

**STREET COMMITTEE MEETING
SUGARBUSH DR.
MAY 14, 2020 7:00 P.M. (VIA ZOOM)**

Present: Mayor, Councilman Carroll, Street Commissioner Alder, Councilman Berger
Fiscal Officer Romanowski (recording)

Visitors: Sugarbush Residents: Kyle Canter and Keith Roberts; Ray Schloss, Mapleridge

The Mayor stated that the Engineer could not be present for the meeting and that Councilman Mark Porter and other residents of the Sugarbush neighborhood were expected. The Mayor stated on June 8th at 7:30 p.m., he would like to have a representative of the Sugarbush neighborhood present at the Council meeting to discuss the status of the matter. The Mayor stated on July 20th, at 7:00 p.m. there would be a storm water meeting. He explained that over 40 people had reported water in their homes, and the Mayor stated there would be an article in Chagrin Valley Times. He advised that the reporter wanted to interview a resident, and the Mayor said he would reach out to Giovani or Chris to speak about storm water and what they had experienced.

The Mayor said he had not contacted the people from Fox Run yet because he wanted to be able to speak to them face to face. He said he would go out to see the Madison Cemetery when the weather was decent. Last on his list to talk about was that the Engineer was going to give some ideas of what he wanted to do, which he would have the Street Commissioner discuss. The Street Commissioner said he had not had an opportunity to walk over to the neighborhood and look at everything. The Mayor stated that what the Engineer told him was that the Village should get a baseline as to the condition of the Sugarbush silt pond to determine the height and depth of the water. The Mayor said the thought was that the Village would get it cleaned out so that in 2022, the Village could assess the potential damage caused by the Manor Brook 319 project construction. The Mayor stated that something was definitely going to happen to Sugarbush in 2021 during the Manor Brook construction, so if the Village could have a benchmark in 2020, by 2022 the Village could return the area to what it was in 2020. Canter stated that if the baseline were taken now, it could be based on poor conditions. He asked if the Mayor meant that the baseline would be taken after silt was removed in 2020. The Mayor stated yes. Canter clarified that it would not be done now, but after removal. He added that the community would not want the condition to be returned to its current state. Canter did not suspect it would get anywhere near the current condition just from the construction that would take place. The Mayor said the Engineer wanted to get it cleaned up and get a baseline. The Mayor stated these were the Engineer's thoughts at this point. Once the Engineer and Street Commissioner could assess the situation, they would have a better idea of whether it was possible. He stated this was the general thought now.

Canter offered to assist the Street Commissioner and Engineer by taking them on the lake by boat. The Street Commissioner asked if there was a barrier between the lake and the silt pond, and Roberts stated it was a baffle. He added that this had worked well, but the volume of water had been too much for the baffle to handle. The silt had overrun the silt pond. The Street

Commissioner asked if the baffle was intact, and Roberts verified it was. Canter stated that the discussion needed to include the lake in addition to the silt pond, because the silt had overrun into the lake. Canter stated that there was a part of the lake that was one to two feet deep now. Roberts stated that the community had a contract for the maintenance of the lake for many years. The contractor previously used the silt pond to enter the lake, but for the past several years, they had been unable to do this. They had to enter from various residents' properties instead.

Canter verified that on June 8th, the Mayor's expectation would be that the Street Commissioner and Engineer would do their due diligence by then and asked whether they would then present a suggestion to Council for a vote. The Mayor stated that the Engineer and Street Commissioner would provide an update and allow the Sugarbush residents to say where they think the situation was to be sure everyone was on the same page. Then, it would be determined if Council wanted to go ahead and do something. The Mayor said it was an issue of what the Village was really going to do. If the Mayor, Street Commissioner, and the Engineer reported to Council that they agreed they should go onto the Sugarbush property, it would be a change for the Village with entering onto private property. He added that they would have a general and frank discussion as to what would be done. The Mayor stated he did not see any formal action taken, just the idea that they would be trying to work it out together. He thought it should be said in front of all the members of Council with the residents sitting there.

Carroll stated that he was aware members of the community had previously presented their issue to Council. Carroll said he reviewed the minutes from the last meeting and thought some of the proposals seemed reasonable and added that in Chagrin Lakes, when the assisted living facility was being built, part of the building deposit was used to address runoff issues caused by the project. He would imagine the Manor Brook project would also have a construction deposit placed, and if the appropriate actions were not taken to reduce the silt from flowing into the Sugarbush silt pond, he would propose that some of that money from the construction deposit be used to correct the issue. Carroll hoped that there would be very little impact. He recalled from the Council meeting in which the residents presented the problem that it seemed like the Bell Road and culvert replacement caused a lot of issues in the pond. Carroll further stated that the Village attempted to clean it out but did not do very well. He agreed the Village should examine this. In summary, he thought the June 8th meeting would be a good opportunity to recap the issue and hear from the Engineer and Street Commissioner. Carroll advised that Council would need to know about pricing, and he observed from the minutes that the Street Department would perform the work. Carroll stated if Council elected to go this route, it was important to do it the right way with the right equipment so that the Village did not find itself in the same position several years down the line. He cautioned against not really fixing the problem by thinking the Village could do it on its own.

Canter thanked Carroll and stated that if it were done right this time, what is done in 2022 should be a simple, from the shore cleaning. The residents are happy to help put things in place to control it and make it easy to take care of at this point. Canter stated that what the community had in mind was dropping the lake two to three feet, and then it would be an exercise of machine and manhours. He thought it was fairly straightforward, although it could turn into a bigger

project. The dam side of the lake would allow them to put a simple siphon in place to drain water over the other side where it already was going, and to drop the lake easily.

Roberts advised that it was always the residents' intention to partner with the Village and were not looking for anything unreasonable. He stated that the Sugarbush lake receives about 25% of the runoff for the Village of South Russell, compared to Chagrin Lakes which receives about 10%. They would continue to be the recipient of this volume of runoff, so it was a management exercise. The community wanted to partner with the Village to manage it so that it did not become a greater issue downstream, which Roberts saw as a possibility. He thought for the first time they were on the right track.

Canter stated that part of the problem was that Sugarbush now received more water and silt, which was reflective of other improvements in the Village. He explained that they understood this and were happy to manage it. However, what had occurred was part of a singular or a couple of events over a short period of time.

Carroll stated that if the issue were managed with the Village as a partnership this time, it would be to remedy that which was not fixed properly the first time potentially. He thought this was reasonable, but beyond that there were many communities with lakes and silt ponds, and this could be a slippery slope for the Village to be put in a position of managing all the communities' silt ponds. The Street Commissioner addressed Carroll and stated that the Service Department would have to contract the work out because it did not have the proper equipment. Carroll added that there were also challenges with disposing of the silt.

The Mayor asked if either Canter or Roberts recalled Emil Neuman, and neither of them new of him. The Mayor stated that Neuman, who lives on Chelsea Ct., sent him a video of flooding and said Neuman knew the Sugarbush issues and was concerned that the Village's actions would make things worse for him. The video was of flooding on June 29, 2016. Roberts stated he would sober Neuman up by saying that if the Sugarbush lake were not there, then Chelsea Ct. would be the recipient of all the silt that Sugarbush was trying to manage. He added that 40% of South Russell's runoff would be draining into the Chelsea Ct. property. He felt any mitigation on the part of Sugarbush was a positive to Neuman. Roberts stated he would be happy to speak to him with an Engineer present to answer his questions. Canter stated that if the Sugarbush lake was operating correctly, it would provide an increased buffer for Chelsea Ct. Roberts stated that he thought there were significant funds spent by the Village on the control of water entering that development. He viewed that this was a positive for their water management. If the problem was not managed, the water and silt would flow straight into their development.

Carroll stated that water management was tricky and hoped that the Manor Brook project would serve to benefit and not compound the problem for everyone.

The Mayor stated that in 2004, the Village spent \$470,000 on the issue in Chelsea Ct.

Carroll stated he wanted to be clear that at the meeting on June 8th, the Street Commissioner, and the Engineer as well as residents of Sugarbush would be present to review the matter.

The meeting was concluded at _____ p.m.



Michael Carroll

Prepared by Leslie Galicki