

# Monroe Township

## Municipal Authority News

May 2022

### Wonder why your sewer bill is so high?

In the **Southern Sewer District** (White Rock Acres, Churchtown & Surrounding areas), the Municipal Authority is faced with two long-term problems:

- disproportionately high debt for construction resulting from federally mandated plant upgrades and litigation over the years
- I & I (inflow and infiltration) of stormwater and the like, into the system from the White Rock Acres Area. Increased flows can drive treatment costs exponentially, especially during wet periods.

With regard to the “debt problem”, the Township, in an ongoing effort to minimize debt service costs, has restructured the debt multiple times acquiring more favorable rates. The current bulk of the debt carries only a 2.11% interest rate, and the Authority currently pays over a half million dollars in debt service annually.

To address the I&I problem, the Authority has implemented a plan to repair and replace the inherited system by first mapping the infrastructure; followed by videotaping to identify the problems areas; and finally scheduling projects to mitigate these issues. The first two phases have been accomplished and two such construction projects have been completed to-date with the next project being planned for 2023. The Authority has chosen to finance these projects using only operational reserves thereby not adding to the existing debt. As long as reserves are available, additional abatement projects are planned for every other year.

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In the **Northern Sewer District** (Mechanicsburg Surrounding areas), the Authority has focused on replacing aging equipment and paying down the existing debt with available reserves. The 2022 budget includes replacing the pump generator and paying an additional \$100,000 on the debt principal.

While the Authority is currently and necessarily focused on reducing operating costs, our end-game is to get our sewer rates to a stable and more reasonable level.

### **Sewer Bill Online Payments and e-Billing Customer Portal**

The portal provides you with the opportunity to create an account through self-registration to access your account information and activity online, including paying your bills via electronic payment. The option to sign up for e-Billing is also available. If you are interested in creating a customer portal account, go to <https://monroetwp.authoritypay.com/> and click on Set Up Online Access.

Stay tuned for more information on various related subjects. Any questions at all, please feel free to contact your Township office.

### *Always Invited*

All of Monroe's meetings are open to the public.

Please feel free to attend to see firsthand all that goes into supporting our hometown and to maybe see how you can get involved.

Check out Monroe Township's website for more information, previous newsletters and the meeting schedules for all of our Township's leadership boards; Board of Supervisors, Recreation, Municipal Authority, Planning Commission & Zoning Hearing.

*Monroetwp.net*

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