

Cuyahoga Falls City Council

Minutes of the PUBLIC AND INDUSTRIAL IMPROVEMENTS COMMITTEE Meeting

May 3, 2004

Chair: George Potts; Vice Chair: Mary Ellen Pyke; Member: Don Walters

Mr. Potts called the Public and Industrial Improvements Committee to order at 7:00 p.m. All members of Committee were present.

Scheduled legislation:

A-77	An Ordinance amending the Codified Ordinances of the City of Cuyahoga Falls, OH, Chapter 929, Storm Drainage Utility, Section 929.021 Charges and Rates, and declaring an emergency.
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Valerie followed up with letters and comparisons to Council members and has attempted to answer questions regarding this fee. In 1992, the storm water revenue source was established. The funds will be used for NPDES requirements since dirty storm water cannot be returned to the environment. The McCoy study will have recommendations for infrastructure changes. Finally, the storm water list needs prioritized and worked on. The charge is based on residential and commercial land. The 3000 sq. ft. equals one unit for residential at about \$2 per month or \$24-25 year. Businesses that have impervious area will also have their calculations on the 3000 sq. ft. We would like to start billing in July and accumulate funds to accomplish some of these goals next year. There are other cities that comparatively range from \$1.08 to \$4.00. Cuyahoga Falls is on the low end, but it will generate funds for improvement projects. Silver lake just passed theirs at \$2.50. George Potts indicates on line 65 needs to include R-8 (amendment). This is not a new process for communities. It is obvious there will be some storm water issues arising out of the McCoy study, which will need addressed. Mr. Walters feels that \$2 is not a huge amount of money. Is there an estimate on how much will be taken in? Valerie indicates about \$500,000 - \$600,000, which proportionately is about 60% business and 40% residential. What type of appeals process will be done if they aren't satisfied? Valerie indicates the first appeal would be Peter Bell, followed by Valerie. Virgil indicates there can always be a lawsuit. Don Walters indicates that sediment seems to be the biggest problem. This fee will be on their monthly bills. Mary Ellen questions the 15 days to appeal (line 97-99). This is an appeal from Peter Bell to Valerie not the original appeal. There will be thorough explanations to all residents. Tim acknowledges the purpose of these funds is tangible and citizens will understand and support the reasonable \$2 fee. Mary Ellen indicates there has been a plan in our city and we never have assessed for these services. This minor fee will benefit many individuals surrounding the area. Mayor Robart indicates the storm water issue has been frustrating to us. Many situations scream of needing repair and now we will have a mechanism for funding it. Administrations don't want to raise rates, but we want to maintain the type of community that we live in. I appreciate the support of council. Carol indicates Valerie has put much time into this effort in this plan and we will implement it in a fair fashion across the city. Brad Cargill from 23rd St asks when this will start and Valerie indicates in July 2004. Schools, churches and the city will also be included in this fee.

The committee recommends bringing out Temp. Ord. A-77

A-78	A Resolution pledging cooperation by the City of Cuyahoga Falls, OH in the matter of the separation of sanitary sewers and storm sewers on Vincent and Second Streets, and declaring an emergency.
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Peter Bell indicates that last year we applied for repairs of this project and just missed the cut for receiving the funds. It sounds like we will get the funds for it this year and this resolution will accompany the request.

The committee recommends bringing out Temp. Ord. A-78

Held legislation:

The PUBLIC AND INDUSTRIAL IMPROVEMENTS COMMITTEE meeting adjourned at 7:23p.m.