

VILLAGE OF BRATENAHL  
10300 BRIGHTON ROAD  
BRATENAHL, OHIO 44108  
(216) 383-0468

PUBLIC IMPROVEMENTS COMMITTEE

MARCH 9, 2023

5:30 p.m.

JOYCE BURKE-JONES, CHAIR

GINA HUFFMAN

ROBERT YONCHAK

NANCY L. MOLNAR, RPR, CLR

3

1 approved.  
2 MS. BURKE-JONES: Second?  
3 MS. HUFFMAN: So move. Oh, second.  
4 MS. BURKE-JONES: Yes. Okay. All those  
5 in favor.  
6 AYES: 3. NAYS: 0.  
7 MS. BURKE-JONES: All right. Minutes  
8 have been approved from our February 15th  
9 meeting.  
10 We'll be moving on right now to what's  
11 our first agenda item. Number 3, sewer repair  
12 policy in the street right-of-way. We have  
13 talked about this generally in a number of  
14 meetings, but this is the first time that we're  
15 trusting addressing this specifically on its own.  
16 Mayor Licastro was unable to attend this  
17 meeting. He did mention these few issues. He  
18 did say that Bratenahl is not unique having  
19 homeowners responsible for maintaining laterals  
20 and referenced Don Bierut has this information.  
21 We are, however, almost the only community that  
22 maintains and replaces and plows sidewalks.  
23 Third, he mentioned when there's a sewer problem,  
24 homeowners are quick to blame the lateral. It  
25 often turns out to be a different issue. If we

2

1 MS. BURKE-JONES: It's 5:30, so we'll  
2 call the meeting to order. In attendance, Ms.  
3 Huffman?  
4 MS. HUFFMAN: Here.  
5 MS. BURKE-JONES: Mr. Yonchak?  
6 MR. YONCHAK: Here.  
7 MS. BURKE-JONES: I'm here, Joyce  
8 Burke-Jones. So all three of us are in  
9 attendance today.  
10 MR. McDONALD: I'm here.  
11 MR. BENJAMIN: We don't count.  
12 (Laughter.)  
13 MS. BURKE-JONES: Not in this meeting,  
14 but you always count.  
15 MS. HUFFMAN: You'll count sooner than  
16 later.  
17 MS. BURKE-JONES: You're going to wish  
18 you're not counted today.  
19 Okay. So let's first approve the prior  
20 meeting minutes. Did everyone have a chance to  
21 take a look at those?  
22 MS. HUFFMAN: Yes.  
23 MS. BURKE-JONES: May I have someone  
24 recommend that they approve them?  
25 MR. YONCHAK: I make a motion they be

4

1 took over the maintenance of laterals, this could  
2 add to the expense in his opinion. The fourth,  
3 expense is a huge factor to consider. Fifth, to  
4 his knowledge, only one resident has a vocal  
5 objection. And number six, he says that to take  
6 over laterals and forego the sidewalk policy will  
7 affect many residents who walk with pets and walk  
8 for exercise.  
9 I thought that it might be a good idea  
10 to have Don Bierut, our community engineer, just  
11 kind of give us an overall understanding of what  
12 the issue is and what we specifically -- how we  
13 compare with other communities and how this might  
14 impact our community.  
15 MR. BIERUT: Okay. I can do that. I  
16 think everybody has a copy of the memo I wrote  
17 late last year, but let's start in real a big  
18 picture so we know what we're talking about. My  
19 apologies in advance if this is too basic, but  
20 when you -- each home has a connection that runs  
21 from its sanitary system, toilet, washer, dryer,  
22 whatever, sink, underground out to the street  
23 usually. Out to a main in front of the home or  
24 the parcel.  
25 In between, usually in between the home

1 and the parcel is a thing called a cleanout,  
2 which is near the sidewalk. It's usually where  
3 the right-of-way starts, divide line between the  
4 public right-of-way and private right-of-way. So  
5 there's a cleanout there that functions as you  
6 would expect, it's a cleanout of the system  
7 usually from that point to the street or to the  
8 main and the street.

9 Bratenahl's policy for as long as I've  
10 been here is, and predates me by God knows how  
11 long, but it's been that the resident is  
12 responsible for the lateral from the home to the  
13 main. So those are the basics.

14 We represent I think it's 21 different  
15 communities just like Bratenahl, but all over the  
16 place from Lyndhurst, Pepper Pike, Bedford  
17 Heights, Maple Heights, I won't name them all,  
18 Brunswick, Avon, Avon Lake, all over the place.

19 And I didn't do a formal survey, but I  
20 investigated most of the communities. And I know  
21 Pepper Pike they're responsible to the main, from  
22 the main to the home. Others are responsible  
23 from the home to the cleanout and then cleanout  
24 to the street it's different. It's handled --  
25 I'll put it this way -- I won't even put it this

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1 way. I was going to say it's not their  
2 responsibility, but that's not really true. Many  
3 communities in Cuyahoga County belong to a  
4 program that the county Department of Public  
5 Works has where you pay a per foot assessment on  
6 your property. And it can be like a dollar a  
7 foot or something like that. Obviously depending  
8 on how wide your property is, it's going to  
9 affect you differently.

10 The county collects -- through an  
11 agreement with municipality, the county collects  
12 that money, puts it on your taxes just like  
13 property taxes, it's put into a fund that only  
14 your community can use and you can draw on that  
15 and have the county do work in your community.  
16 So, you know, a dollar a foot doesn't sound that  
17 much, but by a lot of feet and a lot of houses it  
18 adds up.

19 What happens in many of these  
20 communities is that assessment money is used to  
21 clean out from the cleanout to the street in  
22 many, many communities we represent in Cuyahoga  
23 County, many, I'll leave it at that. I try to  
24 avoid leaving anybody out.

25 There are a couple of them, in a couple

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1 of them they're not part of that thing and part  
2 of that agreement and either the city fixes it or  
3 they hire somebody to fix it. Now, there are  
4 ways it can be paid to fix it. And that's why I  
5 said the municipality pays for it. Well, not  
6 really, because we're all paying for it. If  
7 you're paying an assessment, you're paying for  
8 it. It's going into the pool.

9 And by the way, that pool can be used  
10 also, they'll come and fix a catch basin.  
11 They'll come and do other stuff. It's your bank  
12 account, you can do it. But that also affects --  
13 it's village-wide and you're going to pay that.  
14 I'm not here to sell that. I'm trying to give  
15 some background on it.

16 As far as my experience in the Village  
17 with big -- entering the right-of-way to fix a  
18 lateral, I mentioned in the memo, it's only a  
19 couple in my years here. Now, I don't have any  
20 idea what goes on that I don't know about.  
21 Usually if it's in the public right-of-way, I  
22 know about it, but that doesn't mean that the  
23 lateral is not being fixed up to the curb or  
24 something.

25 I also mentioned in the memo there's a

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1 lot of parcels in town. And I did simple math  
2 that we can all do, if 10 percent of them go bad  
3 at \$1,000 a piece, it can cost us X amount. I  
4 think it was \$90,000 a year, something like that,  
5 which obviously is considerable.

6 What we do find out in a lot of  
7 communities is as soon as somebody has an issue,  
8 they call the Service Department or the whoever  
9 in the community. "I have a problem. And by the  
10 way, your problem, come fix it."

11 And then more often than not it's  
12 between the house and the cleanout and there's a  
13 -- it hasn't been maintained. Not everybody --  
14 rarely do people think about it that often and  
15 have it cleaned. It's the kind of thing that  
16 most people address it when there's a problem.  
17 Flush the toilet, no problem, but when you have a  
18 problem, it's a problem and that's when people  
19 address it. But for the most part, in our  
20 experience, it's between the home and the  
21 cleanout. I don't know if I've answered any  
22 questions you have.

23 MS. BURKE-JONES: Quick question, when  
24 there's a repair required from the cleanout and  
25 the main, and it's the homeowner's responsibility

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1 to pay for it, is it their contractor or do we  
2 have a contractor ourselves?

3 MR. BIERUT: No, it's their contractor.

4 MS. BURKE-JONES: So that solution, are  
5 you looking at the solution?

6 MR. BIERUT: Yes. Once they're going to  
7 do a street opening, they have to apply for a  
8 street opening permit. And that's the point what  
9 are you doing and they have to show us what  
10 they're doing. And as they do it, before they  
11 can backfill, we inspect it and things like that,  
12 but, again, it doesn't happen all that often, so  
13 it's just been a few times.

14 MR. McDONALD: You stated a rough  
15 estimate of how much it costs. I think it was  
16 per foot or something.

17 MR. BIERUT: Through the county?

18 MR. McDONALD: Yeah.

19 MR. BIERUT: That program is -- and I'm  
20 sorry I kind of muddied the waters with that  
21 fund, but it can be whatever the Village wants it  
22 to be.

23 MR. McDONALD: What is normal?

24 MR. BIERUT: Well, I think some  
25 communities it's a buck or a buck and a half a

1 foot. Other communities --

2 MR. McDONALD: Per year?

3 MR. BIERUT: Per year, yeah. So it's  
4 not much. It doesn't seem like much, but again,  
5 it adds up. In some communities they have three  
6 funds they use for the sanitary, the storm and  
7 water. So it may be \$4 a foot. It's also kind  
8 of a tax, too, you know, or the county can call  
9 it a fee. If you're on the receiving end, you  
10 might call it a tax.

11 MS. BURKE-JONES: Right. Okay. Any  
12 questions in general terms?

13 MS. HUFFMAN: I just want to get it  
14 straight. So Mr. Bierut, you said that it's the  
15 responsibility of the homeowners from the home to  
16 the main.

17 MR. BIERUT: Correct, currently.

18 MS. HUFFMAN: Currently. That's what we  
19 all have.

20 MR. BIERUT: Correct.

21 MS. HUFFMAN: So the home being, I don't  
22 know, in your lawn to the tree lawn where the  
23 main is.

24 MR. BIERUT: The main could be anywhere  
25 from right in front of your house to in the

1 street to across the street. It varies by where  
2 you live.

3 MS. HUFFMAN: And that's for every  
4 parcel.

5 MR. BIERUT: Yeah. I don't know of  
6 anybody in the Village that's still on a septic  
7 system, or they may be, but if the county was  
8 aware of that, they would not allow that.

9 MS. HUFFMAN: And so you were expressing  
10 that it's only a problem when it's a problem.

11 MR. BIERUT: Right.

12 MS. HUFFMAN: But do other communities  
13 do something where they try to assess if there's  
14 a potential problem coming? Do they do  
15 preventive things to kind of pinpoint if there  
16 may be a problem?

17 MR. BIERUT: They may televise the  
18 mains, but no communities that I'm aware of look  
19 up the main towards your house and see if you  
20 have a problem.

21 MS. HUFFMAN: How would they do that if  
22 they were to?

23 MR. BIERUT: You can do it in a few  
24 ways. You can run a camera up the line, you  
25 know, a small camera and they push it, you can

1 see if there's roots or there's cracks. You can  
2 smoke test, you can dye test, things like that,  
3 BUT it's usually a camera.

4 MS. HUFFMAN: Okay. And so there are  
5 certain companies that do that kind of work?

6 MR. BIERUT: Yeah. It's well-known as  
7 Roto-Rooter type things to a big United Survey.  
8 There's no shortage of people that will do that.

9 MS. HUFFMAN: Would you have an average  
10 cost of something like those type of tests?

11 MR. BIERUT: No, I don't. I used \$1,000  
12 just as a place to start. I think it depends on  
13 what they find. If they put the camera through  
14 and you can only go five feet, well, it's a  
15 problem and it's going to cost more than that, or  
16 if the camera doesn't show anything between your  
17 house and the main, well, it's a main problem.

18 MS. HUFFMAN: Say that to me one more  
19 time.

20 MR. BIERUT: If the cameras is all the  
21 way from your house to the main and it shows you  
22 are running clear, there's no obstructions and no  
23 tree roots, then the problem would be in the  
24 main.

25 MS. HUFFMAN: Okay. And then with the

1 main, we're responsible for that as well?  
 2 MR. BIERUT: No, the Village is.  
 3 MS. HUFFMAN: The Village is responsible  
 4 for that.  
 5 MR. BIERUT: If you're looking out this  
 6 window, the line right to the street and then  
 7 running down the street at a 90 degrees is the  
 8 Village, my run that way is my responsibility or  
 9 the homeowner responsibility.  
 10 MS. BURKE-JONES: Gina.  
 11 MS. HUFFMAN: I've had it happen to me  
 12 before.  
 13 MR. BIERUT: I thought so. Me, too.  
 14 MS. HUFFMAN: Okay.  
 15 MS. BURKE-JONES: Bob, do you have a  
 16 question?  
 17 MR. YONCHAK: Yes, I have a couple. I  
 18 have an issue with the cleanout to the main,  
 19 that's the issue.  
 20 MR. BIERUT: Yeah.  
 21 MR. YONCHAK: So where is the cleanout  
 22 always located? Is it always located in the  
 23 sidewalk, is it always located in the street or  
 24 is it located in the yard?  
 25 MR. BIERUT: "Always" is a tough one.  
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1 It's usually -- it's not located in the street.  
 2 It's usually, like in the case right here would  
 3 be a good example, would probably be right near  
 4 the sidewalk on our side of the sidewalk, on the  
 5 homeowner's side of the sidewalk, which is where  
 6 the right-of-way normally is.  
 7 MR. YONCHAK: Okay. So there's kind of  
 8 three types of homes in Bratenahl. There's homes  
 9 on Lake Shore, there's homes off of Lake Shore  
 10 and there's Bratenahl Place.  
 11 MR. BIERUT: Correct.  
 12 MR. YONCHAK: So the homes off Lake  
 13 Shore usually have a smaller yard. And the homes  
 14 on Lake Shore have larger yards. Does that make  
 15 any difference in the distance between the  
 16 cleanout and the main depending on the home and  
 17 how is Bratenahl Place treated with having 400  
 18 people located at it with a cleanout to the main?  
 19 MR. BIERUT: I'll start with Bratenahl  
 20 Place first. Like any apartment building or  
 21 condo building, everybody is tied in, all the  
 22 floors and everything are tied in. And then  
 23 usually there's one large sanitary connection  
 24 running from the building out to the street.  
 25 There's just one. Usually a cleanout in the same  
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1 spot.  
 2 MR. YONCHAK: So if there's a block in  
 3 the cleanout at Bratenahl Place, we would likely  
 4 be looking at an assessment, so 400 people, the  
 5 homeowners association right now, because we  
 6 would look and assess that.  
 7 MR. BIERUT: Yeah.  
 8 MR. YONCHAK: And they probably have a  
 9 bigger cleanout. Does that make a difference in  
 10 price of doing it type of work?  
 11 MR. BIERUT: Yeah, it would be depending  
 12 on what the problem was, it makes -- for a bigger  
 13 building like that you can have a higher price.  
 14 MR. YONCHAK: Talk to me about the homes  
 15 on Lake Shore.  
 16 MR. BIERUT: So on Lake Shore, the run  
 17 from the home to the cleanout, if it's behind the  
 18 sidewalks, there are sidewalks there just like  
 19 any other street is obviously the setback is much  
 20 farther, that run to that cleanout is going to be  
 21 much greater. It's pretty far away.  
 22 MR. YONCHAK: So the cost would be  
 23 greater to do that to ensure that. I mean, the  
 24 assessments, a tax, and insurance basically  
 25 that's what it basically is.  
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1 MR. BIERUT: Yeah.  
 2 MR. YONCHAK: So they would be paying  
 3 more if we did that.  
 4 MR. BIERUT: Let me stop there. Excuse  
 5 me, on Lake Shore, the county assessment is based  
 6 on your frontage, not the distance back to the  
 7 house, but on how much you run parallel to the  
 8 street.  
 9 MR. YONCHAK: Well, that's a lot more.  
 10 MR. BIERUT: It certainly is, yeah. And  
 11 you can argue that your house is a lot further  
 12 back, but anyway, I wouldn't argue that because  
 13 I'm having both sides of my argument here. The  
 14 distance from the cleanout to the main may be  
 15 about the same as it is here, not that different.  
 16 MR. YONCHAK: So the dollar foot is  
 17 assessed on frontage.  
 18 MR. BIERUT: Frontage.  
 19 MR. YONCHAK: That's a horse of a  
 20 different color.  
 21 MR. BIERUT: It certainly is.  
 22 MR. YONCHAK: The cost of an assessment  
 23 or a tax would be based on your frontage, not the  
 24 space between your cleanout and the main.  
 25 MR. BIERUT: Right. That's correct.  
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1 MR. YONCHAK: So is it more common for  
2 this problem to happen where there are lots of  
3 trees? Like, for instance, a lot of the homes  
4 off of Lake Shore have more trees.

5 MR. BIERUT: Generally speaking, I would  
6 say that, yes. I didn't answer your other two  
7 questions. Do you want to go back to those?

8 MR. YONCHAK: Yes, go back.

9 MR. BIERUT: I don't recall what they  
10 were.

11 MR. YONCHAK: I mean, it was -- I mean,  
12 it's about the three different types of homes.

13 MR. BIERUT: Right. Okay. Yeah,  
14 they're all kind of the same distance between the  
15 cleanout and the main, plus or minus. The  
16 difference is going to be obviously the frontage  
17 and how far a home sits back.

18 MR. YONCHAK: That's for tax. How about  
19 if all three cleanouts, types of cleanouts,  
20 Bratenahl Place forget it, but for a Lake Shore  
21 home versus and off of Lake Shore home, is there  
22 a big difference in getting this type of work  
23 done?

24 MR. BIERUT: Yes, I would say that.

25 MR. YONCHAK: What's the difference?  
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1 How is that calculated?

2 MR. BIERUT: The difference would be, if  
3 you can imagine, if you live on Lake Shore,  
4 you're cutting through Lakeshore Boulevard, which  
5 is going to be -- your traffic control cost would  
6 be higher. On all these streets, you don't know  
7 how deep the sanitary sewer is. That's a  
8 component of the cost. Just because it's Lake  
9 Shore doesn't mean it's deeper, but it varies  
10 from home to home.

11 This is a broad brush we're painting  
12 with here, but in general, I would say the Lake  
13 Shore would be more expensive because you're  
14 cutting Lake Shore and it's more of a hassle for  
15 the contractor to do.

16 MR. YONCHAK: Is there any private  
17 insurance that you're aware of that a homeowner  
18 could purchase to deal with this type of  
19 situation?

20 MR. BIERUT: I'm not --

21 MR. YONCHAK: I mean, we have says  
22 assessments. It's like a tax and the county  
23 handles it. Isn't there insurance that handles  
24 that?

25 MR. BIERUT: I can't speak to that. I  
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1 don't know.

2 MS. BURKE-JONES: I think Keith might  
3 have --

4 MR. OREL: Actually, I have to.

5 MS. GIUDICE: I have the insurance.

6 MR. OREL: Actually, you don't.

7 MS. GIUDICE: Yes, I do.

8 MR. OREL: Who is it with?

9 MS. GIUDICE: Erie Insurance.

10 MR. OREL: And they will work on the  
11 public right-of-way to the main or is it just on  
12 the outside perimeter of your house?

13 MS. GIUDICE: From the house to the  
14 main.

15 MR. OREL: You're sure of that?

16 MS. GIUDICE: Yes.

17 MR. OREL: You might want to  
18 double-check, because most insurance companies  
19 don't cover. Utility companies don't -- the  
20 utility insurance companies don't even include  
21 anything that's from your property to the main.  
22 Anything that's on the public right-of-way is not  
23 included, so you want to double-check that.

24 MS. GIUDICE: I will double-check.

25 MS. BURKE-JONES: Yes, Keith.  
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1 MR. BENJAMIN: Thank you, Madam Chair.  
2 I need to look at my policy again. I do have a  
3 policy that is offered from either the gas  
4 company or Cleveland water for both waterline and  
5 sewer line. I don't know if they cover from the  
6 cleanout to the street or not.

7 MR. OREL: They don't. I looked into  
8 it.

9 MR. BENJAMIN: I do recall that they  
10 will only pay for repair. They won't pay for the  
11 installation of new, if my recollection is  
12 correct.

13 MR. OREL: And that only includes,  
14 again, the perimeter of your house. That won't  
15 go from anything that's on the public  
16 right-of-way. It's a third-party insurance  
17 program. I called them up and asked them  
18 specifically and they won't go do anything that's  
19 on public right-of-way. So unless you have some  
20 other information to that, I actually called them  
21 up and asked them.

22 MS. BURKE-JONES: Thank you. Let's get  
23 back to Bob.

24 MR. YONCHAK: Mr. Bierut, in the  
25 communities that you work with and represent, do  
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1 you have an estimate, and I don't know if you do,  
2 about how many communities cover from the home to  
3 the main versus the home to the cleanout?

4 I mean, and if you don't, do you know  
5 where we could find that information for  
6 different communities?

7 MR. BIERUT: I don't know where you  
8 could find it aside from calling a Building  
9 Department and asking them what their policy or  
10 what -- I'd call the Service Department, I  
11 wouldn't call the Building Department. As I said  
12 in the memo, only one of our communities goes  
13 from the -- in Pepper Pike, they share the same  
14 thing that Bratenahl does as far as the policy.

15 The others it's a homeowner's home to  
16 the cleanout and then, as I said, the cleanout to  
17 the main is handled in a different manner via  
18 assessment, city crews or county crews I guess I  
19 could say.

20 MR. YONCHAK: So Building Department is  
21 where we would look.

22 MR. BIERUT: Or Service Department. The  
23 Building Department is probably more responsive,  
24 no offense to Dave, than the Service Department.

25 MR. YONCHAK: And just one last  
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1 question. Do you have an idea in the last 10  
2 years how many homes have had this problem in  
3 Bratenahl and where they're located?

4 MR. BIERUT: I think it was Burton.

5 MS. BURKE-JONES: Yes. It's 10211  
6 Burton Avenue and 10301 Burton Avenue.

7 MR. YONCHAK: There's a lot of trees  
8 there.

9 MR. BIERUT: Yeah. And I don't remember  
10 exactly what the issue was. And I think there  
11 were three and one of them was the same issue  
12 with the same house.

13 MS. BURKE-JONES: Same house.

14 MR. BIERUT: And they had to come back  
15 and redo their work.

16 MR. BENJAMIN: There may have been  
17 another one this past fall. I'm not sure what  
18 work that was.

19 MR. OREL: When the time comes, I can  
20 speak to a lot of that.

21 MS. BURKE-JONES: Any more comments from  
22 the committee --

23 MR. YONCHAK: I'm done.

24 MS. BURKE-JONES: -- or council members  
25 that are here? Let's open this up to the public

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1 for comments. Yes. Mr. Orel.

2 MR. OREL: First of all, here's just --  
3 I emailed you all this, so you should have had  
4 this already, but just so you don't, this is an  
5 actual invoice for the one that was on Brighton  
6 this past November I think it was. So that's  
7 what it actually cost. That's not -- that's  
8 literally what she had to pay out-of-pocket for.  
9 And that was just up the street here.

10 The one that Mr. Bierut was talking  
11 about on Burton, he -- again, I spoke to that. I  
12 emailed you all that one. And the one that you  
13 specifically supplied for was actually just for  
14 the -- was just on the tree lawn to the house to  
15 the cleanout. It was a very small run. There  
16 was another one a couple years later, let's see.  
17 Oh, yeah, this followed up the engineer referred  
18 work done at 10301 Burton Avenue. That work was  
19 done on 2016, December 16th.

20 However, that was just a tree lawn and  
21 on Mr. Eckart's property. The more pertinent job  
22 Mr. Bierut should have referred at the same  
23 property was permit number 18-0099, which  
24 occurred on 2019, February 06. That work was on  
25 the public right-of-way only. And it cost in  
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1 2019, \$18,000, and I attached to that.

2 MR. BIERUT: Fair enough. I want to  
3 reiterate, though, that I said I can only comment  
4 on the ones that I know about. But I don't know  
5 about that one. I wasn't called on that one. We  
6 didn't inspect it, that's for sure.

7 MR. OREL: But it was permitted.

8 MR. BIERUT: I don't have access or  
9 anything to do with the permitting process.

10 MR. OREL: But I'm just letting you know  
11 everything was up to spec.

12 MR. BIERUT: I'm not suggesting that,  
13 but as I said, I can only comment on what I know.

14 MS. BURKE-JONES: Excuse me, one quick  
15 question, I see this one on November 2022, I see  
16 it says replaced 25 feet of sanitary sewer, so  
17 that sounds like it's going to the house.

18 MR. OREL: Actually that was -- well, it  
19 wasn't exactly. I think that was part of their  
20 estimate, but it actually went from the tree  
21 lawn. I included pictures. It's all on your  
22 email. And it went from the tree lawn to the  
23 main.

24 MS. BURKE-JONES: Okay. So just ignore  
25 this 25 foot thing.

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1 MR. BENJAMIN: Can I ask a question?  
 2 MS. BURKE-JONES: Yes. Go ahead, Keith.  
 3 MR. BENJAMIN: I was looking for the  
 4 email. I'm still trying to find it. So what was  
 5 -- is the cost broken out for what the cost was  
 6 from the cleanout to the street?  
 7 MR. OREL: Yeah, it was that amount.  
 8 MR. BENJAMIN: It was that amount. So  
 9 that's not just to repair the entire thing.  
 10 MR. OREL: No.  
 11 MR. BENJAMIN: That's just the cleanout  
 12 to the street?  
 13 MR. OREL: Yes. And so was \$18,000 on  
 14 Burton Avenue in 2019, in February of 2019, that  
 15 was \$18,000 for exactly the same thing. So you  
 16 can understand that this is something that --  
 17 these were all-out of pocket expenses. There is,  
 18 like I said, unless you guys do have some  
 19 insurance policy that I'm unaware of, even my  
 20 State Farm, and I called two other insurance  
 21 companies, too, the most I can get for my house,  
 22 because it's more than 50 years old, for any  
 23 sewer repair is \$2,500. I will check Erie out  
 24 for that, but that's the most I can get.  
 25 And I also have a rental property. I  
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1 can't get no insurance for sewers for my rental  
 2 property that I do not live on. So there is  
 3 nothing that I can get for my -- even the utility  
 4 company insurance won't cover it. So anything  
 5 that happens on my rental property is out of my  
 6 pocket.  
 7 MS. BURKE-JONES: Okay.  
 8 MR. YONCHAK: I want to ask Mr. Bierut  
 9 another question by analogy. My mother's shower  
 10 was leaking downstairs into the first floor men's  
 11 bathroom in Bratenahl Place. I live on the first  
 12 floor. I had to get it replaced. It cost me  
 13 \$12,000. Now, this is on my property. So what's  
 14 the rationale for Villages or cities or anything  
 15 to make a private citizen pay for a repair on  
 16 public property?  
 17 MR. BIERUT: Let's be clear, I'm not  
 18 here to defend it.  
 19 MR. YONCHAK: I just want to know what's  
 20 the rationale for other Villages to do it? I'd  
 21 just like to know what's the rationale. There's  
 22 got to be a rationale.  
 23 MR. BIERUT: To work on private  
 24 property?  
 25 MR. YONCHAK: I mean, it's the public  
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1 right-of-way. It's not the people's property, is  
 2 it?  
 3 MR. BIERUT: No.  
 4 MR. YONCHAK: Is it the people's  
 5 property?  
 6 MR. BIERUT: In the communities that do  
 7 it either by assessment or by their own crews,  
 8 it's in the public right-of-way, so it's public  
 9 property.  
 10 MR. YONCHAK: It's public property.  
 11 MR. BIERUT: Right.  
 12 MR. OREL: If I may, in Lakewood, the  
 13 city takes responsibility at the sidewalk to the  
 14 main. Euclid takes responsibility from the  
 15 cleanout or testing, which in most cases is on  
 16 the private -- is on private property. And those  
 17 are just -- Cleveland goes from the tree lawn to  
 18 the main.  
 19 MS. BURKE-JONES: Okay. And yes, you  
 20 had your hand up a while ago.  
 21 MS. GIUDICE: Here's the problem. The  
 22 trees that were planted, I live on Brighton, I'm  
 23 a sitting duck. I think there's been four of  
 24 these yards torn to hell. The problem is the  
 25 inappropriate trees that were planted on the tree  
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1 lawn, those roots cannot handle the old clay  
 2 tiles. I'm not trying to throw her under the  
 3 bus, but Jeanne Lyons told me, because I said I  
 4 want that tree down, because I'm waiting for my  
 5 number to be called next.  
 6 Those trees should never have been  
 7 planted there. But somebody who was on the Shade  
 8 Committee a long time ago when John was around, I  
 9 know none of you were, she loved those trees and  
 10 they were inappropriate. And they're screwing up  
 11 everybody's yards.  
 12 MS. BURKE-JONES: What type of tree is  
 13 it?  
 14 MS. GIUDICE: Some type of maple.  
 15 They're not compatible with the clay tiles that  
 16 run -- all I can speak of is how many times I've  
 17 seen my neighbors' yards torn apart. Twice.  
 18 Tricia Pallem, who Mark was referring to, twice  
 19 her yard was torn apart and she had to pay. I  
 20 would love to have that tree taken down. And I'm  
 21 this close to just paying for it for myself,  
 22 because I don't care what kind of insurance I  
 23 have through Erie or through the water  
 24 department, I don't want my yard destroyed. I've  
 25 been through enough since I've been here all of  
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1 eight years.  
2 MS. BURKE-JONES: Pat, you had your hand  
3 up.

4 MS. MEADE: To Patty's point, don't cut  
5 the tree down, because the Village might ticket  
6 you for damaging Village property if they planted  
7 the tree. You don't want a ticket. You may have  
8 to get permission based on my experience.

9 MS. GIUDICE: Well, I'm going to pay one  
10 way or the other. I'm going to remove the tree  
11 or I'm going to have my yard destroy.

12 MS. MEADE: And then from tree lawns, if  
13 that's where most of the utility lines are  
14 buried, and they consider that a public  
15 right-of-way. In our situation because we went  
16 through being accused of damaging Village  
17 property and we did get ticketed and had to go to  
18 court. We had to look at the deed, the legal  
19 description in our deed. And it said we own from  
20 the center of the street across and wide.

21 So we own the tree lawn even though  
22 they're still a public right-of-way. So to Bob's  
23 point, it could be a public right-of-way, but it  
24 still could be private property. So everyone  
25 needs to look at their deed, the legal

1 description on their deed to know really what's  
2 what to know if the Village owns it, if the  
3 homeowner owns it, but I do agree with Shade  
4 Tree, and I served on Shade Tree from '01 until  
5 '14, and while those are public rights-of-way, I  
6 know Coit Road Shade Tree wanted to do a special  
7 project, because they did take out the trees  
8 because they were burrowing roots and they wanted  
9 to replace it.

10 They never did do the special project.  
11 And we actually wanted our tree taken out, so  
12 Coit Road is on the utility side of the tree  
13 lawn. There are no trees there now for that very  
14 reason you spoke of, because if there was ever a  
15 problem and the Village tree, quote, created the  
16 problem, you know, there might have been  
17 potential lawsuits with homeowners against the  
18 Village saying, hey, we didn't cause a problem,  
19 your tree did.

20 MS. GIUDICE: So were you on that  
21 commission when these trees were planted?

22 MS. MEADE: It depends on what time  
23 frame. If it was between '01 and '14, when  
24 Ronnie --

25 MS. GIUDICE: Ronnie loved those trees.

1 MS. MEADE: The maple, they planted them  
2 on Coit and it was the wrong tree for that space.  
3 And we can check minutes, but it was overruled.

4 MS. BURKE-JONES: Okay. Keith.

5 MR. GALESTOCK: Yes, thank you. Mr.  
6 Bierut, is your office in possession of a map for  
7 the Village that lays out all lines for the  
8 sewer?

9 MR. BIERUT: We have overall maps that  
10 show sanitary and storm sewers, their approximate  
11 locations, but those maps do not include maps of  
12 the laterals that go back to the homes.

13 MR. GALESTOCK: So that information does  
14 not exist. There's no place that shows all the  
15 laterals going to all the homes.

16 MR. BIERUT: That's correct. That's  
17 correct. And that's not unusual in an older  
18 community.

19 MR. GALESTOCK: Because part of the  
20 problem is if you don't know where your lines are  
21 going, you don't know anything. I can appreciate  
22 that. I asked Mary a long time in the Building  
23 Department and she couldn't help me, but it just  
24 seems strange to me that there's no census of all  
25 the lines running through this town. You'd think

1 that would be normal, but I'm naive, I don't  
2 know.

3 MR. BIERUT: It's very typical. Not  
4 only Bratenahl, but everywhere.

5 MR. GALESTOCK: My other question was,  
6 that pricked my ears is, who would be doing an  
7 assessment based on frontage and what's that for  
8 in a scenario you discussed earlier.

9 MR. BIERUT: Cuyahoga County offers an  
10 option or the opportunity if a community signs up  
11 for their program, the county will say okay, the  
12 Village would say yeah, we want to be part of  
13 this program or we would like our residents to be  
14 assessed a dollar, X amount of dollars per foot  
15 of frontage and it's put on your tax bill.

16 MR. GALESTOCK: That's to pay for what?

17 MR. BIERUT: Well, that you can pay for  
18 sanitary sewers or storm sewers or waterlines.  
19 It's a dedicated fund for that.

20 MR. GALESTOCK: It is by frontage not by  
21 square foot of your lot?

22 MR. BIERUT: No, by frontage.

23 MR. GALESTOCK: That particularly annoys  
24 me, because I have 300 feet of frontage.

25 MR. BIERUT: Sure. And same amount of



1 people using the facilities in your home as  
2 somebody who's got 50 feet of frontage, but  
3 you're paying the same. You're paying more for  
4 the same people.

5 MR. GALESTOCK: That would be a big raw  
6 deal because I'm a narrow long lot.

7 MS. MEADE: But if there's a problem  
8 then does the Village get to decide how that  
9 money is used? If like there's a complaint filed  
10 with someone on X street and there's a pool of  
11 money, does Council decide yes or no whether you  
12 can use those funds for that dollar or can they  
13 say no?

14 MR. BIERUT: I'm not aware of in any of  
15 the communities that have this funding mechanism  
16 in place, I'm not aware of any Council action  
17 that's required. It's typically somebody calls  
18 and calls city hall, village hall, or the calls  
19 the village and says I've got a problem with my  
20 lateral, I've got a problem, period.

21 The village would call the county, the  
22 county would send a crew out and they investigate  
23 the problem. And they may say you have a problem  
24 and it's your problem or you have a problem and  
25 it's in the street, we'll take care of it, but

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1 there's no Council action or anything like that.  
2 It's a pool of money that's used at the  
3 discretion of the municipalities.

4 MS. BURKE-JONES: Any other comments?  
5 Yes.

6 MR. P. KESSELEM: I'm in the middle of a  
7 couple of conversations, but very old home,  
8 hundred-year-old home and I had that problem with  
9 roots. So I finally dug from my house to pretty  
10 much the sidewalk. I never had a trap. I  
11 established a trap, so I'm building it out. Now  
12 with this news, I'm responsible from the trap or  
13 the cleanout to the main. And I live in a corner  
14 of the Village which is nothing but large trucks,  
15 heavy equipment, and all kinds of things, plus  
16 more trees.

17 So in a lot of ways I feel like it's  
18 kind of stacked against me if I have a problem,  
19 because even though I clean it out every couple  
20 years, just that traffic alone I'm concerned  
21 about. So I'm asking Council or just go back to  
22 Council and consider some sort of funding that  
23 would help especially a boulevard or a side  
24 street handle that, because I don't even know  
25 where the mains are on Lakeshore Boulevard. I

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1 don't know if they're in the middle.

2 MR. BIERUT: Lake Shore is a long  
3 boulevard, so it can be on both sides or north  
4 side, south side or both.

5 MR. P. KESSELEM: It can be a small  
6 fortune just to correct that 15 feet.

7 MS. BURKE-JONES: Any other comments?  
8 Yes.

9 MR. OREL: Yeah, I'd like to respond to  
10 the Mayor's opening comments, as this, again, was  
11 in one of the letters I sent to Council as well.  
12 As the Mayor said, this is a rare occurrence. If  
13 this happens to a Bratenahl homeowner once every  
14 four years at a cost of \$25,000, that means the  
15 Village just needs to put aside \$6,250 a year.

16 Again, a homeowner should not have to  
17 lose their house because they cannot afford to  
18 make a repair that the vast majority of  
19 communities take responsibility for, especially  
20 when the cost to the Village is so small. Also,  
21 it is an uncodified policy. There is no code to  
22 support this policy.

23 I would think as a layman that if a  
24 homeowner took this to court, the Village could  
25 lose, especially since the Village does maintain

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1 the sidewalks and the trees and that would cost  
2 the Village far more than \$25,000, not to mention  
3 the black eye Council would have. What does the  
4 Council think the villagers would want this  
5 policy to be? Most villagers don't even know  
6 that this is the policy.

7 MR. P. KESSELEM: That's correct. We're  
8 assuming we're liable up to the sidewalk.

9 MR. OREL: Thank you.

10 MR. P. KESSELEM: And we've always been  
11 assuming that the Village's total responsibility  
12 and its choice is made on all of that  
13 right-of-way.

14 MR. OREL: This is also -- and this is  
15 the quote from the Mayor on 2023, January 13.  
16 There is nothing codified that permits to  
17 maintenance of sewers. Rather, it is  
18 longstanding policy that predates me, the Mayor,  
19 that the homeowner's responsible for the sewer  
20 lateral all the way to the main, whether the  
21 sanitary or storm. The answer to that question  
22 will not change no matter how many times or to  
23 whom it is asked. Mayor John Licastro. 2023,  
24 January 13. That was his quote.

25 MS. BURKE-JONES: Thank you.

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1 MS. HUFFMAN: Can I say something?

2 MS. BURKE-JONES: Yes, Gina.

3 MS. HUFFMAN: So based on this meeting  
4 today, this is an education it seems like for all  
5 of us. It is not a preconceived notion that  
6 we're supposed to know. Like Mr. Bierut said,  
7 something is wrong, you call. That is when you  
8 find out.

9 So what it sounds like to me is that  
10 what we're really working on is some type of  
11 project that needs to happen and a program to go  
12 with that project to address these issues. To  
13 me, it's not a conflict. This is something that  
14 has risen that we need to start to think about  
15 how to address. I mean, we've had good questions  
16 here and good inquiry. I had to idea about  
17 frontage versus square feet.

18 I, unfortunately, did experience this  
19 issue and it can cost you a small fortune. We  
20 also have to consider that the public  
21 right-of-way and is the public right-of-way. We  
22 have to make a decision, you know, what do we  
23 want? Do we want snow plowed or what is it that  
24 we want?

25 So I just say that, I make this  
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1 statement because I don't want it can be a  
2 conflict. I want it to be something that we map  
3 out a strategy for. We have some facts, we have  
4 some things that we're learning. And so let's  
5 come up with a project to address it in a  
6 program. You know, since I've been sitting here,  
7 I'm already thinking about it.

8 MR. McDONALD: I agree with you 100  
9 percent and I think it should be Village-wide.  
10 It should apply to everybody the same. It should  
11 be a referendum.

12 MS. BURKE-JONES: Yes, Keith.

13 MR. BENJAMIN: Thank you, Madam Chair.  
14 Basically what I'm hearing are three options,  
15 maybe there are more. I just thought of three.  
16 One is to do nothing. Another one is to join the  
17 county's program and people would pay frontage,  
18 we would be assessed. And the third one is  
19 putting, you know, the Village just saying, okay,  
20 from the cleanout to the street to the main,  
21 we'll take care of that expense. And the Village  
22 sets aside into a fund a certain amount of  
23 dollars every year that builds up until it's  
24 needed for whatever repair is needed.

25 MS. BURKE-JONES: Yes, you have a  
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1 comment.

2 MR. OREL: One other point, too, is it  
3 doesn't have to be either/or. You weren't  
4 cutting -- you weren't cutting the side streets,  
5 the tree lawns. You started doing that only  
6 about five years ago. You added to it. You  
7 don't -- these things don't -- it's not an  
8 either/or situation. If you paid for the  
9 laterals, you don't have to stop plowing the  
10 snow. You don't have to stop cutting the grass.  
11 That's a false -- that's a false comparison.

12 MS. BURKE-JONES: And that's the policy  
13 that has been --

14 MR. OREL: That's just your policy.  
15 That's nothing codified.

16 MS. BURKE-JONES: Right.

17 MR. BENJAMIN: You can continue to cut  
18 the tree lawns.

19 MR. OREL: And put away \$7,000 a year  
20 for the sewer laterals.

21 MS. BURKE-JONES: It's just more costs  
22 that we're going to have to save for, whether we  
23 -- how we get that additional dollars is an  
24 issue, too, because I think --

25 MR. OREL: Even if it's 10,000 a year  
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1 for the Village, is that that much for you guys?

2 MS. HUFFMAN: For us guys. All of us.  
3 This is for us.

4 MR. OREL: You've got \$900,000 in  
5 reserve funds, right?

6 MR. YONCHAK: \$900,000 may be a lot in  
7 your opinion. To me, I'm pinching pennies.

8 MR. OREL: But still.

9 MS. BURKE-JONES: Yes, Don.

10 MR. BIERUT: Wherever this heads,  
11 whether do nothing or one of the other options,  
12 if there's a change from the current policy,  
13 we've got to be aware that if somebody calls up,  
14 I got a problem, in all transparency I called my  
15 own house. Physician heal thyself. I didn't do  
16 such a good job cleaning mine. I have a problem  
17 and then it could be that the Village has to  
18 prove that it is an our problem.

19 Okay. You have a problem, then we have  
20 to have some mechanism or some thing, some body,  
21 whether Roto-Rooter or Dave's people or somebody  
22 come out, come out and look and say yes, it's on  
23 Village property or it's on private property.  
24 We're getting ahead of ourselves here a little  
25 bit, but maybe, you know, I've got a problem.

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1 Well, have you, homeowner, done this? And if  
2 they've exhausted their own problem, you know,  
3 their own run, maybe the Village steps in.

4 MS. BURKE-JONES: I see, a process for  
5 determining whether --

6 MR. BIERUT: Otherwise, you're just  
7 answering -- you're the first line of defense,  
8 where oftentimes it's not the case.

9 MS. BURKE-JONES: That's actually wise.

10 MR. OREL: I've pumped. I've snaked.  
11 I've done exactly what you're talking about. And  
12 what usually happens in the case like this is a  
13 homeowner is going to call a plumber, call even  
14 Roto-Rooter, they're going to come out, they're  
15 going to do it, that's going to be the first  
16 call. Then somebody -- then they're going to say  
17 well, I don't think this is happening at the  
18 lateral. This is on public right-of-way. Then  
19 you're going to get a call. You're not going to  
20 get a call from the homeowner saying my sewer is  
21 backed up.

22 MS. BURKE-JONES: Okay. Yes, Keith.

23 MR. GALESTOCK: I have a question. I'd  
24 like to hear your thoughts on this idea if it's  
25 feasible. Is it possible for Bratenahl to

1 consider a hybrid, such that there would be  
2 assessments for standardized properties and  
3 there's some cutoff at which it makes more sense  
4 for the Village to fund like north of Lake Shore  
5 or to get around that frontage? There's a lot of  
6 homes besides mine that have shallow lots and  
7 wide frontages.

8 MR. BIERUT: My understanding is the  
9 county program I was speaking of is based on  
10 frontage.

11 MR. GALESTOCK: I guess could you co-op  
12 X percentage of the properties that fall within  
13 this criteria?

14 MR. BIERUT: Honestly, I don't know. I  
15 don't know whether it's all or nothing. And I  
16 also don't know whether -- I'm sure the county  
17 will assess for anything, in any manner.

18 MR. GALESTOCK: I just want to bring  
19 that up as a thought, whether or not it's  
20 plausible. My other small question is is it  
21 possible there's houses in this town that don't  
22 have cleanouts?

23 MR. BIERUT: Yes. Oh, yeah.

24 MR. P. KESSELEM: From Coit Road out to  
25 where I am, I am sure you're going to find one,

1 and that's the one I put in. (Laughter.)

2 MR. BIERUT: Thank you.

3 MR. KESSELEM: They're all old homes.

4 MR. BIERUT: Like I said, it's not  
5 unusual for us to get a call from Dave and say do  
6 you have any idea where this cleanout is? So  
7 then if I can dig up an old plan and it shows  
8 where the cleanout was supposed to be, I'm giving  
9 Dave dimensions from hydrants and stuff or  
10 sometimes we hammered the mainline and I'll tell  
11 Dave it's 46.2 feet from that manhole and they're  
12 going to start digging, that's where you save  
13 repairs everywhere. Everywhere.

14 MS. BURKE-JONES: I think our issue is  
15 Public Improvements is Finance Committee deals  
16 with the finance issue, not that we do not, but I  
17 think also is there a better solution from the  
18 product end, of the repair end of issue here that  
19 we're responsible for hiring the company to do  
20 the repair.

21 MR. BIERUT: Well, you bring up a good  
22 point. Way back when when a lot of this was  
23 done, they came in sections that were this long  
24 they join them all together. That's joints every  
25 two feet. Now plastic pipe is every maybe 20

1 feet or depending on the diameter of the pipe.  
2 So it's much fewer joints that roots can get  
3 into. They're not going to blast away through  
4 the plastic pipe in most cases. If we can dig  
5 everybody up and put plastic type in, it would be  
6 great.

7 MS. BURKE-JONES: But we're not going to  
8 do that.

9 MR. BIERUT: We're not going to do that.

10 MS. BURKE-JONES: I guess what I'm  
11 saying is is there a better resolution instead of  
12 having the individual homeowner hiring someone,  
13 but we're responsible for hiring. I mean, the  
14 homeowner pays for it or the assessment or  
15 whatever, but we're responsible for the  
16 contractor that actually does the work so that  
17 all the different cuts and repairs end up meeting  
18 our criteria. Yes? No?

19 MR. BIERUT: I think the easy part is  
20 making sure that whoever does the work meets the  
21 criteria. I think that's a given.

22 MS. BURKE-JONES: Right. Okay.

23 MR. BIERUT: I think it would have to  
24 end there. I don't think the Village can -- we  
25 can make sure they meet the criteria. They pull

1 a permit, they do the work, you look at the work,  
2 it's good, they bury it and they're done.

3 MS. BURKE-JONES: I was trying to find  
4 out if there was any other way. It's looking  
5 more and more like dollar and cents.

6 MR. BIERUT: This whole thing is dollars  
7 and cents.

8 MS. BURKE-JONES: Right. Versus  
9 projects that we need to -- the larger group has  
10 to make some decision on, other than just our  
11 committee itself. Did I see a comment over  
12 there?

13 MR. KESSELEM: As a resident, I just was  
14 hoping that Council entertain some sort of  
15 insurance policy to help us once we enter that  
16 street if it's our cost, so as a community, if we  
17 can pool then it helps.

18 MR. OREL: The individual.

19 MR. KESSELEM: Yeah, because as a  
20 singular individual facing these things with  
21 hundred-year homes is a stretch.

22 MR. OREL: You can lose your house.

23 MR. KESSELEM: Yes.

24 MR. GALESTOCK: I think the thing I  
25 would like from the committee is that common

1 sense and smell test would indicate that if that  
2 line is on your property, you shouldn't have to  
3 take the money out of your own pocket to fix it.  
4 I think that's what this comes down to is. I'll  
5 pay for whatever is on my property that's a  
6 problem. Once it goes off my property on its  
7 merry way to the main, why should I be paying for  
8 or all of or part of? I don't know if that's  
9 another question, but people get their nose out  
10 of joint when they're paying for things in the  
11 public right-of-way that are beyond their  
12 property line because it's not quite yet to the  
13 main.

14 MS. BURKE-JONES: Good point. Keith, I  
15 think you're determination if there's three  
16 choices was --

17 MR. BENJAMIN: Now maybe there's four,  
18 as Mr. Galestock stated. Maybe there's a  
19 compromise where the Village through a fund helps  
20 fund, maybe it's 50 percent of the cost, so maybe  
21 there's a fourth option here.

22 MR. McDONALD: I think that's the  
23 discussion that has to be made. We have to work  
24 together to figure this out.

25 MS. HUFFMAN: So it's the reason why I'm

1 saying that this is not only a project, it's a  
2 program, because it seems to me that there is a  
3 consensus that a compromise is probably the best  
4 solution. And I'm not certain if Council needs  
5 to legislate something like that.

6 Let's just say, for example, we do do  
7 the county program and Council maybe legislates  
8 that we'll pay up to a certain dollar amount or  
9 we will assess a certain amount that the county  
10 will take to start to have a pool of money that  
11 can address whether it's storm or sewer or what  
12 is the other, sanitary.

13 MR. BIERUT: Water, storm sewer and  
14 water.

15 MS. HUFFMAN: It seems to me that the  
16 other thing that Keith was saying is that so we  
17 don't have any kind of -- maybe this is the wrong  
18 word, plats that tell us. That's a project. We  
19 should know that kind of stuff.

20 MS. BURKE-JONES: That's a whole other  
21 issue.

22 MR. BIERUT: Right. Not that we  
23 wouldn't love to do that. We would love to do  
24 it. You can fix one heck of a lot of sewers for  
25 what it would cost. You would pay us hundreds of

1 thousands of dollars to do that with a certainty  
2 of, well, we're pretty sure.

3 MS. HUFFMAN: Mr. Bierut.

4 MR. BENJAMIN: Councilman Yonchak, did  
5 you have a question?

6 MR. YONCHAK: Yeah. This whole issue of  
7 ownership and everything like that, as Pat  
8 brought up, she said the property description  
9 went all the way out into the street. I guess I  
10 have no problem making the contribution or paying  
11 the full amount if there's a public benefit  
12 through a right-of-way onto someone's property,  
13 but is there a distinction between if there's no  
14 right-of-way and it's just the property of the  
15 individual, does that mean that the Village of  
16 Bratenahl is funding the property of some  
17 individual? Do you understand what I'm saying?

18 MR. BENJAMIN: From my understanding and  
19 the few cities that I'm aware of, that money only  
20 goes to repair what's in the public right-of-way,  
21 not privately.

22 MR. YONCHAK: And that's the  
23 distinction. I don't know all the streets in  
24 Bratenahl, but there may be some streets in  
25 Bratenahl that don't have sidewalks and there's

1 no public right-of-way.  
 2 MR. BIERUT: No, they're still public  
 3 right-of-way. The roads are within the public  
 4 right-of-way.  
 5 MR. YONCHAK: The roads are within the  
 6 public right-of-way. I think if there are roads,  
 7 it should be the Village's expense.  
 8 MR. OREL: They all have tree lawns.  
 9 MS. BURKE-JONES: Let's keep it one at a  
 10 time. Yes, Keith.  
 11 MR. BENJAMIN: Don, would it be possible  
 12 as we explore all of these options to maybe  
 13 have -- would it be County Public Works  
 14 Department, could they come out and maybe present  
 15 to Public Improvements Committee and talk about  
 16 the program?  
 17 MR. BIERUT: Yeah. Admittedly it's been  
 18 a long time since I sat through that presentation  
 19 with that connotation.  
 20 MS. BURKE-JONES: You said it in the  
 21 most positive way.  
 22 MR. BIERUT: But they will do that or  
 23 I'm positive they still do it. And at that time  
 24 they could tell you, you know, we have in  
 25 Bratenahl a dollar for frontage, it would be  
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1 after a year you would have this much in the fund  
 2 or if it was two dollars. At that time they were  
 3 doing their homework, they were showing up and  
 4 they'd be able to tell you what it was. I can  
 5 facilitate that you if you like.  
 6 MR. BENJAMIN: That may be helpful.  
 7 MS. BURKE-JONES: That's a good idea,  
 8 yes.  
 9 MR. OREL: Just so you know, I have a  
 10 customer in Parma and they call Parma and Parma  
 11 calls the county. And they actually come out and  
 12 snake. It's not just repair. They're actually  
 13 cleaning out from the cleanout.  
 14 MR. BENJAMIN: Yes, they'll also do the  
 15 camera, they'll cam.  
 16 MR. BIERUT: It's very thorough.  
 17 MR. OREL: And it's no cost, no  
 18 out-of-pocket cost to the homeowner.  
 19 MS. BURKE-JONES: I think that's a very  
 20 good suggestion about having them come and speak  
 21 to us. Could you facilitate that for us, Don?  
 22 MR. BIERUT: I will.  
 23 MS. BURKE-JONES: Pat, you did have one  
 24 question?  
 25 MS. MEADE: Yes. Every year, don't you  
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1 do a certain portion of the Village where you do  
 2 a snake or a camera into the sewers or the catch  
 3 basins or to identify problems and rotates until  
 4 you do the whole Village?  
 5 MR. BIERUT: We had been, but we haven't  
 6 done that for the past few years. At the time we  
 7 were doing a third of the Village at the time and  
 8 that's when the conversation Dave and I had  
 9 earlier this week about starting that program up  
 10 again.  
 11 MS. MEADE: Because I was wondering, I  
 12 don't know the cost involved, but would it make  
 13 sense could that process be used where you look  
 14 from the main to the home and you do a certain  
 15 section or a street, a side street at a time or  
 16 section of Lakeshore at a time over so many years  
 17 where, again, the Village might be able to budget  
 18 for that as part of a street and road repair type  
 19 of thing, a restricted fund. And that camera can  
 20 do a search and be preventive and proactive and  
 21 identify for a homeowner if it's clear or if  
 22 there's a potential --  
 23 MR. BIERUT: That last part is very  
 24 difficult. It's much, much easier to do the  
 25 mainline sewers under the streets or in the  
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1 right-of-way than it is to make that right turn  
 2 and go up. If you find a cleanout, you could do  
 3 it.  
 4 MR. GALESTOCK: Mr. Bierut, what I think  
 5 she's also saying is I have no idea where my line  
 6 goes anywhere. I have no idea. So if it goes  
 7 down to the main and say at this foot marker  
 8 that's roughly where it is within two or three  
 9 feet. My neighbor Vickie Lee told me that  
 10 there's an easement apparently on her yard,  
 11 because my sewer runs through her yard partially  
 12 because it was my property 100 years ago. I have  
 13 no idea where anything is.  
 14 MS. BURKE-JONES: Which is the story of  
 15 Bratenahl. As a matter of fact, I like that idea  
 16 that you were mentioning about your discussion  
 17 with David and how we might continue to get that  
 18 program back going and investigating our mains.  
 19 It sounds like a wise, wise move.  
 20 MR. BIERUT: At the very least, it does  
 21 identify where the connection could be or is.  
 22 MR. GALESTOCK: So I won't plant a tree  
 23 there.  
 24 MR. BIERUT: Right. Yeah.  
 25 MS. BURKE-JONES: Based on the fact of  
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1 having them come out, is there any -- do we want  
2 to try to set a date for their availability?

3 MR. BIERUT: Yeah, let me reach out to  
4 them first and see what that looks like.

5 MS. BURKE-JONES: All right. That's  
6 good. Trying to close this one issue, but yes.

7 MS. GIUDICE: If this happens, could  
8 this -- I want to see more than just a handful of  
9 people here. Is that something that could be  
10 emailed or a flier sent, something to consider to  
11 the residents?

12 MS. BURKE-JONES: That's a good idea.  
13 As a matter of fact, also the Mayor has his  
14 messages to the community and that goes to a lot  
15 of people, we can also have --

16 MS. GIUDICE: Because you might find  
17 this isn't going to be enough room if people  
18 realize the importance of it. You may have it  
19 where you have the town hall about the buildings.

20 MS. BURKE-JONES: Thank you very much  
21 for that comment. And Mr. Bierut, you will get  
22 back in touch with us about that?

23 MR. BIERUT: Yes.

24 MS. BURKE-JONES: Okay. So let's close  
25 this item. Does anybody on the committee have  
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1 any more comments on this particular item?

2 MS. HUFFMAN: I just have a shameless  
3 plug. You know, from the very beginning I've  
4 always talked about interns. There are interns  
5 who are engineers in training. There are  
6 architects who are in training. There are urban  
7 affairs folks who are in training. Some of these  
8 things that we are grappling with, they could be  
9 helpful.

10 What Mr. Galestock mentioned, you know,  
11 I hadn't even considered nor did I not know. And  
12 certainly a project of that nature will update  
13 some things that we need to know about our  
14 community. That would be helpful to Mr. Bierut  
15 and anyone else that's assisting us in addressing  
16 these issues, so I stand behind that. I will  
17 continue to do so. There's a lot of talent out  
18 there that can help us with things like this in  
19 terms of projects that we need assistance with  
20 where as much as I love Mr. Bierut, we don't have  
21 a million trillion dollars.

22 MR. OREL: You don't need a million  
23 trillion dollars.

24 MS. HUFFMAN: Well, you need money and  
25 we are on a budget as we have all talked about.

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1 We don't have endless dollars to be able to sit  
2 down to do all the projects that we want to do,  
3 because if we did, we wouldn't be here talking in  
4 this manner. So that's just my shameless plug  
5 about it.

6 MS. BURKE-JONES: Thank you, Gina, for  
7 that. Okay. So we'll draw this item to a close.  
8 And I'm going to change the order, because we do  
9 have our service director here and I did want to  
10 -- we did want to continue our discussion on  
11 Public Improvements. And the Mayor had said that  
12 you had some information for us.

13 MR. MAUND: I have it prioritized. One  
14 of the subjects from last Council meeting was the  
15 electrical system over at Village Hall. I got a  
16 couple of quotes to run a new service up to the  
17 second floor to serve all their computers,  
18 chargers. One quote from Lake Erie was \$50,100  
19 to run a 100 amp service panel up to the attic,  
20 drop down to outlets on the second floor. I  
21 didn't agree with the quote. I went out and got  
22 a second one from Prospect Electric, LLC for  
23 \$10,722.

24 MS. HUFFMAN: Wow.

25 MR. BENJAMIN: That's a big difference.  
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1 MS. BURKE-JONES: Sometimes it's  
2 difficult in quotes. They're not clear enough as  
3 to what their real scope is. So somebody is  
4 providing more than the other, maybe not that  
5 much more.

6 MR. MAUND: That's for the same service.

7 MS. BURKE-JONES: Really?

8 MR. MAUND: Yes. It's called the  
9 Bratenahl effect. We've dealt with Lake Erie for  
10 many years. Maybe Lake Erie is pretty busy, they  
11 don't really need the work. Maybe they thought  
12 if they threw us a high number that we would just  
13 pay it.

14 MS. BURKE-JONES: Have you worked with  
15 the other one?

16 MR. MAUND: I have a good friend in the  
17 trades, highly recommend this company. Smaller  
18 company.

19 MS. BURKE-JONES: What was the name of  
20 the other one?

21 MR. MAUND: Prospect Electric, LLC.

22 MS. BURKE-JONES: Okay. Because I know  
23 when talking about it being of importance to have  
24 that done quickly and well. What's our threshold  
25 for having a professional involved in bidding it?

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1 MR. BIERUT: I think it's a better  
 2 question for Mr. Matty, but I think it's 25,000  
 3 or \$50,000. It depends on the community.  
 4 MS. BURKE-JONES: 10 would be below that.  
 5 I'm hoping we wouldn't need an engineer's  
 6 involvement.  
 7 MR. BIERUT: I can speak to that. I  
 8 barely got through one quarter of electrical  
 9 engineering. I think you can probably just  
 10 repair it. It's a repair job, right, basically,  
 11 or pull out the old stuff and put the new stuff  
 12 in.  
 13 MR. MAUND: Leaving the old stuff.  
 14 MS. BURKE-JONES: Just adding.  
 15 MR. MAUND: Adding onto the existing  
 16 1,200 amp panel that's in the basement, running  
 17 it up to the attic and drop it down.  
 18 MR. BIERUT: Joyce, you can pay somebody  
 19 \$10,000 to prepare bidding documents to do the  
 20 \$10,000 worth of work.  
 21 MS. BURKE-JONES: Definitely. If that.  
 22 MR. BIERUT: Again, a question for  
 23 somebody besides me.  
 24 MS. BURKE-JONES: Mr. Matty.  
 25 MR. BENJAMIN: It's at least 10,000  
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1 minimum. I think it's 25.  
 2 MR. BIERUT: I think it's 25.  
 3 MS. BURKE-JONES: Yeah, 10 is -- I know  
 4 it's over 10.  
 5 MR. BENJAMIN: I think it's 25.  
 6 MS. BURKE-JONES: 25. Well, it sounds  
 7 like that's something, you've got a dollar amount  
 8 and it sounds like you got a responsive company.  
 9 And moving forward with that posthaste, I don't  
 10 know what's going to be needed, if an approval is  
 11 needed from Council.  
 12 MR. MAUND: I would imagine so.  
 13 MS. BURKE-JONES: Okay. Do we want to  
 14 recommend to Council that pursue this?  
 15 MR. YONCHAK: I recommend we pursue the  
 16 quote from Prospect Electric, LLC.  
 17 MS. BURKE-JONES: Do I have a second?  
 18 MS. HUFFMAN: Second.  
 19 MS. BURKE-JONES: All those in favor?  
 20 AYES: 3. NAYS: 0.  
 21 MS. BURKE-JONES: So we are recommending  
 22 to Council that we move forward with that. It  
 23 would be nice if we could have a copy of that  
 24 just for our information.  
 25 MR. MAUND: I will email that to you.  
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1 MS. BURKE-JONES: Thank you very much.  
 2 I've got more questions here. Yes, we'll start  
 3 with you, Pat.  
 4 MS. MEADE: Just a quick one. Do you  
 5 know the time frame? And does it outpace anyone  
 6 in the duration of them doing the upgrades?  
 7 MR. MAUND: No. They will work around  
 8 the department. And the lead time on it, I'm not  
 9 sure.  
 10 MS. BURKE-JONES: Good question though.  
 11 It would be nice to know obviously the importance  
 12 if it's done soon, not wait until next winter.  
 13 MR. MAUND: I can only assume that they  
 14 would be out here right away.  
 15 MS. BURKE-JONES: Good. Yes.  
 16 MR. OREL: Yeah, staying on  
 17 infrastructure building, that subject, but going  
 18 off of the electrical if that's okay.  
 19 MS. BURKE-JONES: Okay.  
 20 MR. OREL: All right. What is -- again,  
 21 a letter I sent to Council I'm referring to, the  
 22 removal you had G.W. Gill Plumbing come in assess  
 23 the leaks in the boiler. And they were talking  
 24 about having the asbestos removed. You have  
 25 \$10,000 to fix the leaks. What is Public  
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1 Improvements thinking about that?  
 2 MS. BURKE-JONES: Let's go back, because  
 3 I know --  
 4 MR. MAUND: I can get to that.  
 5 MS. BURKE-JONES: I'm sure there's a  
 6 number of issues he hasn't had a chance yet to  
 7 bring up. Thank you, Dave.  
 8 MR. MAUND: Are we done with that one?  
 9 MS. BURKE-JONES: Yes. Unless you have  
 10 any questions.  
 11 MR. MAUND: Next one is the generator  
 12 over at Village Hall. The 25 year old one that's  
 13 there can no longer keep up. I got a few prices.  
 14 Model 36 CCL will operate 400 amps that are there  
 15 with minimal load increases. That one is  
 16 \$34,767.  
 17 We jump up to the next model, which  
 18 leaves plenty of room for add-ons, whether in the  
 19 future we added onto the building or we just  
 20 built a new building, that generator could be  
 21 moved and it would most likely be able to handle  
 22 the load. That one is \$42,755. Keep in mind  
 23 that the NOPEC money that the Village has will  
 24 greatly lighten the burden on that project.  
 25 MS. BURKE-JONES: Right.  
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1 MR. BENJAMIN: Madam Chair, if I recall  
2 correctly, is our NOPEC, our fund in NOPEC  
3 currently is about 20,000.

4 MR. MAUND: 26,000.

5 MR. BENJAMIN: 26,000.

6 MR. MAUND: But that's not including  
7 this year's contribution.

8 MS. BURKE-JONES: Right.

9 MR. BENJAMIN: Thank you.

10 MS. BURKE-JONES: Again, and these are  
11 the best quotes?

12 MR. MAUND: This is from Generac. I  
13 want to say there's not many different companies  
14 that deal with commercial generators like that.  
15 It's actually from Buckeye Power. It's a Generac  
16 generator, but if that's something you guys want  
17 to further explore, I can see if I can get some  
18 more quotes. I just know we have Buckeye Power,  
19 they take care of all the generators in the  
20 Village.

21 MS. BURKE-JONES: So it's best if we can  
22 get three. I mean, if you can't get three,  
23 then --

24 MR. MAUND: Give me some time and I'll  
25 find a few more.

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1 MS. BURKE-JONES: It's best if we can  
2 have three quotes.

3 MS. HUFFMAN: Can I speak?

4 MS. BURKE-JONES: Yes.

5 MS. HUFFMAN: It's best if we can get  
6 three, but in light of the fact that we have a  
7 company that's going to do the electrical, we  
8 want it to match.

9 MS. BURKE-JONES: Obviously, yes.

10 MR. MAUND: They are separate companies  
11 though.

12 MS. HUFFMAN: The timeline for them to  
13 both be in play to be able to operate together.

14 MS. BURKE-JONES: He's going to be the  
15 project manager for this. (Laughter.)

16 MS. HUFFMAN: Okay.

17 MR. MAUND: As far as the upgrade to the  
18 second floor, that has nothing to do with the new  
19 generator. The new generator is going to tap  
20 right into the 400 amps in minutes.

21 MS. BURKE-JONES: Okay.

22 MR. BENJAMIN: Madam Chair, we also,  
23 with guidance from our law director, we may have  
24 to get that out.

25 MS. BURKE-JONES: I see what the number

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1 is. Yeah. Okay. But we still could do one  
2 without or at least begin one.

3 MR. BENJAMIN: We can get one more  
4 informal quote.

5 MS. BURKE-JONES: Okay. So I'll give  
6 our law director a call about this and see what  
7 can be done here.

8 You had a question, Keith.

9 MR. GALESTOCK: I did, thank you. Is  
10 that the installed price?

11 MR. MAUND: Yes. The switch panel,  
12 generator.

13 MR. GALESTOCK: What prompted, if  
14 anything, the desire to replace it with the new  
15 one?

16 MR. MAUND: What prompted it?

17 MR. GALESTOCK: Yeah.

18 MR. MAUND: Apparently when there's a  
19 power outage over there and the generator kicks  
20 on, lights are dimming, surging. And there's a  
21 long lag time from when the power goes out to  
22 when the generator kicks on, which in turn just  
23 shuts all the computers down.

24 MR. GALESTOCK: Is that something new?

25 MR. MAUND: I want to say it's something

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1 that's been noticed within the past couple  
2 months.

3 MR. GALESTOCK: Because nothing changed  
4 over there. I'm curious, because it's a lot of  
5 money to throw around when something is still up  
6 in the air.

7 MS. BURKE-JONES: Well, we're not going  
8 to be making a decision on that, as you know, for  
9 a year or so, and then we'll move forward.

10 MR. GALESTOCK: My question is can we  
11 take the one that's there that's 25 years and  
12 still get any use out of it somewhere else?

13 MR. MAUND: Could you?

14 MR. GALESTOCK: Yeah, like the Service  
15 Department.

16 MR. MAUND: We have a generator.

17 MR. GALESTOCK: Does this building have  
18 a generator?

19 MR. BENJAMIN: No. I actually asked  
20 that question at the last meeting when we had  
21 this discussion. If the generator is still in  
22 good use, could it be used here, for example, as  
23 an emergency shelter, you know, if people needed  
24 to leave their homes, can we at least power a  
25 couple rooms?

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1 MR. OREL: And the boiler.  
 2 MR. GALESTOCK: And the boiler. If  
 3 there is a disaster, this is where the people  
 4 would come.  
 5 MR. MAUND: That's a can of worms. Once  
 6 you install a generator here, you have to update  
 7 the electrical system in the basement.  
 8 MR. GALESTOCK: I was asking.  
 9 MR. MAUND: And it's a 25-year-old  
 10 generator.  
 11 MR. OREL: You only have to update the  
 12 main panel there. I had my electrician buddy  
 13 come in and look at it.  
 14 MR. MAUND: The generator won't operate  
 15 that many panels. That generator is going to  
 16 have to operate a portion.  
 17 MR. OREL: It's about \$5,000 just to do  
 18 that.  
 19 MS. BURKE-JONES: So it looks like we're  
 20 most likely going to have to bid that out. You  
 21 will coordinate with or coordinate with our law  
 22 director on that issue?  
 23 MR. MAUND: As far as?  
 24 MS. BURKE-JONES: We probably have to  
 25 have an electrical engineer.

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1 MR. BIERUT: Honestly, I don't know the  
 2 scope of the work well enough to know.  
 3 MR. MAUND: I don't believe so, but I  
 4 will look into it.  
 5 MS. BURKE-JONES: Could you, please.  
 6 MR. MAUND: Sure.  
 7 MS. BURKE-JONES: I mean, obviously we  
 8 like to do this all as soon as possible. And we  
 9 don't want to be holding up something because  
 10 we've got a process going and we meet once a  
 11 month, et cetera.  
 12 MR. MAUND: Definitely updating the  
 13 second floor, they need it. Their computers are  
 14 running without a battery backup.  
 15 MS. BURKE-JONES: Is there any action  
 16 that we could take about the generator next week  
 17 that's going to make a difference or we can just  
 18 go ahead and deal with it the following month?  
 19 MR. MAUND: If you're looking for quotes  
 20 by next Thursday.  
 21 MS. BURKE-JONES: Impossible.  
 22 MR. MAUND: I'm not saying impossible.  
 23 MS. BURKE-JONES: Okay. Pat, you've got  
 24 a question.  
 25 MS. MEADE: Just a comment. If NOPEC

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1 will have 26,000 plus and it's under 50, then  
 2 really your cost will probably be under 25, so  
 3 you may not need a formal.  
 4 MS. BURKE-JONES: But it's still the  
 5 overall price of the product or service is over  
 6 the 25.  
 7 MS. MEADE: I always thought the  
 8 threshold was 50 to get formal bids.  
 9 MR. BENJAMIN: It may be. We may have  
 10 to find out. My guess was I thought it was 25,  
 11 but it could be 50.  
 12 MR. BIERUT: I think it's 50.  
 13 MS. MEADE: I think it's 50. You may  
 14 not need -- you might be able to move on it next  
 15 week.  
 16 MR. BENJAMIN: But we might need to  
 17 appropriate funds, because the NOPEC grant is a  
 18 reimbursement grant.  
 19 MS. BURKE-JONES: Exactly.  
 20 MR. BENJAMIN: We need to appropriate  
 21 and spend the funds and get reimbursed.  
 22 MS. BURKE-JONES: Exactly.  
 23 MR. MAUND: I'm not so sure that's the  
 24 case. I don't know if it's reimbursed. I think  
 25 you can get the funds like instantly.

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1 MR. BENJAMIN: As long as it's budgeted.  
 2 We have to have the funds from NOPEC. As long as  
 3 that money is in the budget appropriated as  
 4 NOPEC. If we did that as part of the budget  
 5 process --  
 6 MS. BURKE-JONES: No.  
 7 MR. BENJAMIN: -- then we don't have to  
 8 appropriate anything.  
 9 MS. BURKE-JONES: Right.  
 10 MR. BENJAMIN: But if there's not a line  
 11 item for the NOPEC grant, we are going to have to  
 12 appropriate.  
 13 MS. BURKE-JONES: We don't have a line  
 14 item, at least at the moment we don't, but that  
 15 can be resolved. Okay. Other projects, yes.  
 16 MR. MAUND: The asbestos in the boiler  
 17 room to abate all the asbestos off the pipes, the  
 18 old boiler systems. There's one other thing.  
 19 The total of that is \$14,800.  
 20 MS. BURKE-JONES: Gee, that seems low  
 21 for some reason.  
 22 MR. OREL: Yeah.  
 23 MR. MAUND: Yeah? Good. (Laughter.)  
 24 MS. BURKE-JONES: There's only one pipe  
 25 three feet long.

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1 MR. MAUND: There is a lot of asbestos  
 2 in there.  
 3 MR. OREL: That includes removing it off  
 4 the boiler, too. So if you wanted to, you could  
 5 get rid of the boiler without having --  
 6 MR. MAUND: That will be part of it as  
 7 well.  
 8 MS. BURKE-JONES: So obviously we will  
 9 need, of course, we need more than one quote for  
 10 that, but that gives us an idea as to what that  
 11 is and we can go ahead. And, of course, all of  
 12 this is financial and making sure we actually  
 13 have the money to spend on.  
 14 MR. McDONALD: That always helps.  
 15 MR. MAUND: With having a ballpark, I  
 16 mean, before I go and have all these people come  
 17 out to give estimates, can we decide, yes, we're  
 18 actually going to move forward? We want to make  
 19 sure we're getting the best price.  
 20 MS. BURKE-JONES: What does the  
 21 committee think?  
 22 MS. HUFFMAN: Do we have to have three  
 23 quotes?  
 24 MS. BURKE-JONES: We don't have to have  
 25 three quotes. It's best if we get three quotes,  
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1 but we don't have to. To have at least two, and  
 2 we've got one here for the asbestos.  
 3 MR. YONCHAK: Who's performing the  
 4 service.  
 5 MR. MAUND: That is Residential Asbestos  
 6 Removal.  
 7 MS. BURKE-JONES: I think, again, given  
 8 I'm not aware of the dollars we have available to  
 9 us this year, given that we do, however, probably  
 10 have --  
 11 MS. MEADE: 225 is in capital  
 12 improvements if these were all to be considered  
 13 capital expense and not maintenance.  
 14 MS. BURKE-JONES: Yeah. Well, that's  
 15 another issue. But again, I think does the  
 16 committee feel that this is of importance?  
 17 Obviously for us to repair the boiler anyway, we  
 18 need to remove the asbestos. Was that not what  
 19 the discussion was, we'd have to remove the  
 20 asbestos to repair the boiler?  
 21 MR. MAUND: Yes.  
 22 MS. BURKE-JONES: So it's kind of like  
 23 we've got to do it.  
 24 MS. HUFFMAN: We have to.  
 25 MS. BURKE-JONES: Can I have a  
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1 recommendation that we recommend to Council that  
 2 we pursue looking into an asbestos contractor for  
 3 the removal of asbestos in the boiler room?  
 4 MS. HUFFMAN: I second.  
 5 MS. BURKE-JONES: So moved.  
 6 MR. YONCHAK: I second.  
 7 MS. BURKE-JONES: All in favor?  
 8 AYES: 3. NAYS: 0.  
 9 MS. BURKE-JONES: Okay. So we're  
 10 recommending this to Council. Yes, we're going  
 11 along pretty well here. What's next?  
 12 (Laughter.)  
 13 MR. BIERUT: I've got to develop a list  
 14 like this. (Laughter.)  
 15 MS. MEADE: Did you do the approval for  
 16 all three?  
 17 MS. BURKE-JONES: That was for the  
 18 asbestos. For the first one, the electrical  
 19 alone for service we also recommend to Council.  
 20 MS. MEADE: And the generator you're  
 21 just verifying the threshold?  
 22 MS. BURKE-JONES: Exactly.  
 23 MR. MAUND: The next would be the repair  
 24 of the boiler system, which is \$10,186.54. And  
 25 that would be the main pipe that's leaking in the  
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1 basement. And there's several other small ones  
 2 throughout the Village or throughout the  
 3 building.  
 4 MS. BURKE-JONES: I would like if we  
 5 could have two quotes for that if it's --  
 6 MR. MAUND: Well, keep in mind if you  
 7 get another quote, you're going to get another  
 8 boiler company in here that's going to pressure  
 9 test.  
 10 MS. BURKE-JONES: Is there a cost  
 11 involved, is that what you're telling me?  
 12 MR. MAUND: Yes, because whatever  
 13 company is going to come in here is going to  
 14 pressure test the boiler system to assess where  
 15 the leaks are in order to give a quote.  
 16 MS. BURKE-JONES: And we're using --  
 17 what company is this that you got the \$10,000  
 18 quote from?  
 19 MR. MAUND: This is Gill Plumbing.  
 20 MR. OREL: G.W. Gill Plumbing & Heating.  
 21 I used to work for them. G.W. G-I-L-L, Plumbing  
 22 & Heating.  
 23 MS. BURKE-JONES: And you worked with  
 24 them?  
 25 MR. MAUND: They're the ones that  
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1 service the boilers here in the Village.  
 2 MS. BURKE-JONES: Oh, okay. So we  
 3 already have an existing service with them.  
 4 Okay. Can I have a recommendation?  
 5 MS. HUFFMAN: I'll make the  
 6 recommendation.  
 7 MR. YONCHAK: And I second.  
 8 MS. BURKE-JONES: All those in favor?  
 9 AYES: 3. NAYS: 0.  
 10 MS. BURKE-JONES: We are recommending  
 11 that -- we agreed to recommend to Council that we  
 12 pursue getting a new boiler per the quote --  
 13 repair the boiler, excuse me, per the quote of  
 14 \$10,000.  
 15 MS. HUFFMAN: G.W. Gill Plumbing &  
 16 Heating.  
 17 MS. BURKE-JONES: That's my formal  
 18 education there. It's impressing me.  
 19 MS. MEADE: It's a Seinfeld episode.  
 20 MS. BURKE-JONES: Excuse me, guys. Yes,  
 21 anything else at the moment?  
 22 MR. MAUND: Moving on, as Mr. Bierut  
 23 previously spoke about, is the Village trying to  
 24 get back onto a cleaning of the catch basins on a  
 25 schedule. I reached out to United Survey and  
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1 they gave me a quote. To do every catch basin in  
 2 the Village right now is \$34,225. I recommend  
 3 that we break up the Village and whether it be  
 4 thirds, half, whatever, and we get on a regular  
 5 cleaning schedule.  
 6 MS. BURKE-JONES: And what was it  
 7 before, a third? Did we do a third of the  
 8 Village?  
 9 MR. BIERUT: Yeah, it was roughly a  
 10 third or a quarter, but that was different,  
 11 Joyce, that was televising sewer lines. This is  
 12 purely cleaning the catch basins.  
 13 MR. MAUND: Yes.  
 14 MR. YONCHAK: What's the company's name?  
 15 MR. MAUND: United Survey. It breaks  
 16 down to \$185 a catch basin.  
 17 MS. GIUDICE: What is a catch basin?  
 18 MR. BIERUT: It's what we call sewer,  
 19 basically, water runs off a pavement.  
 20 MS. BURKE-JONES: Are you saying we  
 21 haven't been doing that for a while, too?  
 22 MR. BIERUT: It's been a few years.  
 23 It's been on an as needed basis.  
 24 MS. BURKE-JONES: So both of those  
 25 things we haven't done for a few years.  
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1 MR. BIERUT: In the past we combined  
 2 those that worked with cleaning lines.  
 3 MS. BURKE-JONES: I seem to remember  
 4 that.  
 5 MR. BIERUT: And at the same time doing  
 6 the basins.  
 7 MS. MEADE: Is there a restricted fund  
 8 for that?  
 9 MR. BIERUT: I don't know. I don't  
 10 know.  
 11 MR. MAUND: There is county money to use  
 12 towards that.  
 13 MS. BURKE-JONES: Again, that's getting  
 14 up there, 34. So it's getting down to 15 and so  
 15 we're talking 16, something like that.  
 16 MR. MAUND: It's \$185 a catch basin in  
 17 the Village that the Village maintains.  
 18 MR. BENJAMIN: What type of fund from  
 19 the county, is that like a community cost share  
 20 fund?  
 21 MR. BIERUT: Yeah.  
 22 MR. BENJAMIN: So this is money that can  
 23 only be used for certain things. One of them is  
 24 cleaning catch basins and sewers and things like  
 25 that. So that money, we're all paying into it  
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1 and it goes into a fund. And so it doesn't --  
 2 this doesn't impact the general fund.  
 3 MS. BURKE-JONES: Okay. So do we have  
 4 to apply for this through the county?  
 5 MR. BIERUT: If I can interject, Joyce.  
 6 If directed by Council or this committee, the  
 7 process is to apply to the county and they decide  
 8 whether it's an appropriate use of the funds,  
 9 which it is. Then they send back legislation for  
 10 the Village to pass. And then Village passes it  
 11 and they sign it and you're able to do it.  
 12 MS. BURKE-JONES: Great. Can I have a  
 13 recommendation from someone on the committee to  
 14 pursue -- to have Don Bierut pursue discussing  
 15 with the county us going for funds?  
 16 MR. YONCHAK: I recommend that Don  
 17 pursue contacting the county to address and try  
 18 to get some funding for the cleaning of catch  
 19 basins.  
 20 MS. BURKE-JONES: Can I have a second?  
 21 MS. HUFFMAN: Second.  
 22 MS. BURKE-JONES: All those in favor?  
 23 AYES: 3. NAYS: 0.  
 24 MS. BURKE-JONES: So we are recommending  
 25 to Council.  
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1 MR. GALESTOCK: Is that depending on  
2 whether or not it's county road?

3 MR. BIERUT: No, it's not. The funds  
4 are actually from the Northeast Ohio Regional  
5 Sewer District.

6 MS. BURKE-JONES: Okay. I'm trying to  
7 keep track here. Yes. Anything else?

8 MR. MAUND: You want to move on?

9 MS. BURKE-JONES: Let's keep on going,  
10 but again, obviously I'm qualifying this again,  
11 we're dependent on dollars. And we'll be  
12 discussing the Finance Committee when we have  
13 more.

14 MR. MAUND: I have nothing else on that  
15 that costs money. Just a couple comments of  
16 moving forward in the past we contract out having  
17 sidewalks either milled or replaced. This year  
18 moving forward, we're going to do that inhouse  
19 any of the milling of the sidewalks.

20 MS. BURKE-JONES: That really was good.  
21 I walk the sidewalks all the time and really  
22 works well.

23 MR. MAUND: It's going to buy us some  
24 time. And they all aren't going to be done like  
25 that. At some point they're going to be

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1 replaced, but we'll get some more time out of it  
2 and we can do it inhouse. It was quite a bit of  
3 money last year that we spent doing it.

4 MS. BURKE-JONES: That's great.

5 MR. MAUND: A couple of the guys at the  
6 garage feel like they can offer up the same  
7 service.

8 MS. BURKE-JONES: Any action from us?

9 MR. MAUND: No.

10 MS. BURKE-JONES: Any other comments  
11 from that? Yes, Keith.

12 MR. BENJAMIN: I think that that worked  
13 really well last summer and walking Lakeshore  
14 Boulevard and not tripping over sidewalk is a  
15 great thing.

16 MS. BURKE-JONES: Yes.

17 MR. OREL: Do you guys have a grinder  
18 then? Did you get one?

19 MR. MAUND: Yes.

20 MR. OREL: No kidding.

21 MR. MAUND: I mean, it's just a grinder.

22 MR. OREL: I mean, it's not just a  
23 grinder.

24 MR. MAUND: We equipped ourselves with  
25 whatever is necessary and it was at a fraction of

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1 the cost that we paid to have a private company  
2 do it and we'll continue to do it. At first it's  
3 going to be quite a bit, but from there on out  
4 it's just maintenance.

5 MS. BURKE-JONES: Great. Sounds good.  
6 Yes.

7 MR. KESSELEM: I didn't know it was  
8 going to be on the agenda, but in front of  
9 several homes on Lake Shore down by me there was  
10 an agreement to retain the brick pavers. And  
11 over the years the maintenance that was said to  
12 be happening hasn't and they're really  
13 deteriorating.

14 MS. BURKE-JONES: As a matter of fact, I  
15 just saw some work being done last week.

16 MR. MAUND: The guys are out there.

17 MR. KESSELEM: If I remember right, I  
18 think the agreement was with the owners of the  
19 property that pushed for it.

20 MR. MAUND: I've heard that.

21 MR. KESSELEM: I'd like to just recall  
22 that. (Laughter.)

23 MR. MAUND: Can you enforce it?

24 MR. KESSELEM: The guy I saw was doing a  
25 great job, but the bricks are falling apart.

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1 They're disintegrating.

2 MS. BURKE-JONES: Dave, you're going to  
3 mention --

4 MR. YONCHAK: Where is this at?

5 MS. MEADE: By Spano property.

6 MR. YONCHAK: Is it down?

7 MS. BURKE-JONES: East side.

8 MS. MEADE: East side of Lake Shore.

9 MS. BURKE-JONES: There's brick pavers  
10 instead of concrete.

11 MS. MEADE: Like at herringbone pattern.

12 MR. MAUND: It's been a problem since  
13 it's been in. I made mention to the Mayor that  
14 it's going to have to be something that's going  
15 to be addressed in the future. What we're doing  
16 is a band aid to get rid of tripping hazards, but  
17 in the near future, you need to come out and  
18 mimic the rest of the sidewalks in the Village.

19 MS. MEADE: Semersky did the repairs I  
20 think last time.

21 MR. MAUND: No, we've done the repairs.

22 MS. MEADE: I mean when it was brought  
23 up by Spano and those property owners, I think  
24 Rick Semersky's company came out and did a huge  
25 portion of setting all of that.

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1 MR. MAUND: I know there was a repair  
2 that some company had to come out.

3 MS. MEADE: He's in the Village, so just  
4 maybe somebody to connect with for background  
5 info.

6 MS. BURKE-JONES: Well, we're not taking  
7 action on that.

8 MR. MAUND: It's not necessary.

9 MS. BURKE-JONES: Thank you. Anything  
10 else?

11 MR. MAUND: No. I'll leave it at that.  
12 (Laughter.)

13 MS. BURKE-JONES: I'm sure this  
14 committee can come up with more things to  
15 discuss.

16 Does the committee want to discuss any  
17 more things on this issue at the moment?

18 MS. HUFFMAN: Are you talking about the  
19 guardrail?

20 MS. BURKE-JONES: I didn't know we were  
21 talking about the guardrail.

22 MS. HUFFMAN: I was asking.

23 MS. BURKE-JONES: Well, it gets down we  
24 can talk about the guardrail. I thought that was  
25 a safety issue and I didn't know if the safety

1 committee would actually be the best committee to  
2 talk about that, and would you agree as chairman?

3 MS. HUFFMAN: I would not have a problem  
4 with that. I know since the incident, you know.

5 MS. BURKE-JONES: Yes, Dave.

6 MR. MAUND: Are you speaking about the  
7 proposed guardrail on Coit hill?

8 MS. BURKE-JONES: Yes. Please go ahead  
9 and speak about it.

10 MR. MAUND: I agree, huge safety issue.  
11 The guardrail would be broken up too many spots  
12 to where it becomes a problem just because of the  
13 driveways. Moving forward, I mean, public safety  
14 is always number one, but moving forward, we're  
15 going to try to draw attention to the curve.

16 I ordered new signage to put at the top  
17 of the hill. And I'm going to try to mount some  
18 reflectors on the curb. And come Spring and  
19 they're painting the stripes and stuff, they're  
20 going to put some arrows in the street.

21 MS. BURKE-JONES: So we're taking action  
22 on it. If we're taking those steps, do we need  
23 to bring it as a topic to your committee?

24 MS. HUFFMAN: We can just revisit it and  
25 just summarize that.

1 MS. BURKE-JONES: But you are taking  
2 some action on it currently. It does bring up  
3 the Bratenahl Road, end of Bratenahl Road issue  
4 of, you know, obviously the car went right over  
5 the little bollard, which we knew it was going to  
6 break off.

7 MR. MAUND: Which has since been  
8 replaced.

9 MS. BURKE-JONES: We noticed that. It  
10 was nice and clean.

11 MR. MAUND: The fence materials are on  
12 order and the Service Department is going to  
13 install it.

14 MS. BURKE-JONES: But bringing up some  
15 type of -- maybe a better way of blocking,  
16 blocking cars from moving further.

17 MR. BENJAMIN: For of life of me, I wish  
18 we had cameras there. I don't know how a car  
19 went over that bollard and then went all the way  
20 to the lake. It just doesn't seem --

21 MS. BURKE-JONES: I've had people  
22 propose that we build a ditch. This is a joke.

23 For public record, this is a joke. (Laughter.)

24 Yes, Keith.

25 MR. GALESTOCK: I don't know if this is

1 the right time to bring this up. If you're not  
2 aware of it, on my way here tonight an hour ago  
3 as I went past my house, because I was out  
4 shopping, I came right down Lake Shore and 9611,  
5 this is the fourth time in my 10 years that  
6 someone has wiped out completely that column that  
7 they had to have rebuilt for a reasonable  
8 compromise. There's a safety issue there. I  
9 don't know what the answer is, but it seems to me  
10 it's happening so many times that it needs to be  
11 looked at.

12 MS. BURKE-JONES: Yeah, the lights  
13 blaring.

14 MR. BENJAMIN: There's flashing rights  
15 there.

16 MR. OREL: People are texting.

17 MS. BURKE-JONES: I was thinking going  
18 back to the Bratenahl Road issue, I know at the  
19 end of Eddy Road on the fence there's diagonal  
20 slashes on the -- and obviously more formidable  
21 bollards, but I know there's some issue if it's  
22 two.

23 MR. MAUND: Those have been hit as well.

24 MS. BURKE-JONES: I recognize they've  
25 been hit. Have they stopped.

1 MS. MEADE: Then they hit the big trees  
 2 if they get beyond the fence that they might run  
 3 into it.  
 4 MS. BURKE-JONES: True. Of course you  
 5 would know, the Service Department would know.  
 6 Have they been able to go through those bollards  
 7 on Eddy Road?  
 8 MR. MAUND: No, they have not. Those  
 9 are actually telephone poles.  
 10 MS. BURKE-JONES: Right. Exactly.  
 11 MR. BENJAMIN: So Madam Chair, again, I  
 12 don't know if this is feasible or how much it  
 13 would even cost, and obviously we just repaved  
 14 that section of Lakeshore Boulevard a couple  
 15 years ago, but like when you go down through Dead  
 16 Man's Curve, you have sort of the -- I don't know  
 17 what they're called, calming strips, yeah, if  
 18 that is something that maybe we consider looking  
 19 into.  
 20 MS. BURKE-JONES: Well, that's  
 21 interesting.  
 22 MR. BIERUT: We have that issue in a  
 23 couple of communities and have not done it for  
 24 reasons that were brought up. And Dave, the  
 25 plowing isn't great with those things.

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1 MR. MAUND: Yeah, that would be my  
 2 concern.  
 3 MR. BIERUT: What you also hear is the  
 4 noise. Dead Man's Curve is one thing, but if  
 5 you're living at the house at 9611 or something,  
 6 that noise -- (laughter.)  
 7 MS. BURKE-JONES: There's going to be so  
 8 many positive things for you, Keith, having that  
 9 house.  
 10 MR. GALESTOCK: I'm still waiting for  
 11 those new street lights that shine down. I'll  
 12 tell you that little stretch right there before  
 13 you head in around the town is a very desolate  
 14 stretch. They love to gun it, because it's a  
 15 long straight stretch with no houses or driveways  
 16 to speak of. It is the most desolate entrance or  
 17 exit to the Village. In the summertime after  
 18 9:00, you can go 10 minutes without seeing a car  
 19 go by. And then some cars you do see go by are  
 20 doing -- you wonder what they're doing.  
 21 MS. BURKE-JONES: Well, I think that  
 22 we've talked -- obviously we supported Dave doing  
 23 things that will encourage people to drive slow  
 24 or be aware of things. I think if you want to  
 25 deal with specific issues or specific locations,

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1 Gina, your committee could deal with specifics.  
 2 MS. HUFFMAN: For safety, I think there  
 3 have been some things in the past with safety  
 4 we've discussed that we probably should revisit,  
 5 especially with that stretch of Lake Shore.  
 6 MS. BURKE-JONES: Okay. Good. All  
 7 right. For the moment -- oh, yes, Pat.  
 8 MS. MEADE: Is there a status on -- is  
 9 Eddy being resurfaced this year?  
 10 MR. BIERUT: Yes.  
 11 MS. MEADE: Do we know when that might  
 12 start and stop?  
 13 MR. BIERUT: I think it's -- it will be  
 14 bid this Spring and done this Summer.  
 15 MS. MEADE: And we've got a match,  
 16 right? Bratenahl pays a percentage?  
 17 MR. BIERUT: There's two funding  
 18 mechanisms there. There's a 50/50 grant with  
 19 Cuyahoga County, which you're basically splitting  
 20 the construction costs in half. And Bratenahl  
 21 also has, I think, ARPA funds that are being  
 22 applied to it. I think the out-of-pocket to  
 23 Bratenahl was twenty some thousand dollars when  
 24 it was done.

MR. BENJAMIN: The ARPA funds are not --  
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1 they're funds that came directly to the Village.  
 2 They're a grant from the county, that Cuyahoga  
 3 County Council allocated.  
 4 MR. BIERUT: I should be more specific.  
 5 That's true.  
 6 MS. MEADE: That will be good.  
 7 MS. BURKE-JONES: For the moment, let's  
 8 end this discussion of projects for 2023,  
 9 although I'd still like some painting  
 10 discussions, but you were talking about painting  
 11 here at the Village. And it really would be nice  
 12 if we can do some painting at Village Hall, too.  
 13 MR. MAUND: We'll see. I can't give you  
 14 a time frame for that.  
 15 MS. BURKE-JONES: I understand you can't  
 16 respond to that.  
 17 MR. MAUND: We're taking on these other  
 18 extra things. When it comes to crunch time --  
 19 MS. BURKE-JONES: Again, it's an issue.  
 20 At one time we did get bids and we have documents  
 21 to send out again. And obviously the wood is  
 22 deteriorating without being painted.  
 23 MR. MAUND: That's why whatever you're  
 24 going to do you may want to address the whole  
 25 project rather than having service do like

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1 little -- but we will address that doorway, but  
2 I'm saying overall.

3 MS. BURKE-JONES: But I was talking  
4 Village Hall versus, you know.

5 MR. MAUND: Village Hall, I know we  
6 wouldn't be able to take on that whole project.

7 MS. BURKE-JONES: We'll discuss issues  
8 such as that at another time. The third topic is  
9 grant writer for Public Improvements projects.

10 And an example of that was the grant that we --  
11 that was made us aware of, but literally did not  
12 have time to pursue write a grant for.

13 And we have brought it up. Oh, God, how  
14 many, Keith? I used to know what month it was  
15 and what year, but I think it was a year and a  
16 half, two years ago.

17 MR. BENJAMIN: '18, '19, it was before  
18 the pandemic we had the discussion.

19 MS. BURKE-JONES: We asked it be  
20 discussed at meeting. As a matter of fact, in a  
21 discussion I had where Keith Benjamin, he said  
22 that \$5,000 budget might be --

23 MR. BENJAMIN: Well, it depends on the  
24 grant and the technical expertise needed to write  
25 the grant along with, you know, how many

1 grants --

2 MS. BURKE-JONES: Are we planning to  
3 pursue.

4 MR. BENJAMIN: -- is the Village  
5 planning to pursue? All of that goes into what a  
6 grant writer's costs might be. You might be able  
7 to pay a grant writer, put someone on a retainer.

8 MS. BURKE-JONES: I was envisioning that  
9 myself.

10 MR. BENJAMIN: And you pay them, five,  
11 \$6,000 a year, something like that as a retainer,  
12 much like engineers do. And cost per services  
13 then to write the grant would be a little bit  
14 lower, but, you know, that works if we're  
15 planning on submitting 10 grants a year, 15  
16 grants a year, versus if you're looking for a  
17 grant writer who's going to come in and work on  
18 maybe one grant or two grants, it may be better  
19 off just to pay somebody the cost per hour to  
20 write that grant, so it really depends. It  
21 depends on the opportunities. Obviously our  
22 engineer does have expertise, has applied for  
23 funds and been very successful --

24 MS. BURKE-JONES: For engineering  
25 projects.

1 MR. BENJAMIN: -- for engineering  
2 infrastructure funds.

3 MR. BIERUT: I want to add we already do  
4 that for the Village. It's on a retainer, issue  
5 one. Community cost share, these are low hanging  
6 fruit in some ways. So whatever you do, we're  
7 already doing that. And it's already included in  
8 what we're doing, so don't pay somebody else to  
9 do it.

10 MS. BURKE-JONES: This is purely for  
11 buildings. So we're talking about buildings now.

12 MS. HUFFMAN: So just --

13 MS. BURKE-JONES: Yes, Gina.

14 MS. HUFFMAN: So just as an example of  
15 why this even came to be, sometimes we get  
16 messages from constituents that have ideas about  
17 grants that they found that we may be able to  
18 pursue, smaller things. The most recent one we  
19 received was from a resident and former Council  
20 person Marla Murphy, and it was for ARP funding.

21 And as much as I'm sure any of us who  
22 received that email from her would like to sit  
23 down and pursue it, I'm sorry, I don't have the  
24 time to be able to do it. It is not to take  
25 anything away from the services that we already

1 offer, but these things were for like benches and  
2 prospective things like benches. There's a very  
3 short timeline on it. Having somebody on  
4 retainer when residents maybe find things like  
5 this, might be to our benefit. If you can do a  
6 few projects like that per year that are worth  
7 paying somebody to do that.

8 MR. BENJAMIN: And again, it's looking  
9 at what the grant is, how much money is going to  
10 fund, it will fund. And also looking at what are  
11 the chances of us being funded. So if ARP is  
12 only funding a total of 25,000, I don't remember,  
13 I read it, but I don't remember, say it's a  
14 \$25,000 grant and one grant or two grants are  
15 going to all of the State of Ohio, it might not  
16 be worth our time to apply for that versus having  
17 an experienced grant writer write a grant, a  
18 department of justice grant, a cops grant for  
19 police equipment, cars, MDTs, radios, other  
20 things like that.

21 MS. BURKE-JONES: Is there a  
22 community -- what am I trying to say? Is there  
23 an organization of grant writers that we can tap?

24 MR. BENJAMIN: There are grant writing  
25 consulting companies. Some cities have grant

1 writers on staff. I'm one of them.  
 2 MS. BURKE-JONES: Yes, that's why I'm  
 3 asking you.  
 4 MR. BENJAMIN: Others hire consultants.  
 5 For example, Cleveland Heights has a consultant  
 6 that writes grants for them that are actually not  
 7 even in Ohio, they're on the East Coast. So  
 8 there are different ways to do it.  
 9 MS. HUFFMAN: I had a conversation  
 10 myself with a colleague who works at the  
 11 Cleveland Foundation, who I broached the question  
 12 where would I find highly qualified grant writers  
 13 that just may want to write, help us write small  
 14 projects?  
 15 And I get that that that wouldn't be the  
 16 person who comes in to do the justice one, but  
 17 certainly a micro grant like they're giving out  
 18 75 of them, 100 of them, and they're giving  
 19 \$5,000 a pop or something, that might be  
 20 something more interesting. Well, something more  
 21 achievable for us for someone who is actually  
 22 qualified to be able to do that in the turnaround  
 23 time. They could handle it.  
 24 So they relayed to me, yeah, there are  
 25 some talented consultants, grant-writing

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1 consultants that may want to work on contract or  
 2 some type of contract to be able to put in hours  
 3 for certain, you know, number of grants that they  
 4 can produce. And, of course, there are  
 5 parameters and we would have to decide what those  
 6 would be, but like Keith said, there are people  
 7 out there that could turn some things around to  
 8 help us with very small projects that will be  
 9 beneficial.  
 10 In that ARP one, they had three  
 11 different types of grants. After I really sat  
 12 down and took it in. One was a really big one  
 13 for capacity building. And the other two were  
 14 kind of middle of the road with only 15 or so  
 15 days or 20 so days before it. I, myself, because  
 16 I've been a grant writer, a successful one, I  
 17 just don't have the capacity.  
 18 This conversation gets revisited from  
 19 time to time with a number of years that I've  
 20 been on Council. And it has convinced me that it  
 21 will be to our benefit to at least pilot  
 22 something.  
 23 MS. BURKE-JONES: Well, you did -- I  
 24 know we had discussion, I can't remember if it  
 25 was at our last meeting, that to actually move

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1 forward with something, we need to identify some  
 2 type of a budget potentially that we can pilot  
 3 something.  
 4 MR. BENJAMIN: I can reach out and get  
 5 some cost estimates from some of our neighboring  
 6 communities and see when they hire a consultant  
 7 how much they charge and what their contract is,  
 8 so at least you have something to work with.  
 9 MS. BURKE-JONES: That would be  
 10 wonderful to do that. Thank you. I noticed  
 11 there was a comment in the back, Keith.  
 12 MR. GALESTOCK: Just for clarification  
 13 sake I want to make sure I understand this. The  
 14 position you're talking about is, is this is a  
 15 proactive or reactive push versus pull?  
 16 Is this the person who is going to go  
 17 out there looking for those Easter eggs or is  
 18 this someone who is going to be told there's an  
 19 Easter egg, go see if you can get it? Do you get  
 20 my point?  
 21 MS. BURKE-JONES: Yes, exactly.  
 22 MR. GALESTOCK: So which is it or is it  
 23 both? I'm not sure.  
 24 MS. HUFFMAN: It could be both. It  
 25 depends.

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1 MR. GALESTOCK: Because it's one thing  
 2 to have somebody write a grant, but somebody has  
 3 to find them something to write about. And if  
 4 that's the case, then please consider that the  
 5 grant writer is going to work a lot longer and  
 6 harder if they're not familiar with the Village.  
 7 So we should look from within before we go too  
 8 far afield, because that's going to make it very  
 9 easy for them to be nimble and smart in writing  
 10 the grant.  
 11 MR. BENJAMIN: That's a good point.  
 12 MS. BURKE-JONES: So you will provide  
 13 some information.  
 14 MR. BENJAMIN: Sure. I'll ask and see  
 15 what we get back.  
 16 MS. BURKE-JONES: Thank you very much.  
 17 MR. YONCHAK: Can I ask a question?  
 18 MS. BURKE-JONES: Yes.  
 19 MR. YONCHAK: I don't even know what --  
 20 I looked at the grant that Marla sent. And I  
 21 could write a grant. And I feel very strongly  
 22 about our buildings. I feel that there's been a  
 23 lot of neglect. If I feel very strongly about  
 24 writing a grant as a private citizen, who do I  
 25 have to ask to be able to do it? Can I just do

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1 it or do I have to get approval to do it or  
 2 what's the story?  
 3 MS. BURKE-JONES: Ultimately Council  
 4 does approve a submitting grant. So you can't  
 5 just submit a grant.  
 6 MR. YONCHAK: So it can't be a case  
 7 where Marla -- I mean, we have to have it  
 8 approved by a Council at a Council meeting to  
 9 pursue a grant before we write it. So I can't  
 10 just write a grant.  
 11 MS. BURKE-JONES: Actually, I think it  
 12 can go through any one of our committees.  
 13 MR. BENJAMIN: Yeah, or I mean,  
 14 historically, for example, they may not call it a  
 15 grant, but in a way it's a grant like the  
 16 Bratenahl Foundation will fund certain projects  
 17 or residents will donate monetary funds to  
 18 implement something. So, you know, there's been  
 19 no set policy that I'm aware of over the years.  
 20 I think it's prudent that if a resident is  
 21 applying for a grant for something, we should  
 22 probably know about it and make sure it's even  
 23 feasible.  
 24 MS. BURKE-JONES: Definitely. That's  
 25 why I know that we have to approve it going out,

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1 because so many times grants are 50/50. I mean,  
 2 that's the big problem. They've gotten a grant  
 3 and we have a 50/50 match, but we still have to  
 4 spend -- we still need the money for half of it,  
 5 which was a problem I know in communities getting  
 6 money.  
 7 MR. BENJAMIN: Right. And what's the  
 8 long-term? So if it's to put in, let's just say,  
 9 a pocket park and someone goes out, a resident,  
 10 donates money or writes a grant and we're awarded  
 11 a pocket park, what's the long-term cost? Can we  
 12 afford to maintain it?  
 13 MS. BURKE-JONES: Do we want it?  
 14 MR. BENJAMIN: Things like that. So it  
 15 just depends.  
 16 MS. HUFFMAN: And the other thing is,  
 17 Bob, I think that the point that Keith makes is  
 18 really, really good that a private citizen can  
 19 find something and they could sit down and write  
 20 it, but certainly you need information from the  
 21 administration so all the details are such that  
 22 you're not just wasting your time to raise the  
 23 probability that it gets funded.  
 24 MR. YONCHAK: I won't write something if  
 25 I don't have a chance, if it's going to get

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1 turned down. Why would I write something?  
 2 MS. HUFFMAN: My point is that --  
 3 MS. BURKE-JONES: You need information  
 4 from the administration.  
 5 MR. YONCHAK: Believe me, I need  
 6 assistance. I totally get it. I'm going to need  
 7 some help. I need something from the  
 8 administration to assist me in getting the  
 9 information for the grant. I get it.  
 10 MS. BURKE-JONES: Exactly. Pat.  
 11 MS. MEADE: From a historical  
 12 perspective, a while back Bratenahl applied for  
 13 recycling grant and Mary Beckenbach would  
 14 normally apply for it. And at that time Dave  
 15 Matty said the process was it had to come to him  
 16 first so he could look at it and kind of say it  
 17 was okay to work on it.  
 18 Now, having said that, then it was  
 19 inconsistent, you know, and it wasn't followed.  
 20 So I think there needs to be something more  
 21 formalized. I guess with a lot of things in  
 22 Bratenahl things are done inconsistently. So if  
 23 you could try and tighten up a process whether  
 24 you need to -- whether it needs to be a policy or  
 25 an ordinance or whatever where it should be, you

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1 know, standardized. And again, it has to be  
 2 enforced and what happens if it isn't or somebody  
 3 says just go ahead, but the process of A, B and  
 4 C. I think that's been an ongoing issue. So  
 5 when you address grants, you may want to keep  
 6 that in mind to see if, again, does it go to Mr.  
 7 Matty first, he reviews and approves it, then  
 8 does Council, you know, is there a point person  
 9 for Council to work with whomever?  
 10 MR. BENJAMIN: Same with Shade Tree with  
 11 applying for forestry grants.  
 12 MS. MEADE: Yes.  
 13 MS. BURKE-JONES: Yes, Don.  
 14 MR. BIERUT: To your point, whatever  
 15 agency would award the money, they're giving it  
 16 to the Village, the government and there are  
 17 certainly at least minimal strings attached.  
 18 There are things that have to be done by the  
 19 Village. So the Village has to be aware, so I'm  
 20 sure Mr. Matty wants to see it. And also, a lot  
 21 of these things, if the Village is applying, it  
 22 requires some kind of Council action giving  
 23 authorization for the Mayor to sign for it.  
 24 MS. BURKE-JONES: Definitely. It looks  
 25 like we're looking for information if you can

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1 provide that information we discussed and we can  
2 talk about that at our next committee meeting.

3 MR. BENJAMIN: Sure.

4 MS. BURKE-JONES: I think we're at the  
5 end of our agenda at the moment. Anything else,  
6 committee members?

7 MR. BENJAMIN: I just want to thank the  
8 committee for meeting on an off Council meeting  
9 night. This was an extremely productive two  
10 hours. We got a lot done.

11 MS. MEADE: It was a really good  
12 meeting.

13 MR. OREL: Yes, I agree.

14 MS. BURKE-JONES: Great.

15 MR. YONCHAK: Let's do this every month  
16 if we can. This is a big committee.

17 MS. BURKE-JONES: I will contact you so  
18 that we can kind of come up with a general --

19 MR. YONCHAK: A plan, at least every two  
20 months, it's very important.

21 MS. MEADE: What's best about the  
22 meeting is you actually allowed discussion, you  
23 know, in open.

24 MS. BURKE-JONES: At some time there was  
25 a lot of discussion going on at the same time,  
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1 but yes, thank you.

2 MS. MEADE: But it made it productive so  
3 you guys can make the recommendations.

4 MS. BURKE-JONES: Thank you. Can I have  
5 a recommendation to end the meeting?

6 MR. YONCHAK: Motion to adjourn.

7 MS. HUFFMAN: Second.

8 MS. BURKE-JONES: All those in favor?

9 AYES: 3. NAYS: 0.

10 MR. YONCHAK: Good meeting, Joyce.

11 Meeting adjourned at 7:28 p.m.

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1 CERTIFICATE

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I, Nancy L. Molnar, do hereby certify that  
as such Reporter I took down in Stenotypy all of  
the proceedings had in the foregoing transcript;  
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into typewritten form as appears in the foregoing  
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*Nancy L. Molnar*

Nancy L. Molnar, Notary Public

within and for the State of Ohio

My commission expires July 15, 2023.