

Dewey Bonnewell, Kinyon Drive – Objects to increase.

Jack Conely, Overhill Drive – BTBT has capacity to do the right thing; do it.

Mary Herig, Parklawn Drive – First meeting; BTBT is taking the easy way out by charging the tax payer. Pursue sewer hookups. Discouraged at how local government works, should have been involved much sooner. Objects to increase; there are better ways to find a solution.

Randall Lucas, Carol Drive – Objects to increase; wants facts; fairness.

Ray and Debbie Leicht, e-mail dated 02/23/2017 – objects to increase.

**Public Hearing closed at 9:15 P.M.**

Manager Vick summarized the rate review process including the Utilities Committee's recommendation and previous discussion(s) by the Board. Discussion included legal fees are paid for services rendered on an hourly basis – no attorney on staff; referenced Michigan Municipal League handbook referencing monies raised for a special purpose are paid for by those receiving the special benefit; need to fund reserves based on the Asset Management Plan; rate adjustments are not retaliatory or punitive; lowering rates to attract more users; REU and confusion on gallons/day/REU and Design Basis Report.

Supervisor Michel requested audience to allow the Board to have discussion. Board discussion continued after the disruption and included review of some of the actions taken to date to reduce costs and attract users contrary to the public suggesting otherwise; efforts included direct procurement, renegotiation of contracts, supplier changes, economic development investments by township, and adding language to all master deeds requiring hook-ups and participation in future SAD's; fiduciary responsibility; updated fiscal analysis listing assumptions and forecasts and Capital Improvement Plan; and resurrecting the Sanitary Sewer Action Plan for review.

**S. Theis moved and R. Drouillard seconded that the Township Board having received the financial analysis by PHP has selected a funding scenario ensuring that revenue covers expenses and hereby approves the following sanitary sewer quarterly rates effective April 1, 2017: Debt Service Charge \$80.50 per REU; User Charge \$106.00 per REU.**

**Ayes: L. Weaire, S. Theis, R. Drouillard, A. Bollin, P. Michel**

**Nays: S. Combs, M. Slaton**

**Motion carried.**

Clerk Bollin provided historical background of Sanitary Sewer Action Plan and explained why she suggested it be resurrected (for transparency, task tracking and accountability, communication with the users/residents, and serve as a point of reference for the current Board). Manager referenced the information available on the Township website, particularly the March 3, 2016 presentation, which contains a lot of the history of the Sanitary Sewer System including reference documents and provided an overview of alternatives that were being discussed/proposed related to the oversizing which was tabled due to the filing of a lawsuit.

**A. Bollin moved and L. Weaire seconded that the Township resurrect the Sanitary Sewer Action Plan for review and to record what has been done to date and identify what can be done to reduce costs and increase users in order to address the overall financial status of the Sanitary Sewer Fund.**

**Motion carried.**

**P. Michel moved and S. Combs seconded to recess for 10 minutes. (10:00 P.M.)**

**Motion carried.**

The Board returned from recess at 10:10 P.M.