



To: Dustin Anderson – Town Manager
From: Stephen Gunty – Director of Public Works
Meeting: July 19, 2021
Re: West Lakes Subdivision Ditch Clearing

Background: Two significant rain events on June 24th & 26th affected stormwater retention levels in the Carnaby Pond to the point that the two Lift Station pumps could not keep up with rising levels. Water also backed up into the street. Despite recently renovated pumps at the Lift Station, Public Works brought in two additional six-inch pumps on June 26th that helped prevent the pond from overflowing but only after 2 hours into their use and only reassuringly once the rain event ended at 7:30pm.

Methodology: In the week following, preliminary observations from debriefing discussions held with the Town Manager and key staff involved led to some action steps and further research steps. It was noted that despite Public Works best and feverish efforts to reduce the Carnaby Pond level, the pumping mostly stabilized the pond level. It was hypothesized that the water in the pond seemed to be recycling back in after being pumped out. This led to the possibility of two culprits, namely; the drainage ditches and/or the Carnaby Pond lift station. The drainage ditches surrounding West Lakes Subdivision are extremely overgrown and their original storage capacity has been compromised. There's also no backup prevention system to stop ditch water flowing back into the pond. An action step of installing 2 duckbill backup preventers at outfalls was sanctioned ASAP while clearing the ditch system of its overgrowth of brush and trees was determined to be an urgent priority that Public Works could do in-house with a rented heavy ditch excavator. Scope of ditch work includes the West Lakes Subdivision ditches on its West side bordering the Lansing Airport and on its South side bordering farmland. Additionally, the renovated Lift Station pumps were to be re-studied with Metropolitan Pump, a task that began on July 9 anticipating any insight gained to be reported to the Town Manager during week of July 26. It was determined that this ditch maintenance is essential and will enhance any further improvements deemed necessary to the Carnaby Pond stormwater lift station itself.

Recommendation: By motion and voice vote, approve the Equipment Rental Agreement (attached) with Hasse Construction in the amount of \$2,800 for use of an oversized Excavator with Ditch Bucket for one week to be funded through Sewer Maintenance – Other Professional Services #280-30901-63105.