

**Lost Lake Utility Special Meeting
404 Lake Court, Dixon, Illinois
June 19, 2006**

- I. Call to Order and Roll Call:** Joe Olliges called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm. Trustees Present: Joe Olliges, George Kersten, Ron Berger, Jerry Pohlman, Bill Weronko, and Nadine Portner. Also Present: Sheila Warner, Treasurer; Susan Steffens, Secretary; Betsy Young; Financial Planner, and members of the community.
- II. Pledge of Allegiance.**
- III. Approval of the Agenda:** George made a motion to approve the agenda. Bill seconded the motion. The motion was approved by unanimous roll-call vote. (6-19-07-1).
- IV. Water and Sewer Rate Hearing:** Joe stated the purpose for the hearing is to inform the community as to the proposed rates for water and sewer. Handouts were distributed (attached) and the floor was opened for community comments.

Q. Harold Stromberger: questioned sewer rates for the east side? **A. There is no sewer availability for the east side.**

Q. Marty Portner: questioned “proposed initial rate structure” How long is “initial” will there be additional rate increases? **A. In the model, there is a proposed 5 percent rate increase every five years. It may change depending on water usage. Due to the fact the meters aren’t accurate it is hard to determine.** Q How long is debt service? **A. 20 years.** Q. If the Utility becomes the beneficiary of a windfall what would happen? **A. That would accelerate the capital improvements.**

Q. Irene Szyborski: Will all homes receive a new meter? **A. Yes.**

Q. Rich Meisner: The rates have tripled, why new rates? **A. Those rates are the ICC rates. They are a starting point. These rates have been established to pay back debt service and to maintain and improve what has been badly neglected.**

Q. Mike Robinson: There is no separate rate structure for New Landing and Lost Nation? **A. If you look at the handout it is actually on it.** Q. Water “availability” fees are going to all lots? **A. Currently the rates are being proposed. We are still working on those issues.**

Q. Tom Cleary: People that don’t have water availability, will there be a fee? **A. Those issues are being worked on.** Q. Will the water meters be read

outside or remote? **A. Depends on the costs. Each meter will cost about \$300 to install. Ideally, we would like remote. It would save money over time. It is imperative that all the meters are working. All lines would be flushed before the meters will be installed.** Q. Do you plan to inform all property owners of these proposed rates? **A. We sent out over 800 postcards last month, 60 people came to the hearing. The newsletter will have information for the community. Rate increases have been spread out to all owners of the community.**

Q. Average gallon usage, what was that based on. **A. Data from the current bills.** Q. Availability is the biggest jump on the rate increase. I have four lots with one house. I would rather pay for water usage than availability charge for water I am not using. **A. We need a fixed amount of money to maintain the bonds. Availability charges accomplish bond maintenance.** Q. Who votes on this? **A. The Board.**

Q. Joe: All metered customers will be subjected to availability fee even if you have a meter? **A. No, only lots with no homes are charged availability fees.**

Q. How many meter customers are there? **A. 330 is the last count.** Q. There are about 1600 lots minus the 330 homes. That is about \$12,000 generated in availability. **A. West side is already paying availability. That money is needed to maintain the utility. If the availability is removed the (users) homeowners will have the burden to pay the cost to maintain the utility.**

Q. What about delinquency? **A. It will not be ignored. Liens will be placed.**

IV Adjourn Public Hearing: Bill made a motion to adjourn the Public Hearing. Jerry seconded the motion. The motion was approved by unanimous roll-call Vote (6-19-07-2). The meeting adjourned at 7:06 pm.

6-19-07-1 Approval of the Agenda

6-19-07-2 Adjourn Special Meeting

sfs 7/11/07