

UTILITIES COMMITTEE MINUTES SEPTEMBER 2, 2014

The Utilities Committee meeting was held on September 2, 2014 at North Royalton City Hall, 13834 Ridge Road. The meeting was called to order at 6:02 p.m.

PRESENT: Committee Members: Chair Gary Petrusky, Vice Chair Dan Langshaw, Dan Kasaris; Council: Larry Antoskiewicz, Paul Marnecheck, Steve Muller, John Nickell; Administration: Mayor Robert Stefanik. Service Director Nick Cinquepalmi, Wastewater Superintendent Tim Tigue, City Engineer Mark Schmitzer.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Moved by Mr. Kasaris, seconded by Mr. Langshaw to **approve the July 1, 2014 minutes**. Yeas: 3. Nays: 0. **Motion carried.**

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

1. **Inflow/Infiltration of storm water**

Mr. Tigue said that they have dye tested the St. Thomas Woods area of approximately 73 homes. There are still two more homes to do. Padua north, Padua east, Hillary south and Bellarmine are finished. Hillary west still needs to be completed. Mr. Kasaris asked about the test results. Mr. Tigue said Padua east where we have had most of the backups was the worst street in terms of failures. Padua east had 11 out of 17 homes fail. Bellarmine had only a couple failures, Hillary west had only a few, Padua north and Padua east were the worst. Mr. Kasaris asked how many of the 73 homes tested failed. Mr. Tigue said that he did not have the exact number but guessed less than 30. Mr. Tigue said that the homes that failed were given a 90 day notice. He said the homeowners on Padua east jumped on it right away and 7 of the 11 that failed put in back flow valves. Mr. Tigue said that this has showed him that smoke testing is worthless. He said that we smoke tested St. Thomas Woods 3 years ago after the July 19, 2011 storm, and only a few showed failures. He said he will never smoke test again. He feels that dye testing is the only way to go. He said smoke testing may be faster, but it is inaccurate. It will show you the down spouts and the gutters, but it won't show the footers and it may not show the laterals. Dye testing will show everything, but unfortunately it takes 2-3 hours per house and two people to do the testing. Mr. Antoskiewicz asked if we found that it was just cross connections, or were other problems found. Mr. Tigue said there was a mix of problems. He said at one home, for example, all of the downspouts had failed, which would seem impossible. But what was found was that the water couldn't get out through the storm water line because it was blocked and it traveled over to the clean out cap which is below grade and broken and was then going into the sanitary. Mr. Kasaris said that Mr. Florio was very vocal about his problem. How did his house do. Mr. Tigue said that Mr. Florio has all splashes and had no failures, but we had to check his splashes. Mr. Florio told them that he did not know where his sump pump went, so that concerns us, but we did not see any failure at his house. Mr. Tigue said that after St. Thomas Woods is finished, the decision will be made as to whether to go to Sprague, York or Pamela. Mr. Tigue said that Pamela is a big project and will probably be as bad as St. Thomas Woods because in 2007, 35 of the 38 homes failed. Mr. Kasaris asked if this is where they feel a large amount of water is coming from. Mr. Tigue said yes. He said we put a flow meter between Pamela and Parkdale and found that the water is coming from Pamela. There are some homes on York that were septic conversions that go through to Pamela and on to Parkdale that we still need to test. He feels that some of the Parkdale issues are from Pamela. He said he would like to have an entire summer to test Pamela because he feels it may be contentious. Mr. Langshaw asked if we get a lot of calls from Pamela residents during a storm. Mr. Tigue said no, they don't flood. It's the people downstream from them that flood.

NEW BUSINESS

No new business

ADJOURNMENT

Moved by Mr. Kasaris, seconded by Mr. Langshaw to **adjourn the September 2, 2014 meeting**. Yeas: 3. Nays: 0. **Motion carried.** Meeting adjourned at 6:10 p.m.