

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS  
Village of Peninsula  
PLANNING COMMISSION

Held: May 26, 2015

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**CALL TO ORDER:** The Village of Peninsula Planning Commission convened from 5:37 p.m. to 7:01 p.m. in the Peninsula Village Hall. Karen Walters called the meeting to order with the following members and visitors present:

**ROLL CALL:**

Karen Walters	Present	Michael Matusz	Present
Lawrence Milhoan	Present	Michael Kaplan	Present
Douglas Mayer, Mayor	Present		

**OTHERS PRESENT**

Elizabeth Workman, Diane Holody, Kevin Kramer, Greg Canda, Bill Clifton,

**CITIZEN PARTICIPATION**

There was a request for more information on the Wastewater Treatment System.

Mr. Kaplan read a report that he wrote and asked that it be made part of the minutes (see attachment).

There was discussion regarding the Wastewater Treatment System.

It was decided that a Wastewater Advisory Committee would be organized.

Members would include members of Planning Commission, Council and Community:

Proposed members: Karen Walters, Michael Kaplan, Diane Holody, Bill Clifton, Mary Booth

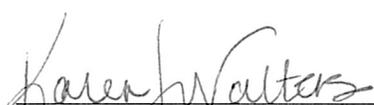
**MOTION:** TO ORGANIZE THE PENINSULA WASTEWATER ADVISORY COMMITTEE.

Moved by Karen Walters, seconded by Michael Matusz.

Votes were as follows: Karen Walters, aye; Michael Matusz, aye; Michael Kaplan, aye; Douglas Mayer, aye; Lawrence Milhoan, aye.

Members agreed to read over the Minutes from November 2014, December 2014, February 2015, March 2015, April 2015 meetings and be prepared to vote on them at the next Planning Commission June 23, 2015.

Respectfully submitted:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Karen Walters, Chair

6/23/2015  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
John D. Stiegel, Fiscal Officer

8/6/15  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

The Village of Peninsula's next regular meeting of Planning Commission will be held June 23, 2015 at 5:30 pm at the Village Hall 1582 Main Street, Peninsula, Ohio, 44264. (Corner of Akron-Peninsula Road and State Route 303)

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06/15/15



Right now, some seem intent on pursuing a specific vendor, a set of specific funders, and a specific outcome -- and yet, no one has yet to define the problem.

I have heard that we are moving forward with trying to get the Park to help with funding and the County is moving forward with the engineering. Funding of what? Engineering of what?

**What exactly is the problem which needs to be fixed?**

I'm not saying that there isn't a problem -- I'm saying no one has yet defined it and its parameters. (Except for the Long Range Plan which officially adopted a specific Waste Water District, but which might have been totally overlooked so far.)

In fact, the more I think about it, the more it seems like there might be more than a few "problems" which might be "solved" by taking the right path -- and, by corollary, more than a few problems which might be made worse by failing to identify them before action is taken.

Here are just a few, but without doubt not all of the possible "problems" which the Village might try to solve.

1. There are some (actual number unknown to me) residences in the Village which have failed or failing septic systems. Each of these residences need a way to process their waste in a legal and practical way.

1a. Where is the exact roster of the properties in this census? And how is this census being determined? For example, in the Historic District, most owners own more than one "lot" and in some cases the residence straddles more than one lot. By law, the owner of those lots may be entitled to sell "buildable" lots to other persons, or to build something for their own use.

1b. The proposed Minutes of the last Planning Commission meeting states that the plan is to serve 35 residences. As I look at my maps, it's impossible for me to identify 35 homes that might be being considered.

2. There are probably many residences adjacent or nearby to those that have failed or failing systems. Are they to be addressed?

3. There are restaurants in the Village which process both the human waste and the kitchen waste created on site. The long term viability of any business serving food to the public might be (or might not be) considered important to the Village as a whole.

4. There are business properties in the Village which have failed or failing septic systems and for which the long term viability as successful businesses might be challenged by that, which might be (or might not be) considered important to the Village as a whole.

5. There are areas of the Village where "traditional" "large lot" septic systems remain viable at this time. Some may have failed or failing septic systems. Does the Village wish to address these properties at this time. If the answer is no, and if the Village decides to pursue a central solution for the "smaller lot" residences in the Village, what contingencies are being examined now for a future expansion to include either all "large lot" properties, or those "large lot" properties with failed or failing septic systems?

6. What other Large Range problems related to waste treatment would be prudent to consider at this time? What about the School, the Village Hall and Town Hall and the Library and the other institutions in the Village? What are their long term anticipations for the need for waste disposal, and how can these institutional needs best be met?

If the time has come for the Village to undertake these problems, then so be it. That is a decision beyond my ability, which will be defined by the will of the voters, their elected officials, and the Health Department and EPA. I don't want to struggle against those constituencies.

I merely want to try to solve the perceived and identified problem(s) once. And unless and until the problems are identified and there is a consensus as to what they are, then it's a fools game to go around trying to "solve" them.

What is going to be done now?