

The city of Eastlake in May filed a lawsuit against the Village of Timberlake to collect Sewer Charges that have not been paid since November of 2006. As Mayor I do not think that it is right for Eastlake to provide a service (processing sewage) to the residents of Timberlake and then for Timberlake not to pay the bill for these services. In effect the residents of Eastlake are now subsidizing the processing of sewage for Timberlake residents. We have been extremely fair to Timberlake in offering their residents the same sewer rates that Eastlake residents pay plus 10% for Capital improvements and repairs to the Sewer plant. The 10% extra does not come close to the amount of money that both Eastlake and Willoughby residents pay to keep the plant operating. For example in 2006 and into 2007 Eastlake and Willoughby spent over \$ 1,000,0000 to put in the new sewer line on Lakeshore Blvd.

The County collects the sewer charges from Timberlake residents and sends the funds to Timberlake. Timberlake should forward the money to Eastlake for the service that we have provided yet they have not done so since November of 2006.If Timberlake's electric, gas ,or telephone bill was not paid since November the utility company's would have shut of services months ago yet Timberlake official's feel that is ok for them to withhold payment to Eastlake. Now Eastlake must use our valuable time and money to collect a bill through the court system that should have been paid long ago.

We have always been good neighbor's with Timberlake and provide mutual aid in police situations and we also provide (at a cost) fire protection to Timberlake residents. The non payment of the sewer charges especially since the Village has received the funds from the County has put a strain on our relationship. I can only hope that residents of Eastlake and Timberlake will convince Timberlake's leaders to pay their bill and help restore a good relationship.