

SUPERVISOR COMMENTS

JUNE 2019

Sims Township Super-Couple Changing Direction ... Pat and Tim Roche have been very active in Sims Township for several years and have decided it is time for a slight direction correction. Currently, they have stepped down from their roles on the Planning Commission, where Pat was Recording Secretary and Tim was Chairperson. Pat will continue as a member with the Zoning Board of Appeals. We hope she continues to help with elections as well if she has time? Tim may be spending more time on the road delivering vehicles for Richardson's in Standish. Whatever direction and path they follow, the Sims Board and myself say 'Thank You' for your years of service to Sims Township and may you continue to have much joy and many blessings in the days and years ahead!

Effective June 2019 Water Rate Increase ... Mike Engels from Michigan Rural Water has reviewed our operational expenses for providing water and has recommended an annual 2% increase to our **Ready to Serve** charge per quarter and that annual increase will stay as such if those operational expenses remain in line with the Annual Cost of Living Index. A significant increase could occur if the Sims/Whitney Utilities Authority are required to enhance filtration to handle the PFAS contamination, should the PFAS levels in Lake Huron rise to an action level. Currently the PFAS issue is a huge problem nationwide and primarily in those communities that get their water from wells. Because our water is coming from Lake Huron and not wells, we do not anticipate a problem with PFAS anytime soon.

"Ready to Serve Charges" are based on water meter pipe size in inches, and billed on a quarterly basis as follows:

<u>Meter Pipe Size</u>	<u>Ready to Serve Charge Per Quarter</u>
5/8" and 3/4"	\$59.50 (\$1.17 over previous)
1"	\$89.39 (\$1.76 over previous)
2"	\$349.00 (Check with Water Clerk)
3"	\$594.00 (Check with Water Clerk)

Consumption Fee ... all usage will be charged at a rate of \$4.47 (\$4.38 previous) per thousand gallons and fractionals of same ...

Water Turn On Fee no change ... \$100.00

Water Turn Off Fee no change ... \$100.00

Connection Fee to Water System ... \$2000.00 if the connection is made during the summer months (April 1 - October 31), and in the amount of \$2500.00 if the connection is made during the winter months (November 1 - March 31).

System Equity Fee is in the amount of \$6000.00 for new or existing dwellings or businesses that desire to connect to the water system.

The Connection Fee of \$2000.00 plus SEF fee of \$6000.00 are paid prior to water service installation to Sims Township and cannot be added to the tax statement and paid over time as was done previously, as that payment program ended February 28, 2019.

Check on installation of a new street light at Nancy and Michigan ... I contacted Consumers Energy at 9:45 a.m. on 6/10/19 to 1-800-477-5050 on what does it take to get new service for a street light to be installed at that intersection. After answering a myriad of questions, I was given a confirmation number of 1048868512 and a promise that a "Coordinator" would contact me within 48 hours which is now 72 hours ago and no contact. I called Friday, 6/14 and was able to connect with our Coordinator, Christine Greenwood. She was very helpful and stated it was in some design phase, the paperwork would come to the township and we sign it, send a check for a \$100.00 and it would get installed. So I'll go out on a limb and state that it might be installed within the next 30 days, but more likely, by the end of the year, maybe! Contact numbers for Christine are 269-969-8521 at work and a cell number of 269-867-7352 for those desiring to track the project process.

Finally ...

"I'm doing my best, the best I know how and when I know better, I will do better."
Elizabeth Cavu Jarema

"Whatever you do, always give 100%. Unless you're donating blood." UK

"The problem with quotes from the Internet, is that you can never truly verify their authenticity." Abraham Lincoln