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RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS
VILLAGE OF PENINSULA WASTEWATER COMMITTEE
February 25, 2020 5:30 p.m.

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 5:32 p.m.

Roll Call:
In Attendance:
Michael J. Kaplan – Present (left at 6:31 p.m.)
Christopher Weigand – Present
Joh. Krusinski – Present

Others Present: Mayor Daniel Schneider, Jr. and Solicitor Brad Bryan

Mr. Kaplan stated the Mayor is being contacted by the EPA, and therefore, the Committee needs to move forward aggressively to lay out its thoughts and talk through them. He stated there are four overlapping issues:

1. What are the problems and where are they coming from?
2. What are the options available to solve the problems?
3. Already having some information from prior iterations, how have these options been paid for and how will they be paid for moving forward?
4. What new problems will be created when fixing the problems?

Mr. Weigand stated they should first structure the Committee as to how it will operate and have a format. Mr. Krusinski stated he has 30 years of experience as an Environmental Consultant. He has reviewed the already existing Wastewater materials. He complemented the Planning Commission and everyone else who worked on this issue in the past. Those people did an excellent job. He does not think the Committee has to start over, but rather provide clarity. He believes the Committee's purpose is more educational and is to answer public questions and provide awareness. Mr. Krusinski views the Wastewater Committee as being short-term. He thinks the Committee's rough agenda over the next few months should consist of the following:

- A second meeting dedicated to individual systems at which all three members provide information learned from the Summit County Health Department. Health Department representatives could be invited to attend the meeting. At the end of the meeting, the public could be permitted to ask questions. Those questions could then be answered at the meeting or, if necessary, the answers could be obtained and answered at the next meeting.
- A third meeting to discuss the pros and cons of the County designing and installing a centralized system.
- A fourth meeting to discuss a hybrid solution in which the Village hires an engineering firm to design a system and then have it constructed. Under this scenario, the Village would have more control over the costs. After the system is constructed, the Village might consider handing the system over to the County to own and operate.
- Additional meetings would be held only if necessary.

Mr. Kaplan stated he believes it is important to know where the problem systems are located. Mr. Krusinski disagreed and suggested that information is irrelevant. He stated the

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homes in Peninsula are on old septic systems that were designed with a useful life of about 20 years. Even if a system is not a problem today, it will be in time, making the Village non-compliant with the EPA. The EPA's only interest is the material it is finding in the outfall going into the river. The EPA can call that a nuisance at any time and pursue the Village with the Attorney General's Office.

Mr. Weigand stated it is important to establish a format for the Committee and have the Wastewater Committee members have informative meetings with the following entities: the Summit County Health Department, Ohio EPA, County Sewer Department, and Cuyahoga Valley National Park. It is important to gather the facts in order to make a sound decision and ask where the financing is coming from.

Mr. Krusinski stated it is possible that even if all new compliant individual systems were installed on Route 303, when the effluent joins together and comes down to the river, the outfall could fail. That result would be due to the fact that not all the bacteria will come out of one system. The accumulation of the contamination from all systems in the outfall pipe can still exceed the EPA's limit.

Mr. Weigand stated since he is on Council, the Planning Commission, and the Wastewater Committee, he will keep all group members informed of what is happening. The Committee agreed it needs to meet with the Summit County Health Department to discuss individual system issues before the next Wastewater Committee Meeting is scheduled. Mr. Krusinski stated he will set up the meeting with the Health Department. The Mayor stated he would inform the EPA of the Wastewater Committee Meeting and how it is moving forward.

Mr. Krusinski stated someone should be actively looking for funding, and he recommended Dee Holody for the task. Mr. Weigand stated Council will discuss that matter at the next Council Meeting.

Ms. Holody, 2008 Bronson Street, stated she would like to see in writing what the EPA's expectations and deadlines are for the Village. That information may help with securing financing for the project. Being an Incorporated Village, the Village is in charge of its own utilities. Therefore, the Village can make the decision as to whether the solution is upgrading the individual systems or a centralized sewer system.

Dick Slocum, 1563 Mill St., expressed concern over the future of Peninsula. The thought of having sewers and water potentially could bring in development. He acknowledged the Planning Commission has been addressing those issues by updating the Zoning Code. He asked "What if the Village puts in the Wastewater Treatment Plant and there is still a problem, then what?"

Adjournment: Mr. Weigand made a motion to adjourn that was seconded by Mr. Krusinski. All were in favor of the motion; none were opposed. The Meeting was adjourned at 6:50 p.m.

Approved by the Committee.

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Chairperson Date