

Sewer and Water Committee Meeting 04/03/2014

Where: Township Office

When: 10:00A.M.

Who Present: Andrew Kemper (late), Peggy Anderson, & Bruce Petersen

Discussion Points:

- Discussed how the Township will handle the resumption of billing after three months of “averaging” the water flows during our “keep-run” policy period of Feb., March, & April of 2014. Discussed the pro’s and con’s of either offering a universal credit prorated to all water customers or reading the meters at the beginning of the May billing cycle and at the end and then charging the customer for the amount of water used for the month of May. That process would basically forgive all the high consumptive readings to the individual customers during our 3 month let run period. The start anew option; read at the beginning and the end of May will be recommended to the Board of Trustees at the April 14th Bd. Meeting.
- The water consumption rates for just Portage Water were compared:
The month of March **2013** = 2,258,478 Gallons
The month of March **2014** = 3,860,000 Gallons

A difference of **1,601,000** gallons under the keep run policy for the Portage Water Customers. Just to buy that water from Adams Twp would cost approx. \$6,406.00 and when you add City of Houghton treatment costs at \$7.50 per 1,000 gallons reaching the plant this policy has cost the Twp. at least 13 or 14 thousand dollars just to allow Portage Water residents to run their water. There were two large water break occurrences (Approx. 500,000 gallons) contained within the 2014 totals.

- A MIOSHA needed “confined entry space” portable gas monitor was discussed. The committee decided to purchase a PS200 made by Gas Measurement Instruments (GMI) from the Safety Store. It is the same meter that the City of Houghton uses.
- Patty Abb’s sewer in Hurontown has frozen twice under the county road. We will pay the claimed amount because it was frozen under the County road right-a-way.
- Lastly, discussed the need to revisit our Freeze-Thaw Policy. A maximum cap for the dollar amount paid out for thawing frozen pipes under the County Road and or the number of payments a property owner can receive could be reconsidered prior to the winter of 2014/2015.

>> Adjourned by Peggy at 10:42 A.M.

Respectfully Submitted:

Bruce Petersen
Township Supervisor