

Charter Township of Portage

Sewer & Water Committee Meeting - March 19, 2021

When: 10:00 A.M.

Where: Township Offices

Who Present: Bruce Petersen (Secretary), Members Bill Bingham & Peggy Anderson
and Vanessa Dietz (Water Clerk)

Discussion Items:

>> Vanessa handed out 2020 Monthly Water and Sewer Reports.

>> Discussed Copper Ridge Road penalty levied for earlier for flushing of non-treatable baby wipes and binding up the chopper sewage pump costing the Twp. a lot of labor and vac truck time. Only one party has not paid the pro-rated penalty in the form of levied labor and vac truck costs to the residents on the road. That was a renter that has since left the area.

>> Bill discussed the sewer/water rates based on the first (3) months of the year and our 2021 budget. Portage sewer is generating about \$20,000.00/month of income. He wanted to propose a \$2.00/1,000 gallons rate increase so the general fund could be paid back sooner. There is a due to due for outstanding for Portage sewer. Dakota Heights presently makes about \$200.00/month – Bill again proposed that we raise those rates by \$1.00/1,000 gallons to raise more revenue. Petersen indicated that he felt that we should hold off on the rate increases – we just raised rates to levels that our Engineering Council from UPEA and USDA – RD felt were sufficient. Portage Water is making money; Dakota Water is making a profit of \$500/month.

>> Reviewed the previously passed out list of commercial/business meters that are still being read manually. The residential .75" dia. meters were largely all installed a couple of years ago. The Committee thought we should purchase the needed remote read meters for all the .75", 1.0", 1.5", 2.0" and 3.0" dia. Service line meters.

>> The Twp. is receiving a large sum of money through the American Relief Package and the Comm. thought that one of the needed projects in the Twp. was the replacement of the two sewer pump lift station roofs, the Dakota Heights water flow meter and to replace/redo the irrigation system at Forest Hill Cemetery.

>> Discussed the Twp. residents who about a year ago were caught out-letting sump pumps in to the commercial sewer. The Comm. thought it would be timely to send a letter out to the identified offenders a year ago to make sure that they are not once again out-letting their sump pump water in to our sewer system.

>> Discussed the EGLE Cross Connection agreement that was sent to the Twp. by Tom Flamineo. This cross-connection agreement only affects the water systems on the interior of the buildings.

Adjourned: 11:10 A.M.

Respectfully Submitted,

Bruce Petersen, Secretary