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Mentor adds to grants

Council increases aid for home sewer backup prevention projects

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Mentor City Council voted Tuesday to increase the amount of grant money available to residents who undertake qualifying

projects to prevent sanitary sewer main sanitary sewer backup reduction systems.

Council approved amending the recently adopted Sanitary Sewer Backup Reduction Grant Program in order to offer property owners a maximum \$2,500 reimbursement for installing cer-

tain sanitary sewer backup reduction systems.

Ward 3 Councilman Bruce Landeg recommended increasing the original offer of \$1,500 per project in hopes of encouraging residents to choose a more reliable — and more expensive

— solution involving overhead or high-wall plumbing, rather than a backup flow preventer.

Landeg, also Lake County chief deputy engineer, serves a ward known for chronic flooding issues.

“This is a big Band-Aid,” he acknowledged. “We’re doing something to protect the residents.”

City officials noted that talks continue with Lake County leaders on infrastructure improvements.

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Grants

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Council last month approved allocating \$1 million for the grant fund. The city has received 26 funding applications so far.

Council also held a lengthy discussion on a proposal to modify the Newell Creek development plan for a 99-unit skilled nursing facility on 10 acres on the north side of Norton Parkway between Sterling Court and Avery Dennison. The change was OK'd by the planning commission earlier this month.

One neighbor spoke in opposition and the item was left on first reading while the administration looks into questions such

as potential impact on nearby property values and views from surrounding properties.

In other business, council:

- Approved the bid contract for the Munson Road resurfacing project — asphalt overlay from Center Street to Andrews Road — with Shelly Co. of Twinsburg, which had the low bid of \$563,975. The engineer's estimate was \$615,000. Completion date is projected to be Oct. 26.
- Awarded a \$10,000 Economic Development Grant to Garver Financial Services to assist with a \$21,000 project to add “Old Village” enhancements at its expanding 7473 Center St. site, including brick pillars, wrought-iron fencing and more landscaping.