

**Village of Ellsworth**  
**Water & Sewer Committee Meeting**  
**Village Hall downstairs board room, 130 N. Chestnut St. (East Rear Entrance)**  
**January 3, 2023 at 5:00 pm**

**Committee Members present: Borner (Chairperson), D. Hines, T. Hines**

**Village Board Members present: Austin, Neeley, Beissel (President)**

**Staff present: Public Works Director Vick, Administrator/Clerk-Treasurer Roy**

**MINUTES**

- 1. Meeting called to order by Chairperson Borner at 5:00pm.**
- 2. Discuss/Approve 2023 Piety/Grant Reconstruct Sewer and Water Surveying and the Safe Drinking Water Loan Program application.** Jon Stand (cbs<sup>2</sup>) presented the Piety and Grant Streets sewer and water reconstruction project. The watermains are undersized. The sewer lines that are clay pipes with numerous deficiencies (cracks and sags). Street reconstruction and sidewalks “in kind replacement” would also be covered. The entire project cost is covered, the funding is a 20-year water bond and a 20-year sewer bond which will impact rates. There is a grant component – “principal forgiveness”, which will be determined by the DNR later this year. The complete application needs to be submitted by June 30. The Village will have the option to withdraw the application until August, when the grants are awarded. If the application is withdrawn the costs of survey and design will not be reimbursed, approximately \$200,000. **MSC D. Hines/T. Hines to approve the Piety/Grant Reconstruction Sewer and Water Surveying and the Safe Drinking Water Loan Program application.** No further discussion. **Unanimous.**
- 3. Discuss/Approve Removal of special assessment for Pierce County LS.** Public Works Director Vick presented the special assessments on properties at the end of Cairns St. This becomes an issue when the properties are sold. The assessments are to connect the properties to the lift station near the Pierce County Solid Waste facility. At this time, it is not practical to connect the properties to that lift station and the amount is insufficient for the work that would be needed. No payments have been made to date. **MSC T. Hines/Borner to approve the removal of the special assessment for the Pierce County Lift Station.** No further discussion. **Motion passed with 2 in favor and D. Hines abstaining.**
- 4. Discuss Sewer Rate increase for 2023 (Davy Engineering).** Public Works Director Vick presented the current rates and that of surrounding communities. The Village of Ellsworth rates are less than those. Rate history was reviewed. No action was taken.
- 5. Discuss New Sewer Ordinances (Davy Engineering).** Public Works Director Vick presented potential updates of the utility ordinances and current deficiencies. No action was taken.

6. **Discuss Water Meter Replacement.** Public Works Director Vick presented that the Village was provided the incorrect water meters (gallons instead of cubic feet). It was determined that 56 total incorrect water meters, 22 were installed last year. This results in those households being overcharged. The replacement meters have been received. The installation date of the incorrect meter will not be determined until it is removed. Any overpayments will be given a credit on the account. No action was taken.
7. **Discuss Public Fire Protection Charge.** Administrator/Clerk-Treasurer Roy presented the Public Fire Protection Charge, for 2023 the charge will be approximately \$206,000. Currently the Village covers that charge from taxes. It could be placed on the utility bills which include all utility accounts and not just taxpayers. No action was taken.
8. **Adjourn. MSC D. Hines/T. Hines to adjourn.** No further discussion. **Unanimous.**

Respectfully submitted by,  
Brad Roy  
Administrator/Clerk-Treasurer