

Village of Balsam Lake
Sewer/Water Committee October 28, 2013
Village Hall 6:00 pm to 6:55 pm

Meeting called to order by Josh Hallberg.

Members present: Josh Hallberg, Jeff Reed, Keith Swenson
Other Board members present: Geno D'Agostino
Others present: Jim Duncan, Darryl Ince

Sewer Finances: Discussion was held on Sewer Utility Department Cost of Operations, balances and budget. Of main interest is gaining a clearer understanding of the depreciation expense. Brock Geyen of CliftonLarsonAllen accounting firm will be invited to the next meeting to clarify the utility accounts in detail.

WPDES Clean Water Permit Update: Jim Duncan informed the committee of the status in obtaining a new sewer permit. The Village has to reapply for the permit every five years. The application has to be completed by the end of January for review to be issued in September 2014. Jim Duncan and Darryl Ince explained the process and the changes that may need to be made regarding excess ammonia levels in order to be in compliance to obtain permit.

Disposable Wipes in Sewer Line: Jim Duncan explained a problem that sewer facilities worldwide are confronting regarding disposable wipes. The wipes are put in the sewer system, do not decompose, pumps are getting plugged resulting in costly repairs. Discussion was held on educating the public through a mailing. Duncan will furnish additional material on the subject at the next meeting.

Sewer Rates: The need for a rate increase was discussed upon review of the cost of operations for the sewer department. A gradual 3% increase yearly versus waiting and implementing a significant increase will be considered when meeting with the accountant.

Motion to adjourn by Jeff Reed. Seconded by Keith Swenson. Carried.

Mary Kjeseth, Deputy Clerk Treasurer