

**VILLAGE OF CHAGRIN FALLS
UTILITIES COMMITTEE
October 14, 2013**

Members present: Patton, Evans, Newell
Also present: Mayor Brick, Himes, Bloom, Holdren, Lannon

The meeting was called to order at 7:15 p.m. by Chairman Steven Patton.

STORM WATER PROGRAM

Mr. Himes said the year 2006 was a very wet year. We had several storms that were in the 25-year frequency and several others in the 10-year frequency. We had a lot of rain in short bursts of time. We received a number of complaints from various areas around town. We did quite a bit of work in response to those rain events including ditching improvements and some storm sewer work. The utilities department worked directly with a number of residents to get back flow preventers installed where we had surcharging of the sanitary sewers and we continue to do inflow and infiltration reduction around the system to minimize sanitary sewer backups during storm events. We had a wet year again this year. I don't think we had the severity of rain events this year, it was more spread out so we did not receive nearly the number of complaints and hopefully some of the work we did paid off.

Mr. Himes said our storm sewer system is a system, in fairly loose terms. Storm sewers were put in where necessary where there were natural drainage ways. Large parts of the village, especially the historic area, had no storm sewers but the water manages to flow off and get to the river and not cause too many problems. There are some nuisance flooding with yard flooding and streets getting flooded out from time to time.

Mr. Himes said we did have a number of meetings where we discussed perhaps establishing a storm water utility to help pay for improvements to the storm sewers. The things you have to do to formally establish a storm water utility are to prepare a master plan, do a rate study, provide for public input, and then pass an ordinance to establish utility and set up billing through the utility billing program. In 1996 the engineer prepared a storm sewer master plan, which was updated after the 2006 rain events. In March of 2007 the engineer completed a rate study and then we did hold a public input meeting and invited the big stake of holders, particularly the schools and churches who have large parcels that contribute significantly into the storm water system and who would also be the higher rate payers. That was in June of 2008 and not much has gone forward from there. We have yet to pass the ordinance establishing a storm water utility,

Various aspects of the program were discussed. Comments were heard and questions were answered.

The meeting adjourned at 7:40 p.m.

Steven Patton, Chairman
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