

## To Our Residents:

There has been many comments and questions over the years on the cost of water supplied to you. There are many parts that go into this equation.

The original water plant and tower was built and on line in the late 1940's. At this time there was approximately 375 taps, business or residents that were getting their water from the system. That system was a soda ash treatment system which at that time a very good system. Over the years more pressure was put on our current system to meet EPA requirements. There were upgrades to the plant, softer system added, etc. Also, the wells were at the same age of the water plant and water tower. During this time water rates remained consistence but there was very little reserve.

In the mid to late 2000's more pressure was put on the village by the EPA to meet the clean water requirements. Even though the plant at that time was meeting the requirements the pressure of the EPA was a daunting task.

Before the current plant was built there was much discussion on the other ways to supply water. Every options was not viable due to our location, cost of piping water, and no one that really wanted to take us.

So the decision was made by the Council and Board of Public Affairs to build a new plant. This plant went on line in 2012 with a cost of \$1,862,067.00 in a loan adding cost to the village residents. Also the number of tabs had decreased from the original 375 tabs.

In 2013 it was determined that our wells had to be replaced. The cost of the wells and pumps were \$189,946.00 in a loan.

I late 2018 and early 2019 there were numerous water line breaks, the wells, pumps, filters and the water tower had a leak. These issues were due to the age of the water tower and the supply lines. In order to repair the water tower and some lines & valves another loan had to be procured. This loan was \$90,622.00.

During these times there was little money in reserve, the money that was there was used for day to day operations or to fix the items with the monies on hand. The \$189,946 was received at 0% interest, the \$90,622 loan was received at .56% interest and the \$1,862,067.00 loan was received at 1.5% interest. The current cost to play off these loans are \$23.24 per month per tab holder. We are currently at 292 tab holders.

Even though the wells and pumps were cleaned in 2018 we are still have the same problem with the iron buildup. We are currently working with EPA and 2 well drilling companies to minimize this problem. As you know, this problem causes many problems with all of us. The well is scheduled to be cleaned the last week of January.

We are still on borrowed time with the water tower. We were able to procure 70% of the cost of the tower but there is still an additional cost of \$3.50 per tab holder per month.

We wanted to give you an explanation of the events that has happened over the last ten years. The council and BPA did not take any of these events lightly.

(More information on other side) 