

Waterlines, sewers investigated in Fairport Harbor

BY MARIAN MCMAHON

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LAKE COUNTY - Engineers from Burgess & Niple presented the results from a recent study done on the sanitary sewer and water lines in Grand River Village to the Lake County Board of Commissioners March 17.

"Last year, Lake County Department of Utilities and Lake County Stormwater Management worked collaboratively investigating concerns in the Village of Grand River over water-related issues that occurred in conjunction with wet weather events," said LCDU Director Rick Martin. "The purpose of the investigation is to make determinations as to probable causes of these issues and make recommendations that will result in improved sanitary sewer and stormwater system operations."

Mark A. Hutson, PE and Timothy M. Antos, PE of Burgess & Niple presented the findings. Hutson said they used an integrated approach because one system can affect the other.

There are also three components to the process because, besides the sanitary and stormwater systems, there are also the privately owned laterals from homes and businesses connected to the systems.

Antos said they began the investigation with four months of flow monitoring in different tributary areas.

"With the flow monitoring, we wanted to determine which areas were most reactive to wet weather events," Antos said. "Just to give you an idea, a typical area that is

not experiencing any type of I & I (inflow and infiltration) problem will have peaking factors of somewhere in the area of zero to five. The central area, which is the blue area... which is the primary residential area, that had peaking factors during wet weather events of anywhere from the high teens to over 20. With one storm we were even into the 40s."

To retrieve information from property owners, 200 questionnaires were sent out and 70 were returned, and of those about 25 said they had water-related issues. While these were spread out, there was a higher concentration along Everett Avenue.

When residents were asked to participate in the study to have their laterals inspected, cleaned, video-taped and dye tested, only 13 were willing to do so. That number was further reduced to just seven.

Antos said they were hoping to get at least 30 properties done because seven was not really a good enough representation.

Martin said the poor participation was probably due to the owners being concerned about having to pay for repairs.

Smoke testing was also done in the area which showed there were definitely problems with catch basins and such issues as loose or fractured joints.

"We embarked on the cleaning and what we found quickly was a large majority of the pipes were (20 to 50 percent) full of sediment, debris and organic matter," Antos said.

In one case they even found a basketball blocking a pipe.

So far about 40 percent of the storm sewer system was cleaned, which has already made a positive difference for the area.

Another problem encountered was that manhole covers were buried in the pavement and could not be accessed.

It was noted small villages seldom have the capability of properly maintaining their systems.

LCDU will address repairs found in the sanitary system and Lake County Stormwater Management will work with Grand River to address stormwater issues.

RESOLUTIONS PASSED:

UTILITIES DEPARTMENT
• Authorizing advertising for bids for chemicals with a bid opening date of April 8.

• Approving plans, specifications and estimates of cost in the amount of \$992,000 for Parkway Boulevard, Poplar Road, Ash Road Waterline Replacement Project No. 362-W in Willoughby and advertising for bids for same with a bid opening date of April 15.

This project will replace a 60-year-old waterline, which has been having numerous breaks, with a new 8-inch line at an estimated cost of \$830,000.

• Accepting a three-year maintenance surety in the amount of \$2,850 for North Ridge Road Sanitary Sewer Extension Job No. 14-46 in Perry Township.

• Certifying unpaid sewer and water sums to the Lake County Auditor.

JOB AND FAMILY SERVICES DEPARTMENT

• Approving vouchers date of warrant March 23, 2015, in the amount of \$507,862.11.

The breakdown of charges is: Public Assistance, \$191,739.95; Child Support Enforcement, \$508,04; Workforce Investment, \$26,527.49; and Child Welfare, \$289,334.62.

FINANCE DEPARTMENT

• Approving payment of bills in the amount of \$673,454.81.

• Approving purchase orders in the amount of \$1,365,614.04.

• Increasing appropriations for various non-general fund accounts

• Transferring cash and appropriations within various general and non-general fund accounts.

DEPARTMENTAL REPORT JOB AND FAMILY

SERVICES

• Director Matt Battisto reported Children Services Administrator Teresa Palm had tendered her resignation and would be replaced by Lori O'Brien.

MEETINGS

• The Lake County Board of Commissioners meets at 10 a.m. most Thursdays, with some meetings at 2 p.m. on Tuesdays, in the Commissioners' Chambers of the Lake County Administration Building, 105 Main St., Painesville. All meetings are open to the public. Requests to address the government board may be made at any board meeting or presented to the Commissioners' Office by calling Amy Elaszcz at (440) 360-2753.

The next regular meetings will be Tuesday, March 24 at 2 p.m. and Thursday, March 26 at 10 a.m.