

## Superior Township Water Board Minutes

March 18, 2025

The Meeting was called to order at 5:00 by Bill Munsell.

Roll Call of Members: Bill Munsell, Jim Sutton, Rachel Lyons and Kathy Loup

Jim Sutton motioned and Rachel supported to accept Jim Busha's absence. All approved.

Others present: Frank Toms, Water/Sewer Superintendent, Larry Noyce, Water/Sewer Employee and Mike Fox, Supervisor

Public Comment: Mike Fox, Supervisor, brought to the Board his concern about the budget for the Water and Sewer Funds, as well as the General Fund. There is little contingency in either account to assist with future repairs and upgrades. Labor costs for Water or Sewer that are accounted for in the General Fund need to be moved to the Water or Sewer accounts. The revenues for the Water and Sewer accounts are low and need to be increased. Frank is working on arranging for a rate study. Fishback will be here the week of March 24<sup>th</sup> to assess the sewer system.

A motion was made by Bill Munsell and supported by Jim Sutton to move forward with a rate study being provided by Michigan Rural Water at no cost to the Township. The motion was approved.

Bill brought up the need to get the usage corrected for both Brimley Area Schools and the Brimley State Park. The underreporting of usage has been occurring with around 10% of actual usage being used for billing for quite a while.

A discussion was had on the possibility of moving to monthly billing. Residents are currently receiving quarterly bills. Options for reading meters were discussed including attaching an antenna to the tower next to the water tower. This would allow for fast digital reading to take place. Frank is going to ask others about the possible cost of the antenna at his training this week. Rachel suggested that Jolene and Amy be involved in making any changes to ensure they are able to handle it administratively and to look at the cost of mailing monthly vs quarterly.

Frank reported that there is a possibility that the lagoon samples could be taken to Kinross saving a trip to Detour. He will look into it. He mentioned his up-and-coming training and testing for licensing on May 1<sup>st</sup> for water and May 7<sup>th</sup> for lagoons. He explained a problem with Lift Station #5 in detail to correct an emergency. It was a good and positive relationship between all involved – John's Porta Johns, Rudyard Electric, Crane Engineering and BMIC. Frank also presented a list of water/sewer needed equipment and projects that need to be done for the 2025 Budget. With the consultation work that is being done by BMIC/Fishbeck, there is a need to camera the lines. Frank has engaged a Kinross vac truck to possibly do this work in-house. Rachel asked that he get rates for this so we can determine the full cost of doing this

ourselves. Frank is also to reach out to Crane to see about a modified quote for the lift station replacement using 3-phase. Mike Fox stated he would check to see if 3-phase was available close to the site.

Jim Sutton made a motion to approve the February 18, 2025 minutes with corrections, supported by Bill Munsell. The motion was approved.

Bill Munsell welcomed Rachel Lyons to the Water Board.

Rachel Lyons made a motion requesting the Township Board to advise the Township Attorney to send a letter by April 11, 2025 to Richard Phillips requiring that he return all equipment, supplies, and documentation (specifically any jump drives, electronic files and paperwork) belonging to Superior Township. Supported by Jim Sutton. Motion was approved.

Kathy Loup made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 6:50 pm, supported by Jim Sutton. The motion was approved.

Kathy Loup