

**CITY OF INDEPENDENCE  
UTILITIES & SEWERS COMMITTEE MEETING  
MINUTES  
MARCH 5, 2019 4:00 P.M.  
COUNCIL CAUCUS ROOM**

Present: Chairman James Trakas  
Councilperson Dr. Carl Asseff  
Councilperson Dale Veverka

Also Present: Mayor Anthony Togliatti  
Councilperson Patricia Wisniewski (arrived at 4:55 p.m.)  
City Engineer Don Ramm  
Procurement Coordinator Dennis Zdolshek  
Technical Service Director Dave Snyderburn  
Resident Mary Ann Penitz  
Residents Rick & Judy Stefanko

Chairman Trakas called the Utilities & Sewers Committee meeting of March 5, 2019 to order at 4:03 p.m.

Chairman Trakas said a quorum being set, we have the approval of the Minutes from October 25, 2018 meeting.

**Moved by Councilperson Asseff seconded by Councilperson Veverka, to approve the Minutes of October 25, 2018. Voice Vote: 3 yes/0 no; motion carried.**

Chairman Trakas said we did have a couple of requests from constituents to discuss some Utility related issues on their streets. I wanted to call up, the first one was 7227 Braewood.

Resident Mary Ann Penitz came up to the table with her son.

Chairman Trakas said have a seat and why don't you let us know what's on your mind.

Mrs. Penitz said well I have a creek that runs. I have been in Independence 27 years, and when we moved there the creek, you could step across it. In 27 years I have had it extended three times, and just recently in the last few years it is like unbelievable how fast the land is eroding. There is a tree that was on top the hill, and it is now probably sitting, it has slid down the hill so far. I had a tree company come out to take it down, and he said oh no you don't want to do that because the rest of your land.

Chairman Trakas asked this is your personal property correct? This is not City property?

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Mrs. Penitz said no.

Chairman Trakas said very good, continue.

Mrs. Penitz said and I don't have any control over it anymore. I don't know, about 10 years ago the house next door, the City came out and put like cages in for his creek. This creek just runs through three properties, and I think from then on that was the acceleration of how; it goes really slowly past his property, but then when it hits mine it's overflowing. I took some videos of how much the embankment is washed away and how much. It was a pipe when the houses were built as runoff water I think. I stuck out two feet, and it's more than six now. There is quite a bit of land gone.

Chairman Trakas said since you have owned the house for 27 years, you have seen a dramatic increase in erosion in the area. The creek has been faster, those are your contentions. Have you talked any of our City officials about some things that you can alleviate? Can you expound upon what that conversation was like please?

Mrs. Penitz said he just said it was pretty much a problem in Independence.

Chairman Trakas said that would be an accurate statement by the way.

Mrs. Penitz said over the years we have done stuff to kind of try to hold the land back. I had planted shrubs and trees. They are all in the creek now. They just have washed away. It is just eroding away. It's as simple as that.

Mrs. Penitz's son said the creek is about 8 feet wide now and about 5 feet deep.

Mrs. Penitz said and we could step across it when we first moved there.

Councilperson Asseff said this is not unique to you, this is Independence. I live on Kingscote, and the parcel that I bought, I didn't know what I was going to do with it, I still have it. When I bought it, I could step across it too, and now I have put in about \$28,000 in gabions to protect the wall, that is how wide it is. So, what we are getting is an increased water flow coming from wherever drains into those things.

Mrs. Penitz said it's coming from all the development up in Parma and Seven Hills. You see it coming down. I just don't understand why nobody controls that.

Councilperson Asseff said well the control would be Parma and Seven Hills having detention basins and slow that water down when you have the rain and the big flows. If they are not doing it, I don't know how we can do it.

Mrs. Penitz said so there's no way we can control any of the cities with that kind of stuff; it's just free flowing. You just go ahead and build. Are there no building codes or?

Councilperson Asseff said but those are other cities.

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Chairman Trakas said every community has a different approach to this. We are pretty proactive.

Mrs. Penitz asked so all the cities, they don't have to be controlled?

Mayor Togliatti said the Northeast Ohio Regional Sewer District is taking on large scale watershed initiatives where they are working across municipal boundaries to install retention basins to slow water down closer to the source so it doesn't impact those farther downstream such as yourself. I know they are working on a basin in Broadview Heights right now. It's still conceptual, but they are trying to get property acquired to put together enough land to install this basin to help slow the water, and that is just south of Sprague Road which may help to lessen the impact on your property. They are working in other areas in the City of Independence to help to reduce the volume of the runoff and to slow it down because it's something that the City of Independence can't control itself because it originates outside of our municipal boundaries. So, we have to work with these larger regional entities like the Sewer District to help put these projects together. The stormwater fee that they have just tacked on to your sewer bills is the funding source for these regional initiatives that they are undertaking. That would be something that we would have to reach out to the Sewer District to see exactly what watershed that Braewood is in and upstream how it can be effected to slow it down and see if they are willing to take that project on.

Mrs. Penitz said one of the rainfalls, there was a motorcycle that came down that creek. That is how much water comes through here.

Mayor Togliatti asked it got washed down the creek?

Several people began speaking at once.

Mrs. Penitz said debris comes down there all the time.

Councilperson Asseff asked what did the City do to your neighbor's?

Mrs. Penitz said they put cages in.

Chairman Trakas said rocks with cages, those are called gabions. Don, are you familiar with that project? Do you remember?

City Engineer Ramm said it was just before my time here. I have been here 11 years. It predated that. They are already starting to show signs of failing.

Mayor Togliatti said I think those are failing.

Chairman Trakas asked is there anything we can do like creek maintenance wise to help the water flow in the meantime before we find out what on a large scale they can do? Is there anything we can do with respect to that?

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City Engineer Ramm said not much from a flow standpoint, but to try to mitigate the condition there. You can get unit pricing for those gabions under the contract. I could at least let you know what a project of that scope and magnitude would cost. You could at least put a dollar value to the type of mitigation that we are talking about.

Life as it is though, you might have to catch all three of those properties versus trying to go in there and just catch the middle one. So, it's certainly something we can look into.

Mrs. Penitz's son asked are you the Engineer?

City Engineer Ramm said the City Engineer.

Mrs. Penitz's son said I think what is going on is that when the gabions got put in upstream that it is channeling and accelerating the water because that's not eroding; so as the water volume has grown with the rains it goes faster, and then it erodes the downstream properties more. So, I think you hit the nail right on the head with you have to address it as a group because it's getting wider and wider. It's just mud, it's just dirt underneath. There's nothing to hold it; so as it comes down, accelerates where it gets narrower, and then all that pressure is hitting the bank. It's just more and more.

Mrs. Penitz said it's just not mud either, it's quicksand. If you get in that creek, you can't get back out. In some points in that creek, I know it happened to me a couple of years ago. I went in there to, I was cleaning up stuff around there; and I slipped and I got my foot into the creek. I didn't know it was quicksand, but I don't know if it was quicksand; but whatever it was, I could not get my foot out. That might be dangerous for kids.

Mrs. Penitz's son said I think back 27 years ago it was a flood plain down there. So, it would come up, and it became a flood plain. That would slow down all the water, and now as it has dug in, it's kind of self-reinforcing.

Councilperson Asseff said the other thing that happens on those gabions is you get undermining.

Chairman Trakas said that might be happening.

Councilperson Asseff said you probably have some going on with that. So, when it's done it has to be done as a contiguous plan and not just piecemeal.

Mrs. Penitz said the whole creek has changed. It is winding now. It used to be just a straight creek, and it's just the way it washes away.

Chairman Trakas said as Councilperson Asseff said, that's not uncommon throughout our community, and so being downstream from some of these things, there are some things we might be able to do; but there are also large scale issues that have to be solved that involve a lot of other communities. That's why the Northeast Ohio Regional District is engaged in this. If it's okay with you, we would like to try to talk to, I want to represent properly, to talk to the Sewer District to see where this falls in and if this Broadview Heights project may be able to help

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mitigate that at some point and time. It's not going to be this spring, okay? Then perhaps we can also come up with a plan of attack with respect to the gabions that might be able to stabilize all of your properties a little bit; and then present that to you. That's private property so.

Mrs. Penitz said the thing that bothers me is I'm not asking for something. This is not like something that, I just can't keep up with the erosion. It's just become so accelerated that I just can't. Actually the landscape company twice the guys on the tractor have gone over. What happens is that they get too close, and the land just falls away. Twice they had to get fished out of that creek because they are young guys. I guess they are not expecting it. I don't know. So, now I just warn them. I say don't go close over there.

Councilperson Asseff said there's another issue we have when they built the freeways, I-77, the water used to flow west; but now they designed it so all the water flows east. We are getting all the water off the freeways, and when they enlarged freeways and put another lane or two in there, we are getting much more water than we got before. So, that's all adding to that problem, and we can't stop the source; we can only work on the results of that source.

Chairman Trakas said and that has changed in 27 years.

Don, how long would something like that take to help, to come up with some ideas for them. I know you have a few things happening these days, but how long do you think it would take to have some type of an idea as to some possible work arounds. I don't want to use the word solutions because I'm not sure we always have solutions.

City Engineer Ramm said it wouldn't take too long, a couple few weeks to get out to take some measurements. We are opening bids for the new contract on Friday, so current pricing. We have old pricing that we could still utilize, but we will have some current fresh pricing here on Friday. I would think sometime next month we would be ready to come back and reconvene and share some information.

Chairman Trakas asked would that be acceptable to you?

Mrs. Penitz said that's fine. Like I said, right now the bridge going across there I had to put boards across it so nobody would step on it because the bridge is totally cemented into the creek. So, the bridge is starting. It's just when you get on the other side of the bridge, there's no land up there anymore. All the land underneath the bridge has eroded.

Mayor Togliatti asked and your property is on both sides of the creek?

Mrs. Penitz said yes. The part on the other side is the flood plain that he was talking about. So, when you are talking about like this is not like a backyard, this is downhill. I have a backyard, and you go down the hill. Part of the backyard is eroded from where the water comes, but on the other side, we just cut the grass there. We don't even do anything back there. It looks like a big football field, the three properties. We all just cut it, and if somebody has a party, everybody goes down and plays, all the kids. So, it's not anything. I'm not looking for anything fancy; I

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just need help keeping this under control because every couple of years I have to do something with this bridge.

Chairman Trakas said I understand.

Mayor Togliatti asked and how many feet from the back of your house is the edge of the stream?

Mrs. Penitz's son said I would guess probably about 100 maybe. That's just a guess.

Mrs. Penitz said it's a lot less now. I have taken videos. Everything I planted at the end of the property is now down in the creek. It has all slid down. You can see the plants. They are in the creek.

Chairman Trakas asked you planted them right on where the?

Mrs. Penitz said I planted them, at the time there was plenty of land there when I planted them; and I planted them so the roots could go down to keep the soil in place, but they are not plants, they are like shrubs. It's ornamental grass because they have thick roots, and they spread out. That's what I did 20 years ago, but by now, as a matter of fact I had landscapers come out and asked them what I could do. They said well you could do, but it's not going to last. This is just not a good situation here. So, I gave up on that.

Chairman Trakas said okay. Well, you are trying to do the right thing, and we appreciate that; and we will try to get back with you with some ideas that might be able to help you, okay? Again, understand that some of this is beyond, a large part of it is beyond what we can control in the City; but we will try to give your best estimates and try to work.

Mrs. Penitz said I need somebody to tell me what can be done and what can't be done.

Chairman Trakas said we are good at telling people what to do.

Chairman Trakas said thank you very much. Thank you for coming in. We will be back in touch with you.

Mrs. Penitz said thanks for your help.

Chairman Trakas said oh you are welcome, and the Clerk has your contact information so if the Engineer is able to work with you.

Chairman Trakas said you are welcome to stay for the rest of our discussion. It's very riveting.

Mrs. Penitz said oh that's okay.

Chairman Trakas said well next up we have our residents at 6697 Renwood, and they may have some similar discussions to talk about. Why don't you come up to the table.

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Rick and Judy Stefanko of 6697 Renwood came up to the table.

Chairman Trakas said why don't you let us know a little bit about what's going on at 6697 Renwood.

Mr. Stefanko said believe it or not, just like the previous lady, the past two years, and we don't have a creek; but my next door neighbor is higher than I am. For the past two years, the water coming down Renwood, I'm on Renwood, coming down and comes on his little hill and it flows between our houses and in back of my house.

Chairman Trakas asked is that on Renwood or is that another street?

Mr. Stefanko said he's on Renwood, now where all this water is coming from, I could not tell you. I do have pictures. They are not the greatest. There are some in the warmer time, and then this is the winter time. Mr. Stefanko passed around the pictures. You can see the flooding I am having. It's like an ice skating pond in the winter time there.

Chairman Trakas asked how close to your home is this?

Mr. Stefanko said from the side of the house maybe five feet where it's really bad, and then in the back about four feet. It's gotten to the point where the carpeting in the Florida room has gotten wet from all of this, and I have to rip it out because there's some green stuff growing in the carpeting like a moss or something. I don't know what it would be.

This has only started about the past two years.

Chairman Trakas said understood.

Mr. Stefanko said it's getting to the point where my apron where the sidewalk is, the one side of the sidewalk right by my apron there is sinking because there's always mud or dirt there; and my apron is just like a skating pond. Sometimes the ice gets two or three inches thick down there.

Chairman Trakas said so this is fairly recent happening.

Mr. Stefanko said within the past three years.

Mr. Stefanko said we have been there going on 23 years.

Chairman Trakas asked has anything happened with the neighborhood in terms of any new building or anything.

Mr. Stefanko said no because there has been no new. All these houses were there. They haven't added any new buildings since we have been there. I don't know where it's coming from. It was never that bad. It just flows down like a river.

Chairman Trakas said there might be something going on that we don't know about.

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Mr. Stefanko said I did know that other people in the neighborhood have had catch basins in prior years put in their property.

Councilperson Asseff asked did that solve their problem?

Mr. Stefanko said yes. I just thought where it comes down, if the catch basin was there, it would run out to the storm drain or something out front. Hopefully, that would alleviate a lot of this. I have been told that if I do something, and then my neighbor's property floods; then I am in trouble.

Chairman Trakas said you were told correctly.

Mr. Stefanko asked what do you do? I can't build it up to where it doesn't flow in mine, and then if I try to drain it to the other neighbor, they are going to come after me.

Councilperson Asseff asked your neighbor where the water is coming from, has he done anything to his property?

Mr. Stefanko said no. Nothing has been done to anybody's property since we have lived there.

Councilperson Asseff asked does your neighbor get water from somebody else that you know? I am trying to figure out where this water is coming from.

Mrs. Stefanko said I don't think I have seen anything.

Councilperson Asseff said there's a place where you are not getting it.

Mr. Stefanko said my backyard is like this from where the Florida room is, it's flat for ten or twelve feet, and then it goes up like this here; and then there's another flat area on top. So, my neighbor has that also. So, if it's coming from way up top somewhere, coming down this way, I don't know. I can only see it as it's coming down that hill from his property into my property.

Councilperson Asseff said I don't know the terrain and the topography there, but where do you put something in that will stop it all?

Mr. Stefanko said I am hoping where it comes down.

Councilperson Asseff said well yeah, but if it comes down to your neighbor's from somewhere else, did we stop it at your neighbor's and then stop it at yours. We only want to put one thing if we put in anything, and we don't want to have catch basins at each property if one property will do it.

Mr. Stefanko said my property is the only one that has rivers. He has no rivers or anything like that; and the neighbor on the other side does. It doesn't come down this way; it's only the one side between the neighbor whose property is higher than mine, it comes down there. It comes into my back, and then it stops.

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Mayor Togliatti asked and there was never any drainage structures in your backyard at any time when the house was built because it does look like you are kind of at the base of the hill there; and there was nothing ever installed to catch that water?

Mr. Stefanko said no. That's why I was surprised when these houses were built they didn't tell the builder that you need to put a catch basin there or something there because this property is just going to get flooded. That is where we are at right now big time.

Mrs. Stefanko said now we have damage coming into our home, into the Florida room.

Chairman Trakas said over the years some of your neighbors have reported similar type situations. I think engineering has changed since those homes were built, let's put it that way. Don, with respect to this situation, do you think you might be able to run someone out and take a look and make some recommendations on this one as well?

City Engineer Ramm said sure. We have a little bit of history. We have been out to this property over the years, but we can revisit it, pull it altogether. I wouldn't mind looking at the photos.

Chairman Trakas asked did you have prior conclusions that may or may not have been?

City Engineer Ramm said well we know that the storm sewer main is on the other side of the street, but there's a catch basin across the frontage. Unfortunately, it's on the far side. There is an outlet. We would just have to pull a storm sewer up, have to work through the drive apron; but it's within the realm of possibility. It's just a matter of how much pipe, and how many basins and what the overall costs of that endeavor would be. We have not gone to that level to price those sewer treatments out.

Chairman Trakas said let's try to see if maybe this time if we can come up with something that we might be able to get back together with you on.

Mr. Stefanko said prior we talked. It was just at the bottom there by the sidewalk that I had concern with the ice and everything. I don't think I talked to either you or the other gentleman, Joe P. You guys have not seen the flowing of the water. So, that was a couple of years ago we talked about that; but it's just gotten progressively worse now.

Chairman Trakas said well things have changed, and our storms change as well. They are most more intense rain in a shorter period of time; and it's different than 1976 or whenever the house was built. We talk about a 100 year flood, wow every 100 years; but that's not what a 100 year flood means. We have had a heck a lot more of those than we had in the 100 years.

If you wouldn't mind sharing those photographs with Don, I think we might be able to put together a plan for you; and we will see how it works out for you if that's okay. Is there anything else you would like to go over?

Mr. Stefanko said I don't think so. I was hoping that the money that the City gets from the Regional Sewer might help.

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Chairman Trakas said we hope so too. We will see. I guess we have to see what the solution is before we would be able to give you any type of an answer on that. Generally, they are not on private property, but we will have to take a look at that. I know it would be great to have somebody pay for that. We are trying to figure out who that somebody is. So, we will give you the best information.

Mr. Stefanko said I just want to pay my house off. I want to retire one of these years.

Chairman Trakas said we understand that.

Several people began speaking at once.

Mr. Stefanko said well thank you very much, I appreciate your time.

Councilperson Asseff said a 100 year flood is a 1% probability, 200 year is 2%.

Chairman Trakas said the next topic we wanted to bring up is something that Councilperson Veverka had brought up and just wanted to kind of brainstorm a little bit. This is a discussion of utility right-of-ways and our tree policy on tree lawns. So, Dale do you want to discuss a little bit about what we had talked about a few weeks back?

Councilperson Veverka said sure. Well one of the things we talked about was the problem with when we have a very narrow utility strip which sometimes we call mistakenly a tree lawn. It's not really an appropriate place to invest money and put trees. You have overhead utilities which are a problem. Occasionally, we have to go dig up the area and remove the plantings in that area. So, I guess what I am suggesting is we explore some way of not planting the trees in the tree strip, but rather working with residents to locate a place; and we would assume the cost of the purchase of the tree, the location of the tree, have a limited list of appropriate type of species to be chosen from. Then the homeowner would be the one responsible for the love and care and feeding of the tree. So, rather than end up with a number of the trees like we have currently on Brecksville Road and in various other places where utility companies come in and butcher the top and middle out; and you have a couple of wings floating up in the air. Or even worse, other locations where they have taken the whole side out of a tree. By knowing the spread of the tree and the general shape, we could really try to assure that we have them in a place that would be appropriate so they don't have to be damaged and can develop into their proper shape, yet still have the feature of making the street attractive.

Chairman Trakas said really great points. So, we took a look at the applicable statutes that we operate under with respect to trees and where they are put and what our policies are, except that we have policies that don't necessarily match our ordinances which is okay. We have a policy on that.

The first question comes in is do we have the authority to go on private property? We usually say that we put two trees in front of each tree lawn. The question comes in, does it make sense to have those trees put somewhere? I think we have done that for aesthetic reasons as well as just that's the City property there. So, that's what we know to do, but I think your contention makes

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sense. We are going in. A lot of these trees are dying because they are in the right-of-way to begin with. You are going in, you are ripping them up, you are ripping them out. You are replacing them. It may not be a prudent policy, either from a cost perspective or from a tree maintenance perspective to actually put them in that area. So, the question comes in is would we have legal authority to ask a resident to place them somewhere else in that resident's yard? I think the whole idea is to have trees to help block water from going through, and that's why this comes under Utilities. Also, the ability to get in and go into that utility area without having to take the time, effort and cost of going in and cutting down a tree.

Councilperson Veverka said well it is kind of a complicated situation. I know of a home on Grandview that the City planted trees on the person's property on the other side of the sidewalk; and the person put a plastic drain material around it so that the deer wouldn't tear it up and destroy it and also staked it. Then they were surprised, and it was reported to me, that someone from the City came and removed the stakes and removed the protective material on the tree. So, it becomes an interesting question.

Chairman Trakas said yeah, it is.

Councilperson Asseff asked do we have the authority to spend public dollars on private land? I mean talking about the trees, I think we all agree; and after they have done their trimming of the trees, those are the wrong trees for Brecksville Road because they don't look like trees anymore, they look like butchered up timber.

My thoughts were that if we were going to replace the trees, to do an evergreen; and we have seen the cone-shaped, like an ice cream cone upside down that grow to a certain height. I tell you what I was impressed with that, in Italy on the Appian Way. They have those trees and have something like that so the whole corridor of Brecksville Road would look like a nice Appian Way, or whatever we want to call it; but you have trees that then can stay in the tree lawn but won't reach the telephone lines and the other lines. It's picking the right species and putting that in. So, I just put that as a suggestion if we are going to start dealing with trees and taking trees out. Again, that's a costly measure, and how much we want to get into that is another issue.

Councilperson Veverka said a lot of the utility right-of-ways are only two to three foot wide; and you have on one side there's a street which means your root system has very little opportunity there where the street is.

Councilperson Asseff said well the type of tree I'm talking about doesn't need a deep root system.

Chairman Trakas said you are talking about the median kind of on Brecksville Road as an example.

Councilperson Asseff said well the median is pretty good, but those trees could be different. I am talking on the tree lawns.

Chairman Trakas asked so that's who they did, they border? I see what you are talking about.

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Councilperson Asseff said so this way we would have a tree that would only grow so high, and we can see with CEI, do we want to cut a deal because they aren't going to have to trim them again. Therefore, would they supply the trees, and we put them in the ground. I don't know that, but I am just trying to think ahead. What would make Brecksville Road look spiffy? Certainly not the trees we have on it right now, and we have all the problems, and within three or four years they are going to be out trimming them again. It's a forever trimming process because they are ultimately responsible for damages to the lines.

Chairman Trakas said that's correct.

Councilperson Asseff said so there are things we can look into, and if we would supply the trees to put on private property; and then the owners pay for the rest of it. I don't know how we can do it, but to spend public dollars on private land.

Chairman Trakas said well we are already doing it on the public land that is getting ripped up, I think that's what started the conversation. Would it be prudent to explore the ability to do this, and it would have to be on a case-by-case basis because if people didn't want you to go on their property then you couldn't do it.

Councilperson Asseff said well the other thing that we could do is deal with a nursery that sells these trees, and have an account where people from the City can go in and they buy their own but they get it at a discount. They use our purchasing discount.

Councilperson Veverka said well we have one resident who has direct connections to be able to get well discounted cost of trees. The article that was in the recent Independence Post, I had a long discussion with him related to access and species type. That was one of the reasons we put the article out there because people don't put a tree in thinking about what it will be like 20 years down the road, and 50 years down the road. They put it in where they think it's going to be nice now. So, the placement issue becomes a big question, and the ability to know what the species is going to look like, how wide does it get. Unfortunately, I like your idea of evergreens, but on the other hand, when you have only a two or three foot piece of space; and the way evergreens generally tend to grow, many of those species are not narrow species that wouldn't end up getting overhanging your sidewalk.

Councilperson Asseff said and you are right on that, but there are species that don't do that. So, it's critical on what we do and how we do it; and that's the aesthetic beautification of Brecksville Road because we beautified Rockside Road by whatever we have done down there. Brecksville Road is the ugly sister that is just sitting there.

Councilperson Veverka said and part of it for instance, part of this was focused specifically on as we look at Brettin Drive for instance. Okay, this is a reconstruction, and what do we need to do to try to make it so that we can get trees in places where they will be the shape they need to be, and we won't have to deal with the utility lines. That is the same with Brookside, when we put the Brookside sidewalk project in that goes up to Lake Charles, we have the same situation. There are going to be some trees that are going to need to be removed from the sidewalks, and then it becomes a question of okay how do we do this? How do we work with the residents so

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that we are not putting trees in places that they are doomed to failure, and we are picking species. The other issue to me is when we make these ideas that we are going to pick a specific species; and when we put Ash tree, Ash tree in a row and the Ash borer comes in, it destroys the whole area. So, the selection and the variation of trees, that is why having a varied list is kind of important.

Councilperson Asseff said well we have the City Planner Jeff Markley, he's on the payroll.

Chairman Trakas said true.

Councilperson Asseff said let's see what he says, and he can develop truly what would be called a Master Plan for the City individualized for the streets that we want to apply it to. That's easy enough to do.

Chairman Trakas said each soil really kind of has lent itself to different types of trees, and like you said, we planted some of these things and they die quickly.

Councilperson Veverka said unfortunately we put trees in very restricted areas, like for example, on Selig. They are planted very close, and there doesn't seem to be an anticipation for the fact that this tree is going to grow. So, what looks really nice for the first four, five or six years becomes a problem after year number six. So, that's why to me it's definitely soon enough to try to come up with a reasonable plan and work it out so that as we do these trees we are having enough farsightedness to be able to avoid them needing to come in and having to deal with issues we have created ourselves.

Chairman Trakas said right, but we have some major street projects going on this year so if we are able to come up with something that would be perhaps a little bit more cohesive; it might save us all time, effort and money is what I'm hoping. I am glad Mayor you put it in the Independence Post because that was very relevant information for people. We talk a lot about flooding and water around here, the more trees that you can plant that would suck that water up, the better off we are going to be. We can't have Doc Bitzan's property like he has about 120 trees in his yard over the years. Maybe we can encourage people to do more. Do you have any thoughts about what Doc said in terms of having some of our professional staff come up with some approaches?

Mayor Togliatti said well that is what we do when we do major street projects, we consult with our City Planner or an arborist to give us tree recommendations; and we always stay within the City's right-of-way when we plant trees. If for some reason the road project goes out of the City's right-of-way, we get a temporary right-of-way and then right of entry into that property. If we remove a tree, then we usually replace one-to-one, if the resident wants the replacement. That may be beyond the City's right-of-way, but it's in that temporary right of access during the road project.

All the plantings that we do we will run through the City Planner or our certified arborist to be sure that we are planting the right species of tree. We would not be impeding upon overhead utilities, and I did check with both the Sewer crew and our Sidewalk Repair crew. The Sewer

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crew said in the last ten years they have probably replaced about five trees based on work that they have done; and the Sidewalk Repair crew said about two trees in the last four years.

Chairman Trakas said that was pretty insignificant.

Councilperson Veverka said unfortunately though a lot of times the Sidewalk crew needs to replace the sections of sidewalk because the roots are so close that they jack them up three or four inches; and then you have the trip hazard thing. A lot of times they can get around it and solve the problem for a while until the tree's roots start working again.

Mayor Togliatti said the only way to really ensure a consistent look when you drive down a road, like Chestnut is all in bloom at the same time; all those trees are planted in the right-of-way. If you extend an opportunity to the residents to have them purchase a tree at a reduced price, and the City plant them in their private property, you are not going to have every resident agree. You are not going to have that continuity as you travel down the road.

Councilperson Asseff said I think it's best to stay within the area we control.

Chairman Trakas asked Dale, any thoughts?

Councilperson Veverka said I really disagree. I really feel strongly about. I understand when we are trying to get a specific look, but in many areas. For example, both Brookside and Brettin for instance, it's a random kind of pattern of what trees are there, what trees were put there. So, it's not as if there would be a specific target. I know Chestnut for instance, tree lawns are pretty wide are they not? They are not a two or three foot tree lawn.

Mayor Togliatti said they are wider than two or three feet. I couldn't tell you specifically, maybe six feet.

Councilperson Veverka said right, and see a number of places like Highland, Midland that area, the scenic Highlands; there is more space there, and that seems to work for trees. When we are limited by the size of the right-of-way, by the time we put the sidewalk in, have the utility strip and the roadway; there is very, very little space to have a reasonable tree presence. For example, when we are on Brookside in the one area Don where we have to do the sidewalk, we are going to change the topography quite a bit. So, that will definitely be a number of trees that will be affected. I know at least four or five, maybe eight properties along there that definitely would be affected. You have to change the topography. You have the cost of retaining wall or whatever it is to try to maintain what's there. So, the question becomes okay do you go and put the cost into a retaining wall, or do you re-configure it and provide replacement tree that is appropriate?

City Engineer Ramm said if some trees are in the right-of-way, that will be impacted, and some are outside of the right-of-way that will be impacted, so, both conditions.

Councilperson Veverka said right.

Chairman Trakas asked what do you think?

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Councilperson Veverka said well I would think particularly if it's a voluntary basis. In other words, if you speak with individual residents, it's on a voluntary basis; and basically it's an acceptance of the responsibility. It's not just here you get a tree; there are definitely some contingent responsibilities involved with it. I think it's worth consideration.

Councilperson Asseff asked what if the tree dies?

Technical Service Director Snyderburn said we did Dalebrook. Those are all Cleveland Select Pears down there. Now if you go down Dalebrook and Montello, there are 247 trees down there, and it turned out nice. Now, they are getting bigger; but they flower in the spring and they are really beautiful. If you go down those streets in the spring, they look absolutely fabulous. If you told those people hey we were going to remove those trees and take them, everybody would have a heart attack because it really adds to the beauty of that subdivision there.

I am going to tell you what, Brecksville Road you are right. You can get a smaller species of tree. They won't grow so high. You probably should re-plant them. They all have to be salt tolerant, and that's the main thing that kills trees. Right now those are Locust trees all up and down Brecksville Road. You could get a smaller tree that is salt tolerant that would have nice coverage. You want a little bit of coverage. You want a little bit, and it would look good. You could do that to all the streets.

The only other comment I want to make is if you tell people that hey we can plant a tree in your front yard, not in our right-of-way, I am going to tell you, it doesn't work. This person wants this species of tree, even though you offer them three or four. They want this species. They don't want this species. You have three houses that don't want any trees at all. They said I don't want to cut around the tree, I don't want to mulch. I don't want to do anything to it, and all of a sudden it's very sporadic. You have this species of tree over here, this species of tree over there. A lot of people don't want trees in their front yard at all. They don't want any leaves. They don't want any trees. Some people would love it. They would say sure plant a tree. So, if you could keep them all within the right-of-way and plant the same species, and like I say 21 you are right because of this. Obviously, those trees are 25 or 30 years old, those Locus trees, and they got too big. Now First Energy came in. This didn't happen until our 2000 blackout when everything went haywire, and then all of a sudden they came with a program. They said we are just chopping them. We are taking them down.

You could get a nice dwarf or whatever. They only grow 14 feet or whatever. You could buy nice ones. You could plant all new trees on 21, and you wouldn't have that problem anymore. It would be nice. Some trees could be shaped every couple of years. Whatever you think; those are my thoughts on it.

Councilperson Veverka said well the other thing about Dalebrook though is the sidewalk actually located in the right-of-way?

Technical Service Director Snyderburn said yes.

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Councilperson Veverka said because the utility strip in that area seems to be quite a bit wider than the three foot.

Technical Service Director Snyderburn said oh yeah, it's definitely.

Councilperson Veverka said and in those times I don't know if it's because the right-of-way was wider or what. So, it works. In that particular situation because you have a wider utility area; but the roads we have been doing lately, the utility area isn't wide enough to push snow on.

Technical Service Director Snyderburn said I agree with you. In some of those areas where you have the brick and all, you have the sidewalk and have two feet or three feet of red brick.

Councilperson Veverka said well even grass. A lot of them now we have gotten away from the pavers because we wanted to improve the appearance plus make it more easily accessible so if something had to be done it wouldn't destroy that particular area. I am just apprehensive. I appreciate the row of one variety of trees, but I also realize because of my background that it doesn't take much of a particular type of, whether it be a bug or a borer, whether it be a whatever. You know Dave, you took down all those Ash trees on Highland, Midland, that whole area. Every one of those trees are all gone because we didn't intermix the species. I know I hear you say well these are all nice and all pretty pink and whatever. Well, you could have species varied in a way that would still give you color for that couple of weeks in the spring when you have blossoms; but would still have enough of a variety and salt resistant so that you can still have an attractive thing. For example, down Brecksville Road, but also the variety of species.

When you are making it optional, it's a random kind of a look. If some people are into that, here we are like a bunch of soldiers in a row; other people are much more into a random appearance. So, just to kind of forcefully push, we are only going to put them in that little strip. We are going to pretty much doom them to not have much of a chance and only have one species, just does not make sense to me.

Technical Service Director Snyderburn said well the Locust trees on Brecksville Road are all living. There are no problems with them.

Councilperson Veverka said agreed.

Technical Service Director Snyderburn said very few of them died over the years. It just they were chopped down because they got too high.

Councilperson Veverka said most of the problems again are the ones that were in that strip along the side that now looks like two arms sticking up on each side of the wires.

Technical Service Director Snyderburn said they got too big. They are too high of a tree for that.

Councilperson Veverka said right, absolutely, and we have a pretty good idea for most trees how high they are going to get. You can make a pretty reasonable prediction, but the type of tree and

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whether it's a dwarf species or not to make the appearance that you want and to keep them out of the wires and to keep everything decent.

Technical Service Director Snyderburn said correct.

Councilperson Veverka said but what you said, I definitely would not be saying hey Carl you have to take a tree because like you said, many people would just assume, they enjoy their grass, they enjoy their plantings. They are not interested in a tree. A tree is just a mess as far as they are concerned.

Councilperson Asseff said I need more leaves.

Councilperson Veverka said that's what I'm saying, some people's first reaction is it's a tree that is going to give me a bunch of leaves.

Technical Service Director Snyderburn said and I will get off the subject, but the only reason I cited Dalebrook as one prime example is if you gave those people the option of not having trees or having trees, probably a lot of people would say I don't want that tree, even on the tree lawn. I don't want any trees there. That's the way they are.

Chairman Trakas said I think the intent is do the minimum of two trees, plus if they want more trees. Was that what you were more interested in?

Technical Service Director Snyderburn said it wouldn't look the way it looks if you gave the people the option, that's all.

Councilperson Veverka said I know that Valley Vista for instance, they have the brick two footer, and they have the sidewalk. So, they have no option. They have no trees except what's back on their property.

Technical Service Director Snyderburn said you are correct.

Councilperson Veverka said so that's one part of that subdivision there.

Technical Service Director Snyderburn said I agree with you.

Chairman Trakas said our next topic Number 5 there is new development tree planting requirements. I am not finding in the ordinance that we have here, it's my fault I guess. I was just curious, is it every 20 feet? What do we do now for new developments? What is the minimum?

City Engineer Ramm said it's one per lot.

Mayor Togliatti said two on corner lots. It's part of the Development Agreement, correct?

City Engineer Ramm said yes, and they post money for those trees.

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Chairman Trakas asked does it make any sense to try to increase those numbers? Obviously, people in the adjacent areas when we build new developments, their one concern always is once you have taken down all those trees, the water starts flowing differently. There is a lot of evidence that is the case. Does it make sense to increase those standards to try to have more trees per lot so that we may be able to mitigate some of that type of thing?

Councilperson Asseff said well, the other question on that is how much mitigation will “x” number of trees do? If it’s five trees, it’s not going to make a difference. So, is a plan enough to absorb that type of water issue? That’s depending on the contract with the developer. In new development it doesn’t cost them that much to put in a tree. It’s when you go to an already well-developed area, you are digging up lawns and so on. You are putting this tree in before you put the lawn in. There’s less disruption. They are going to buy them in bulk.

Chairman Trakas said so that’s what I was saying, maybe if we do that; it might be better off for us to consider doing it. I think one per lot is fairly minimum obviously. If we did more, that might be able to be beneficial to what we are trying to accomplish. I don’t know. I just threw it out there. Anyone see any reason to change that?

Mayor Togliatti said our major developments are pretty much set for now. As far as future development, it’s going to be pretty minimal with the land that is available in the City.

Councilperson Asseff said the other thing with further development, if they clear the land and then build, they are taking down a lot of trees versus save as many trees as you can, that philosophy when you build a home. So, every lot would look a little bit different depending on the trees.

Chairman Trakas said maybe the horse is out of the barn on that one.

Anything else that the committee wants to go over today?

Technical Service Director Snyderburn said what I would like to talk about is we did an audit with Tanco Lighting. This is LED streetlights, and what I would like to propose, and I proposed to the Mayor because of the cost savings; all the streetlights in the City. We were thinking about just Rockside Road, but after realizing all the cost savings for LED lighting, electrical costs; we figured you know what, we are going to explore this. So, we started to explore it. We did an audit on how many streetlights we have, not only what was had, but what type of fixture they were, what type of wattage they were. This is a private company that we explored. We would purchase the arms from First Energy and then buy our own fixtures and put them up on the poles and reduce our energy costs substantially.

Councilperson Asseff asked who would put them up? Would we do it?

Technical Service Director Snyderburn said we would have a company do it.

Chairman Trakas said you said at the last meeting how many, but how many were we looking at?

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Technical Service Director Snyderburn said well there is a discrepancy amongst the audits, amongst First Energy's count and the audit's count. We are about 100 off.

Mayor Togliatti said First Energy said what about 1,018.

Technical Service Director Snyderburn said well that's what he said, but he sent me a list. It was 1,103, and Tanco's audit was different. We are 90 fixtures off. I guess that's neither here nor there.

When we did this research, we went to First Energy; and we told them what we were going to do. We would like to purchase these arms because we want to put our own lights up. We want to meter them ourselves and realize a pretty big savings, an energy consumption savings. So, they said listen the lights are not, the arms, the poles or anything aren't for sale. We said okay. We talked to Greg O'Brien, and Greg O'Brien said that, we talked to Tanco Lighting and had one of their legal team on the phone on a conference. He said well you can take those by eminent domain, and Greg O'Brien felt that we would win.

Chairman Trakas said so only the poles themselves, what would we take?

Technical Service Director Snyderburn said we would have to purchase the arm on each pole. The cost of that, Tanco Lighting figured around \$300 an arm. We would then be spending about \$300 a fixture, and the cost to install them. We are looking around \$750,000. So, we are looking at spending around \$750,000, and what we pay for our electricity right now is \$250,000 a year on electrical costs for the streetlights.

When we did the audit and figured the electrical usage on each fixture, it was somewhere around, we purchased these for somewhere around \$30,000 a year on electrical. It could be \$30,000 or \$35,000. We would have to nail it down perfectly, but around there. So, you are realizing a cost savings of over \$200,000 a year.

We went to First Energy, and they said listen, our lights are not for sale. We aren't going to sell any community our lights. They aren't for sale. What we will do though, we will put up LED lighting on your poles. You will realize a substantial savings with our tariffs, with negotiated tariffs through the PUCO. So, they would put up their lights at \$301 per fixture. They would still own the lights. They would maintain them. So, 100 fixtures, give or take, would be \$330,000 upfront costs.

Councilperson Asseff said you said we would have to buy the poles on the other thing.

Technical Service Director Snyderburn said on the other thing we could buy the arms.

Councilperson Asseff asked \$301 with the light?

Technical Service Director Snyderburn said correct, and I don't want to make it complicated.

Several people began speaking at once again.

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Technical Service Director Snyderburn said First Energy is \$301 per fixture. So, you are looking at \$330,000.

What I want to bring up to the committee is, and then our energy savings through First Energy, the bill would go down from \$250,000, it would go down to about \$80,000 a year with their tariffs. That's what we are looking at.

Councilperson Asseff said so we are saving \$170,000 a year.

Technical Service Director Snyderburn said \$170,000 a year with First Energy, and if we owned them ourselves, we would be saving \$210,000. So, there might be between \$40,000 and \$50,000 discrepancy. I would have to nail the numbers down.

Councilperson Asseff said but if we own them ourselves, we are going to have buy the arms and the lights.

Mayor Togliatti said and we have to maintain them.

Councilperson Asseff said so for \$301 First Energy is going to do it all, and we save \$170,000. We put that in that box versus the other box of buying this stuff piecemeal and having to fight for it.

Technical Service Director Snyderburn said and the only thing is the other box is we have to go to court over it. We can't just do it. So, we would have to go to court over it. We would be the first community to go to court with First Energy.

Chairman Trakas asked under the Tanco proposal, what is their role in this?

Technical Service Director Snyderburn said they would negotiate the tariffs. They would custom design the lights that we would use. The custom design of the lights, I am not so worried about it because we have already reached out to GE; and they would give us their recommendation on the streets. They would tell us what they would think would be our best bet as far as lighting.

Chairman Trakas asked would they administer any of the program in the future after we would do all of that or is their role just to facilitate the change order?

Mayor Togliatti said they would facilitate the maintenance.

Technical Service Director Snyderburn said they would facilitate the maintenance contract.

Chairman Trakas asked we wouldn't have to deal with them?

Mayor Togliatti said no, we would have to pay them to maintain them.

Councilperson Asseff said if we have to go to court, we are not going to start this project for a few years.

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Technical Service Director Snyderburn said I don't know how long court would be.

Councilperson Asseff said courts are always slow with briefs and counter-briefs.

Chairman Trakas said we could take them to the PUCO and maybe shorten the process. Maybe the PUCO would give us relief.

Councilperson Asseff said but to take it to court will cost us dollars too. So, we are looking at a difference of \$170,000 versus \$210,000 which is \$40,000. Is it worth going the one way versus saying that First Energy here you are, do it at that cost and let's get it done.

Technical Service Director Snyderburn said here's the savings, and (inaudible) over 20 years. If we went with First Energy, if we saved \$170,000 a year for 20 years, that's \$3,400,000. Now our costs are \$330,000. That is the total. We have to pay them that though.

Mayor Togliatti said we have to pay them that upfront, and then there's about a year lag time on getting them installed.

Councilperson Asseff said whoever we had to deal with, we are going to have to pay up front, whether by the pole, having recurrent lawyer fees and all these other kinds of things that we are going on to. I think the question is what is \$40,000 worth? That's your difference, \$170,000 versus \$210,000. Everything else stays about the same, the equipment and what have you for discussion purposes. What is the value of the \$40,000?

Technical Service Director Snyderburn said that is what it is.

Mayor Togliatti said but we are not even sure that it's an accurate number because Tanco has to negotiate all of this with First Energy. They are assuming that these prices are going to be accurate prior to the negotiations, the court hearings, the mediations and all that.

Councilperson Asseff said well that's a lot of stuff to go through, and for me for \$40,000, I don't think it's worth the fight for \$40,000. I may be in Maple Shade, and you may be visiting.

Technical Service Director Snyderburn said why I am here, and I want you to discuss it. I want Council to discuss it. I would like to have First Energy come in and bring their rep and explain the program to us because the sooner we get this going, the sooner we are going to start realizing the savings. I mean \$170,000 a year is not peanuts. We really should start this program right away. We should start getting it underway.

We could have Tanco come in and say here's what we have to offer. I just want to make sure everyone has all the information so that we could make a decision and run with that decision sooner than later because the longer we wait, the more money we are losing. That's all I want to do. I wanted to present it to the Utilities Committee first because I figured.

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Chairman Trakas said I would make a motion to go ahead and start doing that and to call a meeting at the earliest convenience of First Energy and Tanco; I think we should hear from everybody just so we have all the information and anyone else who wants to make a presentation.

Technical Service Director Snyderburn said well I think those are two companies. Obviously, we are dealing with First Energy, and Tanco has history. They have all the data.

Chairman Trakas said let's do that as soon as possible, and then we make a recommendation to Council and the Mayor and make an appropriation for whatever we want.

Councilperson Asseff said I'm sitting here thinking what we pay for fireworks.

Mayor Togliatti asked do you want to spend more?

Councilperson Asseff said no, we are talking \$40,000 difference versus the \$21,000 a year we pay for fireworks. What do we have after a half hour? Nothing.

Chairman Trakas said memories.

Technical Service Director Snyderburn said obviously Mayor to bring it up before a Council meeting is not enough time I think.

Mayor Togliatti said scheduling a Council Workshop.

Chairman Trakas said we have March 26<sup>th</sup> coming up, right? Can they be here?

Technical Service Director Snyderburn asked March 26<sup>th</sup>?

Chairman Trakas said we have one coming up.

Technical Service Director Snyderburn said I think we can do it then. What time is that?

The Clerk said 4:30 p.m.

Technical Service Director Snyderburn said I will invite them both if that's okay.

Procurement Coordinator Zdolshek asked do you want both competitors here the same day?

Chairman Trakas said I think so.

Councilperson Asseff said I think so. They are gentlemen.

Technical Service Director Snyderburn said we could schedule Tanco to come in a little bit later and hear from First Energy first, or either way.

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Councilperson Asseff said we have done that before. We have some come in, and then they are gone.

Chairman Trakas said it's competition. They are big boys, they can take it. Maybe they will get sharper pencils while they are sitting there listening to the presentation. I love where you are going with this. It's fantastic. We would be the first city in the state, is that right?

Technical Service Director Snyderburn said if we went with Tanco, we would definitely be the first city. There is nobody in the state that has done that. Right now First Energy came out with this, and I think the only one that they did so far. They completed Lindale which had 50 streetlights, but they are negotiating right now with Euclid I think and a couple others. Euclid has about 4,000 streetlights. If we could get on board with them; think about your savings, in two years you would have saved your money.

Chairman Trakas said if I am hearing you, you like the Tanco proposal better than the First Energy.

Technical Service Director Snyderburn said I'm going to tell you what, I don't know. I want to get the most savings out of it. First Energy is one of our utilities. I don't want to do something where you take them to court, and we would be the first one to win; and then all of a sudden we have a power outage, and they say well we will get to Brecksville before we get to Independence. I don't know if that might happen, but it could.

Councilperson Asseff said what I would like to see is an opinion from O'Brien what it would take if we had to go to court because of the cost and those kinds of things. That is added into this cost.

Chairman Trakas said it's not very expensive to do that.

Technical Service Director Snyderburn said I would love to put it on the Agenda if that's not too big of an agenda on March 26<sup>th</sup>. I could get both entities here. I am sure I could get a rep from both companies.

Chairman Trakas said it sounds very prudent. Now the only other thing I would suggest is are there any solar lights or anything else that we are not thinking about. I am a big believer in LED. We are talking outside now. Is there anything that could be innovative that could save us even more money?

Technical Service Director Snyderburn said the only thing is we have been discussing, and they are going to use GE fixtures. First Energy uses GE fixtures which I am big fan of. The only other thing that could be integrated into these lights are cameras and different things like photo cells. So, we aren't sure exactly what scope of what could be done there.

Chairman Trakas said the Police might like those.

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Technical Service Director Snyderburn said there are a lot of different ways to save money on these lights. As far as, the LED is just the way to go. You are using 1/5 of the electricity.

Chairman Trakas said beautiful.

Technical Service Director Snyderburn said it's a lot nicer light.

Chairman Trakas said it's a better light, and it's a more consistent light and it's cheaper.

Technical Service Director Snyderburn said and this all started too with you know Rockside Road. There are three different color lights. There is no conformity on Rockside Road. When we did Rockside Road, it was all mercury vapor lights; and it was all nice and bright white. Now First Energy obviously they want to save money on fixtures, they put in high pressure sodiums; and there are all different lights there. There is no unity, and LED will make it much nicer.

Chairman Trakas said from a safety perspective as well. You have one consistent lighting system, and people's eyes get used to it. This changes.

Councilperson Asseff asked what is the life cycle of an LED bulb?

Technical Service Director Snyderburn said an LED bulb, they say 100,000 hours.

Councilperson Asseff said we have that savings too on that.

Procurement Coordinator Zdolshek said the LED's, they don't degrade over time. Dave, you probably know what the loss is between the different.

Technical Service Director Snyderburn said some of these other bulbs burn at 40%, 50%. They will still light, but they are only burning at 50%.

Procurement Coordinator Zdolshek said where the LED will remain constant.

Technical Service Director Snyderburn said it's just a huge savings. We are doing this building right now. We did the Police side already, but we are doing the City Hall side.

Councilperson Asseff said what it sounds like is this is something we want to do, and we want to get the best deal out of it, whatever that best deal is.

Technical Service Director Snyderburn said we want to get it done and start realizing the savings. There are not many communities that did their streetlights. Everybody is doing their buildings, and the buildings are just a huge savings. I will get off the subject. Real quick, our gymnasium, our handball courts, we did it with sensors so that the gymnasium would burn at 10%, and the handball courts are off. So, you walk in there, the handball courts go on, the gymnasium goes up to 100% at the Civic Center. We had 1,500 watt. Those were high pressure sodiums and mercs; but they were 1,500 watt. It burned a ton of electricity. We had them on for seven days, twelve hours a day. Our electrical costs were \$8,300 a year just for those two courts.

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They burned up a lot of juice. We took that cost down to \$780 a year with sensoring and LED's. That's the savings. It's unbelievable. These lights, we have had LED's in the parking lot. The first parking lot we did was the Service Department. I think those are about four years old, and I have yet to have one fixture go bad. Not one fixture, and they are four years old. It's just a great savings.

Chairman Trakas said one last thing on that. So, you are doing all of City Hall. What buildings remain to be done on LED, and what do you need?

Technical Service Director Snyderburn said we had the Fire station done, the Police station. We are doing most of the Civic Center; and we are going room by room. We just did the Willow Room. The Annex I have to do yet, but those are T5's and T8's; so those were the best version at the time. Those weren't the T12 fluorescents. We are going building by building, but mainly we are doing parking lots too. All of City Hall's parking lot is done. We are getting them done. I just bought eight new fixtures for the pond. Those are all LED's. The front lights in City Hall, those are all LED's. Everything is going LED.

Chairman Trakas said wonderful. Anything else to come before the committee? There was nothing else to come before the committee.

**Moved by Councilperson Asseff, seconded by Councilperson Veverka, to adjourn the Utilities Committee meeting of March 5, 2019. Voice Vote: 3 yes/0 no; motion carried.**

There being no further business, the Utilities Committee meeting was adjourned at 5:17 p.m.

