

Charter Township of Portage
Special Board of Trustees Meeting
June 30, 2021
Township Hall
47240 Green Acres Road
Houghton, MI 49931
(906) 482-4310

The meeting was called to order at 3:00 pm. Those in attendance were Supervisor Bruce Petersen, Clerk Amy Skewes, Treasurer Betsy Smith and Trustees Peggy Anderson, Bill Bingham, Bill Fink and John Ollila.

This meeting was to address the water/sewer rates in the township

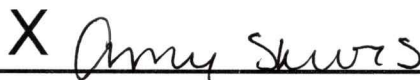
1. Bingham presented the board with his concerns on all water/sewer accounts, he also gave his recommendation for rate increases. After discussion with the board and Chris Holmes from UPEA, the board decided to wait until Vanessa has her training with BS&A and after the board has the mid-year budget meeting and go from there.
2. Bingham researched the current water rates and minutes from 2/2018 when the board voted to change water rates to:
 - Naumkeg to \$6.00 per 1000 gal. of water and increase the base fee to \$16.00.
 - Naumkeg sewer increase to \$10.00 per 1000 gal. used.
 - Woodland water changed by eliminating the first 1745 gal. included in the base fee

The rates were never changed. The board agreed to adjust those customer bills on the next billing cycle (7/1/2021)

3. Bingham researched the ordinance referring to sump pumps and learned the township can fine a resident for violating the ordinance. After discussion it was decided that Bruce would have the DPW staff inspect those homes who are known to have sump pumps in the past and issue any repeat offenders a \$100.00 municipal civil infraction fine.
4. After discussing the increase in the sewer charges from the City of Houghton in Portage and Dakota the board decided to calibrate those meters to make sure they are working properly.
5. There was discussion about the increase in sewer usage in Dakota, Bingham stated there must be infiltration with the large increase. The board agreed to inspect the lines in Dakota Sewer
6. Public comments: None
7. Adjourn: Anderson motioned to adjourn at 4:40, seconded by Skewes. All in favor

X 

Bruce Petersen
Supervisor

X 

Amy Skewes
Clerk