

## **Public Lands & Buildings Committee**

The Public Lands & Buildings Committee met on Monday, August 5, 2019 in the Conference Room of the Lyndhurst Municipal Center.

Committee members present were Council members Jeff Price, David Frey and Steve Grushetsky. Also present were Council members Joe Gambatese, Joe Marko, Chuck LoPresti, Mayor Patrick Ward, Director of Law Paul Murphy, and Director of Service Tony Fioritto.

Chairman Price called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm, stating the purpose is to discuss the assessment for Street Lighting, Sewer and Shade Trees. He noted while there is no increase to the Street Lighting and Sewer assessments, there is a proposed increase for Shade Trees. Mr. Price stated the three Ordinances are on the Agenda for Council consideration this evening.

Mayor Ward remarked Council has been extremely diligent with regard to assessments, only raising them when necessary. He commented that unfortunately, the city will not be able to sustain the Shade Tree Program without increasing the rate to \$25.00 per lot per year. He added the rate was previously at \$25.00 and was decreased to \$12.50 in 2017 with the funds being re-allocated to the Sewer Assessment.

Mr. Murphy confirmed the current rate of \$12.50 would remain for 2019 and the increase would be effective for years 2020, 2021 and 2022.

Mr. Fioritto briefly explained why the increase is needed noting another disease affecting the trees called Oak Wilt, which they are already seeing in neighboring communities as close as South Euclid.

It was moved by Mr. Frey, seconded by Mr. Grushetsky, that the Public Lands and Building Committee make a recommendation to Council to entertain legislation for assessments.

The question was put to a voice vote and passed unanimously by the committee.

With no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 7:10 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Jeff Price, Chairman