

VILLAGE OF TILTON

CLERK
Lori Fields

MAYOR
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TREASURER
Tiffany Jones

TRUSTEES

Virgil Sheets Billy Wear Judie Barrett Robert Finley Ryan Washkowiak Brian Cornett

October 23, 2019

Tilton Sewer Customer
Tilton, IL 61833

To all Sewer Customers of the Village of Tilton:

As of January 1, 2020, the sewer rates for customers will increase as follows:

\$20.00 basic user fee up to 1000 gallons and \$3.00 per extra 1000 gallons used.

As of January 1, 2021, the sewer rates for customers will increase as follows:

\$25.00 basic user fee up to 1000 gallons and \$4.00 per extra 1000 gallons used.

The Village Board considered several factors in establishing these rates. As many of you are aware, our sewer system is approximately 70 years old and continues to deteriorate each year. We want to make sure that our citizens are safe and treated fairly. Our current basic user fee is \$12.00, making it one of the lowest in the state.

We have had conversations with other entities in the past about selling our sewer system to someone with the funds to make the improvements. This would have probably raised user fees to almost \$100.00 per month. WE DO NOT WANT TO DO THIS. We want to make the sewer charges still affordable to our citizens but also make it safe.

The Village plans to borrow \$18,000,000.00 from the Environmental Protection Agency in the next year or so to be able to make the improvements that our sanitary sewer system

so desperately needs. The EPA currently has a loan program where we can borrow the amount needed at 1% interest with 45% forgiveness. This means we will only have to pay back \$9,900,000.00. This loan opportunity could go away at any time and we want to move on this. This will ultimately save us so much money and will afford us the opportunity to keep your rates as low as possible. We have engaged the engineering firm of Fehr Graham to help with the study and design of the new plant and this will result in less backups and overflows.

We are doing everything we can to keep your sewer rates as low as possible but still be compliant with the EPA. We are currently non-compliant. By us keeping the sewer system and making the upgrades needed with a loan from the EPA, we can keep the rates lower than anyone else could.

Thank you.

Sincerely,
David A. Phillips, Mayor
Virgil Sheets, Trustee
Billy Wear, Trustee
Judie Barrett, Trustee
Robert Finley, Trustee
Ryan Washkowiak, Trustee
Brian Cornett, Trustee