

The Washington City Council met in a continued session on Monday, September 24, 2012 at 5:30pm in City Council Chambers at the Municipal Building. Present were: Archie Jennings, Mayor; Doug Mercer, Councilman; William Pitt, Councilman; Richard Brooks, Councilman; Bobby Roberson, Mayor Pro tem; Josh Kay, City Manager; Cynthia Bennett, City Clerk and Franz Holscher, City Attorney. Councilman Ed Moultrie was absent.

Also present were: Matt Rauschenbach, Administrative Services Director/C.F.O.; Robbie Rose, Fire Chief; Allen Lewis, Public Works Director; Gloria Moore, Library Director; John Rodman, Interim Community and Cultural Services Director/Planning Director; Stacy Drakeford, Interim Fire and Police Services Director; Susan Hodges, Human Resources Director; Keith Hardt, Electric Director; Lynn Lewis, Tourism Director; David Carraway, Network Administrator; Kristi Hardison, Parks and Recreation Manager and Mike Voss, Washington Daily News.

Mayor Jennings called the meeting to order and Mayor Pro tem Roberson delivered the invocation.

#### **APPROVAL/AMENDMENTS TO AGENDA**

Councilman Mercer requested adding a brief discussion of other drainage issues in the City. Mayor Jennings requested adding an update from a public appearance that he made on Sunday.

By motion of Councilman Mercer, seconded by Mayor Pro tem Roberson, Council approved the agenda as amended.

#### **DISCUSSION – IRON CREEK DRAINAGE**

City Manager, Josh Kay explained the following slide shows the drainage route of storm water in 1993, prior to the building of Iron Creek Subdivision.



#### **Issues:**

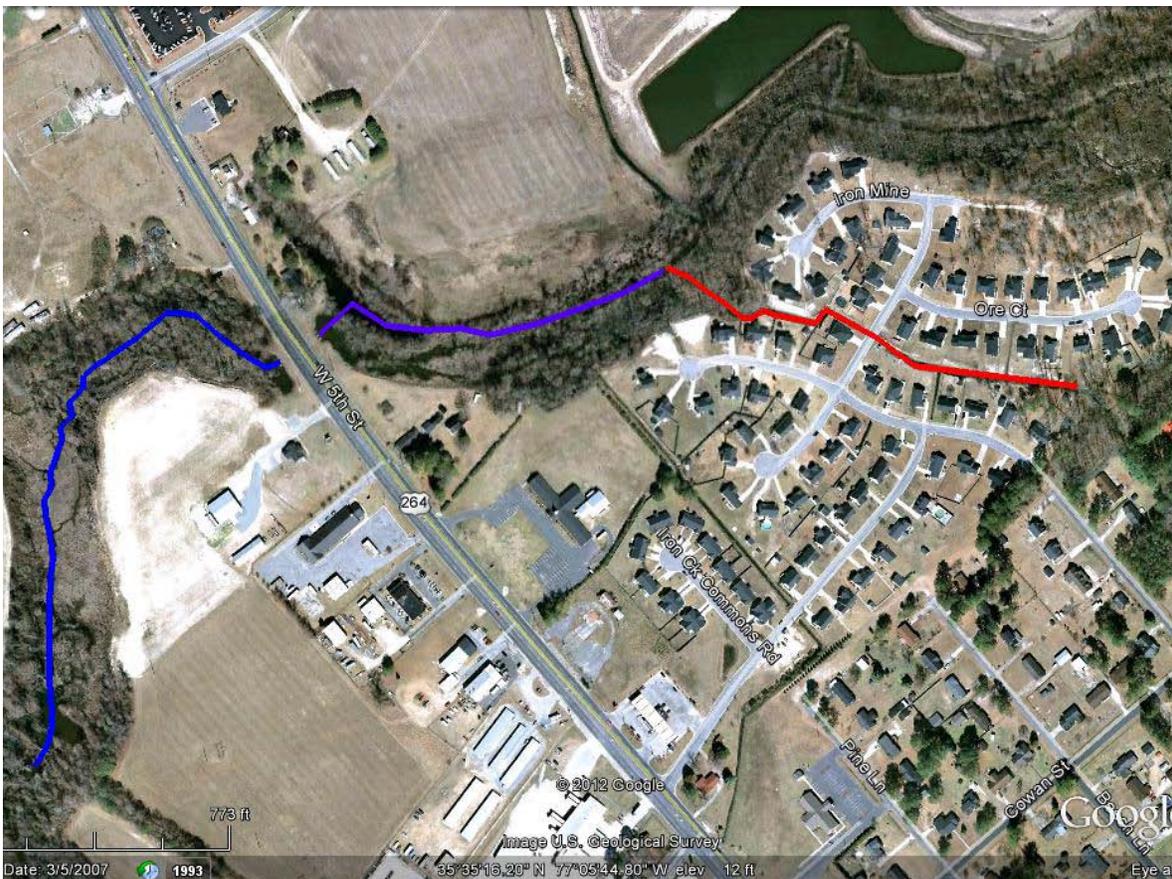
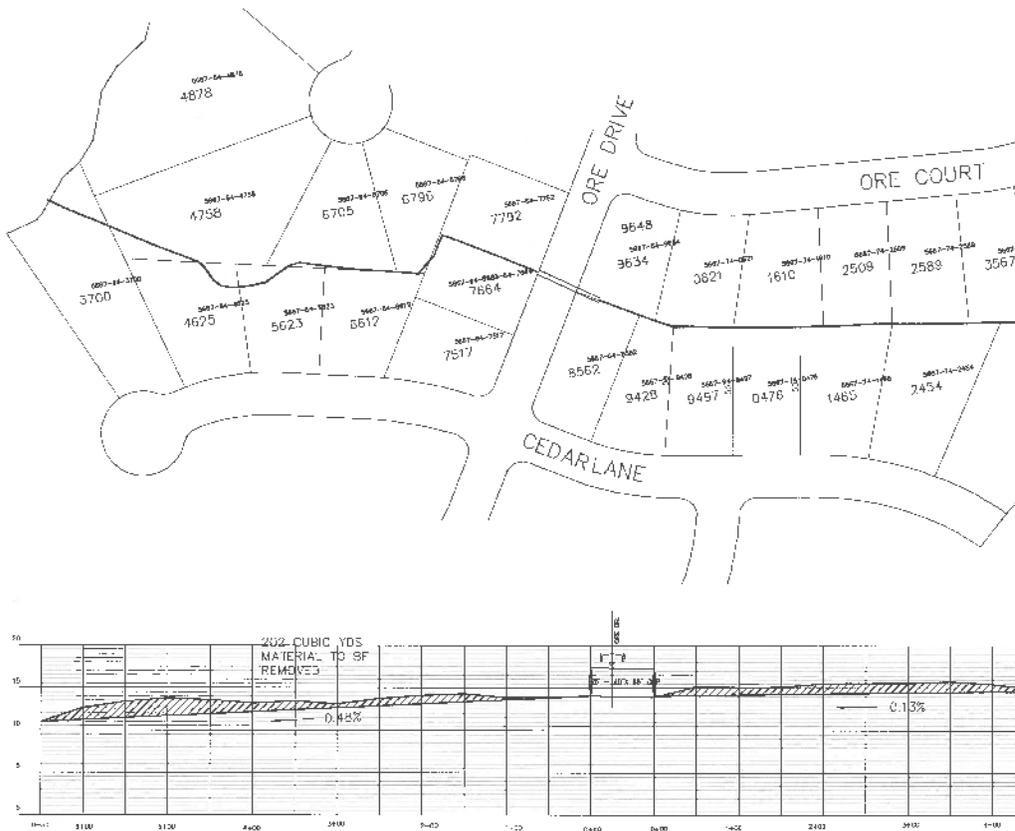
- Drainage Design
  - Roads are conduit for water movement to Mitchell's Branch
- Parallel Ditches
  - Bottom of ditch to crown of Ore Court is 2.74 ft of fall
- Groundwater Level



Mr. Kay discussed the drainage ditch that drains into Mitchell's Branch. He also noted that he has met with members of the Corps of Engineers concerning the issues at Iron Creek.

#### Possible Solutions?

- Ditch & Culvert Mucking
  - Cost: Estimated \$30,000 - \$40,000
  - Concerns:
    - Accessibility due to yard fencing
    - Only positive impact would occur by mucking east side of Ore Drive due to Mitchell's Branch water level
  - Effect – Marginal
  
- Storm-water Pumping Station
  - Cost: Over \$2 million
  - Concerns
    - Permitting
    - Time to complete
    - On-going operational costs
    - Possible downstream flooding
  - Effect: Positive
  
- Large Retention/Detention Pond
  - Cost: \$500,000 + (unknown land cost)
  - Concerns:
    - Land size needed due to high water table
    - Permitting
    - Time to complete
  - Effect: Unknown
  
- Staff Recommendation
  - Muck east of Ore Drive and culvert at Ore Drive (\$30,000 - \$40,000)
  - Continue to patrol for beaver dams on Mitchell's Branch on the north-side of Hwy 264
    - Note: There will still be standing water in ditches due to high water table and water in Mitchell's Branch



Charles Daniels and Suzanne Anderson discussed their concerns with the drainage issues at Iron Creek Subdivision and Iron Creek Commons. Council members discussed various options to attempt to remedy the drainage/flooding issues at Iron Creek Subdivision. Mr. Lewis will meet with Ms. Anderson on location Tuesday, Sept. 25<sup>th</sup> at 10:00am to look at the flooding concerns she has at Iron Creek

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Commons. Allen Lewis, Public Works Director explained that there are multiple issues that contribute to the drainage/flooding issues.

- Drainage Design
- Roads are conduit for water movement to Mitchell's Branch
- Parallel Ditches
- Bottom of ditch to crown of Ore Court is 2.74 ft of fall
- Groundwater Level

Council, by consensus, agreed with staff's recommendation of mucking out the ditch east of Ore Drive and culvert at Ore Drive at an estimated cost of \$30,000 - \$40,000 (120 cubic yards). Mr. Kay explained that funding for the "mucking project" will be covered by remaining funds from the storm water bond. Staff was directed to prepare the necessary budget ordinance amendment and Council Action form to be presented for Council's consideration on October 8<sup>th</sup>. Staff will meet with the Corps of Engineers to begin the process for permitting for mucking out the remainder of the ditch. Council requested a topographical map of the area surrounding and including Iron Creek Subdivision.

#### **OTHER DRAINAGE ISSUES IN THE CITY**

Councilman Mercer explained that he feels it is time for the Planning Board to revisit dedicated storm water retention ponds. He further discussed drainage/flooding concerns near Clark's Neck Road and Hwy. 264 as well as Mt. Olive College. Maintenance of drainage ditches was also addressed. Council needs to address other areas of drainage concerns in the City that were addressed in the Jack's Creek Drainage Study.

Buzz Cayton discussed flooding and drainage concerns in and around the Mount Olive College area. He noted that Mount Olive College has plans to expand their study curriculum to include a Master's Degree Program.

#### **UPDATE FROM A PUBLIC APPEARANCE MADE BY MAYOR JENNINGS**

Mayor Jennings and Chief Drakeford attended a service at Harvest Church on Sunday, September 23<sup>rd</sup>. The City was presented with gifts to the Fire, Police and City of Washington each in the amount of \$1,000. The gift was given in the spirit of sewing a seed and investing back into the community. Mayor Jennings challenged Council to think of ways to make the best use of the gift and to find a way to use it to honor its spirit and pay dividends for years to come.

#### **ADJOURN**

By motion of Councilman Pitt, seconded by Councilman Brooks, Council adjourned the meeting until October 8, 2012 at 5:30pm.

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**Cynthia S. Bennett, CMC**  
City Clerk