Public Utilities Committee Meeting

> Date: 9-10-2026, 4:30 p.m.
> Location: Service Department
> Present: Chairman Mark Porter, Council Member Berger, Mayor, Resident Member Buda, Street Commissioner Young, Engineer Haibach
>
> Absent: Council member Rensel, Resident Member Kruse

Meeting Notes

- Topic Title: Opening and Attendance
    - The meeting began at 4:30 on September 10.
    - Public Utilities Committee members present: Chairman Mark Porter, Councilman Chris Berger, Street Commissioner Tim Young, Resident Member John Buda.
    - Councilwoman Rensel and Resident Member Todd Kruzy were not present.
    - The Engineer arrived after the meeting commenced; arrival noted for the minutes.

- Topic Title: Woodside Stormwater Project Discussion and Easement Agreement
    - **Background**: A previous Village drainage project 4–5 years ago at 29 Woodside aimed to relieve flooding but was not fully successful due to bedrock limiting ditch depth. Water from the park's northwest and higher elevations on Daisy Lane converges at 29 Woodside, overwhelming the existing 24-inch culverts, one of which is encased by tree roots.
    - **Proposed Plan**: The committee discussed a stormwater project for the Woodside area, estimated to cost approximately $20,000. The concept involves lowering and regrading the front yard of 29 Woodside to create a broad, shallow retention area to slow and meter stormwater, reducing peak flow downstream. This would benefit at least seven homeowners. An outlet structure with a controlled slot/grate and a new box culvert (preliminarily sized at 30 inches) are part of the plan. The resident (Mrs. Hasselbeck) is supportive but concerned about maintenance and wishes to protect a large tree.
    - **Concerns**: A concern was raised that redirecting water could negatively impact the wetlands and Spring Drive by overpowering the existing system.
    - **Easement Requirement**: A significant discussion was held on the need for a permanent drainage easement from the homeowner to allow the Village to construct and maintain the improvements. A license agreement was deemed less secure. The committee agreed that investing taxpayer money without permanent control would be risky.

- **Engineering & Costs**: Engineering site plans and specifications are estimated at $10,000 each. Construction will be done in-house, with main costs for materials and a box culvert (estimated at $6{,}000 - 7{,}000$ for 30 feet).
- **Conclusion**: The committee voted to recommend the $20,000 project to the council on September 21st. If approved, the mayor, street commissioner, and Engineer will approach the homeowner to secure a permanent easement.

- Topic Title: Potential Park Swale/Trail Integration
  - The Street Commissioner revisited a prior concept for a park trail/swale to intercept surface water near Daisy Lane and route it toward a wetland area. The Engineer will review its feasibility, noting the project scope may be larger than initially thought.

- Topic Title: Hazelwood Stormwater Project Update
  - An update was provided on the Hazelwood project, which involves installing new storm sewer lines from a drainage break on Hazelwood, west to Walters Road, and south into a ravine.
  - The design Engineer will use CCTV to map the existing "spiderweb" of old pipes to avoid service disruptions, which is covered under the original engineering quote.
  - A timeline was established: advertising for bids on November 11, 2026; bid award on December 7, 2026; work to start January 6, 2027, with completion by June 19, 2027.

- Topic Title: USGS Monitoring Contract
  - The committee discussed renewing a 5-year, $15,000/year contract with the USGS for groundwater monitoring.
  - Noting water levels are not as low as in 2008, the committee recommends not renewing the contract, saving $75,000. This recommendation will be forwarded to the Council.
  - A related discussion involved providing residents with a list of water quality testing companies on the Village website with a disclaimer.

- Topic Title: Sugar Bush Dredging and Site Restoration
  - The excavation is complete, and residents are generally happy, though some wished the work extended further.
  - The contractor will rough grade and seed the site before winter.
  - A concern was raised about potential erosion near Roberts. Another resident inquired about "stepping stones" (small boulders) that were removed with silt during the cleanup; the Engineer clarified they were not a design feature and will not be replaced.

- Topic Title: Enbridge Gas Line Project– Preconstruction Coordination

    - A pre-construction meeting with the gas company is scheduled for September 25, 2026, at 9:30 AM.
    - The project likely involves a line replacement and enlargement. There are concerns about potential conflicts with storm/sanitary lines during directional drilling. The Village needs to review the gas company's plans before work begins.

- Topic Title: Fairview Ditch Cleaning and Access Agreements
    - The committee discussed cleaning a ditch on Fairview. The work is contingent on securing formal access/work agreements from the property owner(s).

- Topic Title: Manorbrook Retention Area Under High Power Lines
    - A waiver has been sent to the power utility (Enbridge) for review to allow work in the area. A follow-up email was sent, and a response is pending.

- Topic Title: Woodside Catch Basin Repair
    - The previously broken catch basin at Woodside has been replaced. This item is complete.

- Topic Title: Lake Louise Power Reliability Issues
    - Repeated power outages were reported, including one lasting three days. The local HOA will consolidate concerns before engaging FirstEnergy.

- Topic Title: Chagrin Lakes and Woods of Wembley Status
    - No recent utility issues were reported. A resident complaint about building inspection was noted as unrelated.

- Topic Title: 50 and 52 Daisy – Drainage Conflict and Pond Impacts
    - A neighbor dispute has arisen where hardscaping around a backyard pond is impeding drainage and causing upstream backups.
    - The Engineer issued a letter recommending removal of the obstructive rocks. The ideal solution is to remove the pond and restore the open channel. The Village is not intervening unless its infrastructure is at risk.

- Topic Title: Meeting Closure
    - The meeting was adjourned at 5:33 PM.