**Village of LaGrange Committee of the Whole Minutes**

**Record of Proceedings**

**March 13, 2025, 6:45 p.m.**

The Committee of the Whole meeting started at 6:45 p.m. The following council members were present: Flynn, Price, Gregory, Karpinski, Honer, and Smith.

Kym Thompson from Neighborhood Alliance spoke to the group about the mobile senior services provided to area residents. Weekly services (Wednesdays from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.) have been provided for a while with the Village and Township splitting the $400 cost of one weekly session per month. Unfortunately, the grant previously received from Western Reserve no longer is available. Additionally, the per weekly cost increased from $400 to $550. Kym shared the 2024 revenue and expense data for LaGrange’s mobile senior services. The survey conducted by Neighborhood Alliance revealed that of the seniors who attend 95% enjoy the program while 5% want to see more activities and transportation. Transportation (pickup and drop off) of seniors is a new service offering, which should increase the weekly attendance from 15 to 20-25. In addition to speakers and meals, the mobile senior services program conducts health checks (e.g., glucose, blood pressure, etc.) and provides activities. Administrator Gates suggested that the mobile senior services activities occur twice a month – with the Village and Township each paying $550 per month. However, the Township has not discussed this yet. The changes take effect in April. So, decisions need to be made soon by the Village and the Township. Neighborhood Alliance will continue seeking grant funding.

Members of our water / wastewater team (Goldsmith, Grasse, and Kushner) shared water loss and water meter information with the mayor and council members.

Our water loss for 2024 was almost 40%, which represents approximately 45.6 million gallons (120,000 gallons per day). The average Village consumption is 310,000 gallons per day. We are losing an average of 121,786 gallons per day or 39.29%. Changes in Ohio Environmental Protection Agency (OEPA) requirements could result in violations associated with communities having high water loss numbers.

The team also shared information on Metron and Neptune meters including but not limited to the following:

1. Currently, 1/10 of our meters are Metron. The rest are Neptune.
2. Meter accuracy
   1. Neptune meters are 95% accurate down to 1/8th of a gallon (or 2 cups) per minute. That means 120 cups of water (or 7.5 gallons) per hour must flow through a meter before it is measured and recorded to the meter reader. Neptune meters are read monthly via Village personnel driving the Village.
   2. Metron meters are 95% accurate down to 1/30th of a gallon (or ½ cup) per minute. That means 30 cups of water (or 1.875 gallons) per hour must flow through a meter before it is measured and recorded to the meter reader. Metron meters are read daily via internet.

25% of low-flow water loss (1/30th verses 1/8th) could be billed via Metron meters.

1. It is difficult for consumers to disconnect Metron meters but easy to disconnect Neptune meters.
2. Larger meters tend to be more accurate than smaller meters. We mainly have small units.

Representatives from Neptune and Metron will be invited to present to council at an upcoming special meeting.

The Committee of the Whole meeting adjourned at 7:31 p.m.

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Attested by: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Curt Karpinski, Christie Homer-Miller, Fiscal Officer

Council President Pro Tempore