

Special Selectboard Meeting Minutes

June 22, 2021

Present: Doon Hinderyckx, Pat Harvey, Frank Severy

Guests: Guests: Terry Severy Martha Slater, Julie Smith, Nancy Woolley, Kristen & Troy LaPell,

Doon called the meeting at 8:00 am

Terry spoke to the board in regards of the utility upgrades and the costs of replacing the utility pumps. Terry stated the life of the sewer pumps are around 15 years. Terry noted we have one pump in storage, and it would require 2 pumps to be replaced together. Terry noted the pumps take 3 months to order and receive. He thought they may be tough to get, and the price may change. The pumps currently are not pumping what they should.

Terry said starting with the water, after taking a class from the state, he recommended that we should base the flat rate off the budget at 70-80%. Currently the water base is \$160/year. Frank thought if we increased to \$220/year, that would be a \$60 increase. Terry said the usage is \$3 per thousand gallons. Terry recommended with a change to the flat rate it would help put \$15,000 a year towards the savings needed for the upgrades to the system. Terry recommended that by raising the usage rate from \$3 per thousand gallons to \$4 and revisit this in a year. Terry said the water pumps are not as expensive as the 8 sewer pumps that will need replacing. Doon thought by increasing it slowly and revisit again in a year to see how the fund is increasing for the next three years. Terry wanted to include a notice in the next utility bill to indicate the increase. Doon made a motion to increase the water base rate to \$220/year and the usage fee to \$4.00 per thousand. Pat seconded. All in favor. So, voted.

Next, Terry spoke about the sewer part of the utilities. Sewer rates currently are \$140/ year. The proposed base rate is \$304/year. The current usage fee rate is \$6.50 per thousand. The field up on the hill is now 17 years old and will need extra care. The board considered going to \$300 year for the base rate and increase the usage fee rate to \$8.00 per thousand. Terry said the valves and dosing counters will need some upgrades. The system will last a long time if it is properly cared for. After Terry compared our rates to the rates of other towns, the towns current rates are most likely the lowest in the state. Terry said the last time the rates were increased was back in November of 2006. Doon made a motion to increase the sewer base rate to \$300/year and the usage fee rate to \$8.00 per thousand gallons. Pat seconded. All in favor. So, voted.

Doon called the meeting at 8:33 am

Respectfully submitted,

Julie Smith