

SPECIAL MESSAGE FROM THE TOWN OF McCORDSVILLE REGARDING SEWER BILLS

Dear Sewer Customer:

More and more people are finding McCordsville to be a great place to live and raise a family and we welcome them. As we continue to grow, our residential services continue to grow as well. Because of that growth, the McCordsville Wastewater Treatment Plant now nears capacity and an expansion is required. The expansion will double our capacity from .5 million gallons to 1 million gallons. This type of expansion requires a big investment and it is not an investment that the Town can fund only through user fees. We need to issue a bond to pay for the expansion and that is where the sewer rate increase comes in. The public hearing was noticed on several platforms, including the newspaper, the Town's Facebook Page and Friday E-mail Blast with the information needed to send in comments or log-on to the Zoom meeting.

Following is a FAQ that we hope helps answer some of the questions you may have when you receive your June sewer bill.

Q: How much is the increase?

A: The increase to the sewer portion is almost \$5. Currently, the **sewer** rate is \$48.00 (and has been for more than 10 years) and it will now be \$52.99. The trash and stormwater portions of your bill remain the same. **This sewer rate increase only applies to residents on the McCordsville Sewer System, not those on septic or served by Aqua Indiana. Your total will now be \$70.67 instead of the \$65.68 you've been paying.**

PLEASE NOTE: IF YOU HAVE YOUR SEWER BILL AUTOMATICALLY DEDUCTED FROM YOUR BANK, YOU SHOULD CONTACT YOUR BANK IMMEDIATELY TO INFORM THEM OF THE INCREASE SO THE CORRECT AMOUNT IS DEDUCTED.

Q: What is the cost of construction of the Wastewater Treatment Plant expansion?

A: The total cost of the project is \$7,161,000. However, due to efficient savings throughout the years, the Town of McCordsville was able to fund \$3.5 million of the cost through the funds supported by user and developer fees. Without the Town's ability to help fund the project, sewer rates would have increased by a far greater amount.

Q: Why do we need to expand the Wastewater Treatment Plant?

A: The Indiana Department of Environmental Management (IDEM) requires a city or town which provides sanitary sewer service to begin the process of expansion when capacity hits 85%. We have hit that capacity mark.

Q: How long will this expansion last before another expansion is needed?

A: Our last expansion was completed in 2009. The current expansion should be on-line at the end of 2021 or beginning of 2022. We anticipate that we will not need another expansion for another 7 to 10 years. Of course, the timeframe for the next expansion could be sooner or later depending on continued growth patterns.

Q: If I want more information on the construction of the Wastewater Treatment Plant expansion, who should I talk to?

A: While the Town is working with consulting engineers on the design and construction of the project, either the Town Engineer, Mark Witsman or Public Works Commissioner, Ron Crider, will be able to answer any questions you may have. Mr. Witsman can be reached at mwitsman@mccordsville.org and Mr. Crider at rcrider@mccordsville.org.

While we are very aware that no one wants to see rates increase, this construction is a necessity to allow our Town to continue thriving.

Sincerely,

McCordsville Town Council

- Barry Wood, President
- Tom Strayer, Vice President
- Greg Brewer
- Larry Longman
- Branden Williams