

## **Update on your Sewer District's Activities**

### **Annual Meeting – April 16<sup>th</sup>**

Taxpayers attending the Annual Meeting unanimously re-elected existing directors Ray Turri, Jim Mersfelder, Joan Lang, and Jim Hiltz. Bob Goldfeld was newly elected a Director and Bill Daniels as an Alternate Director. President Ray Turri gave a brief background of the directors and an update on the district's activity.

### **Annual Budget Meeting – May 21st**

Taxpayers attending the Annual Budget meeting unanimously approved the 2011/12 budget. The budget details, information on current year expenditures, and an accompanying letter were mailed to taxpayers on May 9. Taxpayers also unanimously approved a mil rate of 3.30, the same rate as in 2010/11. Unless the assessed valuation of your property has changed, your taxes should remain the same as last year. A presentation by Board member Jim Mersfelder provided background information for the budget and mil rate recommendations as well as an update on the Scope of Work being undertaken by our consultants Woodard & Curran.

### **Current Projects at the Plant**

While any major work at the plant has been put on hold until there is agreement with the DEP on a long term solution, there has been ongoing activity at the plant. Two of three sand filters in a tertiary filter system required by the DEP have been placed on-line after three years being out of service. The access road to a key plant pump has been re-graded and a back-up generator pad installed. A major evaluation of risk management issues has been undertaken as well as a general plant clean-up. A number of health and safety issues have been addressed. A temporary office trailer has been brought to the plant site and the improvement to the appearance of the plant is very noticeable.

### **DEP/Woodard & Curran Scope of Study Project**

This important project to assess our current situation and find an environmentally and financially acceptable solution to both the DEP and WLSD taxpayers has been underway for more than a month. Early work has focused on the inflow and infiltration (I/I) problems in our collection system and an evaluation of our disposal system (ridge and furrow beds).

Potential I/I problem areas were determined in conjunction with WLSD staff through site inspections, analysis of pump station data and historical information regarding known problem areas. A subcontractor performed flow isolation work on April 28th and May 3<sup>rd</sup> to inspect approximately 4.2 miles of sewer lines. Flow isolation work is performed during the early morning hours when sanitary flow is negligible to identify areas subject to infiltration. Results indicated that infiltration occurs in localized areas, including a number of pipe segments where sewers pass undeveloped lots suggesting laterals or clean-outs in these areas may not be sealed. Flow isolation work identified approximately 21,000 gallons per day of infiltration in these sub-areas of the collection system. Based

on the flow isolation results, Woodard & Curran has developed a list of pipe segments where Closed Circuit Television inspection will be performed. Approximately 2.5 miles of sewer will be CCTV inspected in roughly 1000-ft increments.

The other major work effort is an evaluation of our groundwater disposal system. On-site meetings have been held to discuss project, data needs, and inspect the site. Observations during site inspections noted which beds were wet and operating on that day. An isopach map was prepared to determine the thickness of unconsolidated deposits over bedrock. The raw data from various reports was reviewed and used to select several beds for short-term loading performance tests. WLS D personnel restored a number of buried valves key to the operation and assisted with cleaning beds before the short-duration loading tests. Short-duration loading tests were conducted during the week of May 9th. Initial review indicates that beds had variable responses to loading. A meeting with DEP personnel on May 18<sup>th</sup> was held on-site to review short-duration testing, discuss plans for formal testing and conduct a site visit.

Work planned for May 23 through June 30, 2011 will include:

- Define service area, flows and pollutant loadings including a review of parcel mapping and database toward developing mapping and flow projection of existing users vs. build-out of District.
- Begin the CCTV inspections during the week of June 1st, 2011.
- Initiate a radio path study to determine communication requirements between pump stations and the plant
- Evaluate the groundwater disposal system including a complete review of short-term loading test data, a work plan for long-term loading tests to be submitted to DEP for review, contract with a driller and complete installation of additional observation wells for the long-term test, and conduct the long-term loading test and analyze data.

As this important work progresses, we will keep you informed through regular postings on our website: <http://www.wlsd-goshen.org>