

Village of Carlock  
Town Meeting  
Tuesday, July 16, 2019  
White Oak Township Building  
7:00pm

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The meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm by President, J. Houston. Roll call was taken. Those present were trustees, R. Baer, R. Eaves, D. Geshiwlm, and G. Kaeb. Clerk, M. Becker, Treasurer, C. Sams and were also present. There were 13 visitors in attendance.

The pledge of allegiance was recited.

Water Committee member, R. Baer began the meeting with a slideshow presentation regarding the current state of the water plant. The presentation covered the cost it takes to run the current water plant, future needs and the proposal for raising the water rates.

**Overview:**

The new water plant came on-line in 2015. Since then, various chemicals have been tested and multiple chemical changes have occurred.

The Village currently has two wells. Well #2 has been capped and closed. Well #1 is high in iron and ammonia. Well #3 has the softest water, but the levels are high for arsenic. Currently using well #3 as the main well and #1 as the back-up.

The water department, with assistance from the engineers, have found a chemical combination that works well to remove the arsenic. In order to continue to use that particular chemical combination, the water department, per IL EPA, will be required to purchase new chemical storage and dispensary equipment.

The current plant is a Level B water plant and requires, at minimum, a Level B operator. The current water superintendent maintains a Level B license and the newly hired assistant water plant manager maintains a Level A license.

**Expenses:**

In addition to licensed operators, the current and ongoing expenses for the water plant include: repairs and maintenance for the plant and its equipment, cleaning and removal of waste from red water filter, engineering costs, accounting, insurance, utilities, water testing, chemicals and proper storage, and computer software maintenance.

**Loans:**

The current loan for the water plant will end in 2034. The tower loan will be paid off in approximately 4 years.

**Calculations:**

In 2017-2018, based on the current numbers, inclusive of capital expenses, water bills would have needed to be approximately \$79.00/ month/per household to cover expenses. In 2018-2019, that figure

would be \$85.00/month/per household. If you remove the capital expenses and calculate based on operations alone, those figures would be \$40.00 and \$51.00, respectively.

Current water rates are \$19.50 up to the first 1000 gallons and \$8.50 per 1000 gallons above the base.

Revenue:

Water bills, bulk water sales, property/hydrant taxes, utility taxes and subsidizing from the General Fund are the sources of revenue. Two-thirds of the subsidiary source is most likely to dry up in a few years, causing more reason for concern. Water revenue is down approximately 17%.

Proposal:

The board's proposal is to raise the flat rate (base rate), not the variable rate. The increase would occur over a 3 year period. A \$3.00 increase the first year, with \$1.50 increase in year 2 and again in year 3. Total increase over the 3 year period would be \$6.00.

At the close of the presentation, the floor was open to questions/comments.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned. R. Eaves made motion to adjourn. G. Kaeb seconded motion. Motion carried 5-0. Meeting adjourned at 7:58pm.

Michele L. Becker, Village Clerk