

SUPERVISOR COMMENTS
NOVEMBER 2021
SIMSTOWNSHIP.ORG

OUR NEW TREASURER AND WATER CLERK ... Ann Marie and Judy began their new jobs on October 5th and are rapidly coming up to speed. Both had zero experience in either task and coupled with accelerated training by vendors, are sorting out fact from fiction, with the latter being much worse than what we were expecting for both tasks. The county is helping us out by preparing and mailing the taxes in December. The first cycle of the water billing for this period will be delayed due to a malfunction of the meter reading device that did not or could not read 150 meters. Rather than the typical 90-day billing cycle, the billing cycle may be up to 145 days this one time only. So our staff are on a steep learning curve and our corporate goal is to be in great shape, as far as learning the systems, by the end of this year and with the group we have, that's more than achievable. Thank You to all for your great attitudes and equally great efforts!

ANN & NANCY COURT PROJECT MOVING ALONG NICELY ... That project involved more than just repaving the roads throughout the subdivision. The biggest challenge has been re-digging all the ditches and replacing the culverts. Over the years the culverts became plugged with debris and were rotting, so major work was called for which requires major money to the extent, we may not be available to do other projects for 2022.

LAWSUIT BY WHITNEY ... You may hear through the grapevine that Whitney Township has sued Sims Township and that is not a local rumor but is fact. They are making a Breach of Contract claim against myself, Mike Deleo and Sims Township over our alleged vote to not return their water tower to them when the previous water plant bonds were paid off. The Articles of Incorporation has a clause to make that happen, but the township that wants to exercise that clause, must take the step, as it is not an automatic process, to present it to the joint board and Whitney never took that step and so there was never a vote. The heart of the matter is not the tower per se, but the AT&T antennas on that tower that generates around \$1800.00/mo that is deposited in the Sims Whitney Utilities Authority and then withdrawn by the Whitney folks and deposited in one of their mystery accounts without authorization of the joint board. The amount of money diverted from the authority over the last 15 years or so, is about \$145,000.00. Sims Township will 1) agree to mediation and if that is not successful may 2) ask the court for a forensic audit to determine how the money was spent and 3) may file a counter-complaint for 'Unjust Enrichment' to try to re-coup some of those funds and return them to their rightful place within the water authority. The towers are on property deeded to the authority and are assets of the authority. Whitney has claimed ownership of their tower for years via some suspicious document and re-deeding their tower simply legitimizes their removal of authority revenue for their own use. Re-deeding cannot occur until 2036 as there are new water plant bonds in place and the clause they are holding on to does not include a

date for re-deeding to occur and can be interpreted as being in 'perpetuity.' The lawsuit will be on our website for all to review.

TRIBAL 2% DISTRIBUTION, NOVEMBER 19TH AT 1:30 ... Sam Proulx and Mike Deleo will represent Sims at the Saganing Tribal Center. To those not familiar with this distribution, tribes that have casinos are required by state law to distribute 2% of their profits to the townships within their county twice a year. These distributions are a huge help to both the townships and the schools in our case, Sims, Standish and Pinconning. For example, the Sims-Au Gres school realizes about \$150,000/yr in grants awarded for computers, software plus a whole lot more. For this distribution, we have two grant collaborations with Whitney for water meters (\$35,000) and a front-end loader tractor for the Transfer Station. Please keep visiting the Saganing Casino and smile, as your losses are benefiting others!

FINAL TWO THOUGHTS ... "Negative people need drama like it's oxygen. Stay positive and take their breath away." Unknown.

"May you see sunshine where others see shadows, and opportunities where others see obstacles." Another Unknown!