliminate water from south to north that follows the train tracks. Due to water flowing along the train tracks there has been erosion buildup at the outfall. Silt was removed and riprap was installed around the outflow to combat further erosion. The water will flow west from Root Road now.

PUBLIC COMMENT

A board member asked about the Drees Homes project needing more funding for the right-of-way work at the Crossing at French Creek. Mr. Reitz stated there were issues with the existing property owner to the south. The city worked with Drees to install a new outfall to French Creek on the south side. The east/west line into the creek needed reconfiguration due to the depth of the storm sewer, fire hydrants and water lines in front of the property now. Hampton Place is set to route into these pipes as well. This work has been completed.

Another board member asked about the basin behind Marc's. Concerns have been brought to board members about overgrowth and whose responsibility it is to maintain the basin. Mr. Ford stated that it is the property owner's responsibility to maintain. Mr. Reitz will take a look and reach out.

Board of Drainage and Flood Control
MINUTES OF OCTOBER 28, 2025



Mike Russo, 5192 Manchester Circle, asked if the city plans on doing anything with the land behind Manchester Circle by the high-tension wires. He would like a retention pond installed to take water from the creek when it floods. He said the water backs up when there is two inches of rain and he must get a pump out to prevent his home from flooding. He thinks the basin would help resolve upstream problems as well. He was thankful for Mr. Reitz's email regarding Army Corp following the previous meeting, but he is more concerned about flooding. Mr. Reitz states he would give Mr. Russo his phone number to schedule a time to walk the area together and see what can be done.

A resident asked what level of retention is required when a new development submits plans. Mr. Reitz stated new developments are required to identify the critical storm for the area based upon the amount of area proposed to be developed. They must retain the one-hundred-year frequency storm and discharge it to no less than the ten-year frequency storm. They cannot discharge from that site anything greater than the ten-year storm prior to the development, so they must retain the difference onsite. The EPA also has a relatively new requirement regarding water quality which is why they often have ponds rather than dry basins that were done previously. The resident asked if that is sufficient to keep things from getting worse for current residents. Mike Russo responded he did not think it would matter since the city had these issues before they started building new homes. He discussed previous issues with heavy rainfall. He reiterated his wish for a retention pond by the high-tension lines. Mr. Reitz again offered to come to walk the area with him and have appropriate conversations to see if this would be a possibility.

Another resident thought Councilman Abens' previously mentioned idea to institute \$500 fines for the first overweight truck and \$1,000 for any trucks after was a good idea. He expressed hope that it would be passed into ordinance with concerns for aging bridges on Sugar Ridge Road.

Other members of the audience asked what Avon is doing to improve their drainage. The resident asked if it needed to be escalated to the county or federal level to have a project to help move water from North Ridgeville through Avon and to the lake. Mr. Reitz agreed that bringing these concerns to the mayor and the city engineer and setting up a meeting between the cities would be beneficial.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 7:29 p.m.

Christina Eavenson, City Engineer

Nicole Rambo-Ackerman, Acting Secretary

1/27/26
Date

The next Board of Drainage and Flood Control regular meeting is scheduled for January 27, 2025, at 7:00 p.m.