

# LOST LAKE UTILITY DISTRICT – Water & Sewer Management

Established 2007



January 2022

## LLUD – BRINGING YOU UP TO DATE ON YOUR UTILITY DISTRICT NEWS

### Lost Lake Community and LLUD Saddened at passing of Trustee Dwayne Tracy



It is with great sadness that we have to say we lost a great man, husband, father, friend and Trustee with Dwayne's sudden passing on November 5<sup>th</sup>, 2021.

Dwayne joined the LLUD Board in March of 2019 and very quickly became an active part of the Board after having moved into our community in the fall of 2018. His 30 years of experience as a City of Chicago Fireman and Paramedic was very helpful when it came time to inspect and code the fire hydrants within our community. The State of Illinois has standard color codes for fire hydrants based on their flow (gallons per minute). Dwayne also volunteered time working at the Waste Water Treatment Plant installing the baffles earlier this year.

Dwayne was also an integral part of the Rate Committee appointed in August to review current rates and help establish new rates for 2022.

Our sincerest sympathy to his wife, Sherry, his three children, Meaghan, Kristen and David, and grandchildren David and Hayley, as well as his mother, family and friends.

#### LLUD ADDRESS, PHONE, EMAIL & WEBSITE

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Office Hours: Mon. thru Thur. 9 AM to 4 PM  
Notary Service Available

### FACILITY PLAN UPDATE

In order to be 'shovel ready' when opportunities for Federal funds become available, a facility such as ours, must have a Project Plan Report on file with the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency. This plan must be updated every 10 years with ours coming due in 2022. Over the past few months, our engineer has been preparing this 60-page report which must include our rate structure, future projects, how we plan to use the money, (should we be approved) and our financial background. The financial information is necessary in order to prove, should we receive the funds, we are capable of repaying the loan. The newest plan was recently submitted. We are waiting for word from the IEPA and expect to hear something by February or March 2022.

### Water Tower Inspected

This fall our water tower was inspected by Suez Utility Service, Inc. This required inspection of both the exterior and interior of the water tower to determine if any repairs were needed. The inspection did show areas of rust that will need attention sometime in the spring. This is a necessary inspection in order to keep our 70 plus year old water tower in tip top shape.

### Other LLUD News

- While we already have two large generators in place to keep the water tower running and sewer plant functioning as well as heat those facilities, we felt it was necessary to have two additional small generators to run heat within the well house and sewer plant in the event of a long-term power outage. This is also a money/fuel saver because rather than having the large generators heating the well house and sewer plant, a smaller generator can handle that leaving the large generators to handle the pumps. Two small dual fuel generators (they run on gas or propane) were recently purchased to accomplish that end.

-In October there was a six-inch water main break on Portage.

### ServLine Insurance

This insurance was offered to Lost Lake in October 2017. This is an Opt Out coverage, meaning everyone was enrolled unless they opted out of the coverage. If you opted out and now wish to re-enroll, you may call ServLine at 815-718-6663 to do so. There is a 30-day waiting period for anyone re-enrolling at this point. ServLine offers water and sewer line insurance. Homeowners are responsible for the laterals that come from the main on the street. The

insurance is a no-deductible plan that will cover the replacement of those lines. For more information, you can find the ServLine brochure on the website LLUD.ORG

### WATER QUALITY REPORT

We are pleased to announce that the Lost Lake Utility District was in the top five percent for the Consumer Confidence Report for water quality in the State of Illinois. This report comes out in August of each year for the prior year so you can see our 2020 report on our website at LLUD.ORG. We would like to thank Chad Judd, our Certified Operator, for his hard work in keeping our water quality at this stellar level.

### LLUD RATE INCREASE IN 2022

As mentioned in the Fall 2021 newsletter, a rate increase was in the offing for the first billing period of 2022. Since then, many hours were spent working toward that end. In August, three trustees were appointed to the Rate Committee and tasked with the job of reviewing the current water/sewer rates that had not changed since 2012. Overall, the new rates will increase our operation budget by about 10 percent. Those three were Cheri Kemp, Chairman, Dwayne Tracy and Joe Bajko. This group met no less than 4 or 5 times spending several hours each time developing scenarios with the rates to generate revenue to keep up with inflation as well as start chipping away at required IEPA projects. Several rate structures were narrowed down to two that seemed most viable. Then at the November 16th LLUD Board meeting, the two different rate structures were presented to the full Board for discussion. After discussion a vote was taken, and the final rate structure was approved. These new rates were read into the minutes, were posted for 30 days as required by law, with final approval in January 2022. The new rates will be in effect for the first billing period of 2022.

### TRUSTEE'S NEEDED

If you are interested in giving back to the Lost Lake community and learning more about the Lost Lake Utility District, please contact the LLUD office at 815-652-3494. Your application will then be given to the Taylor Township Board who reviews and approves those appointed to the LLUD Board. With the recent passing of Dwayne Tracy, we are now in search of two trustees. Please, thoughtfully consider applying for one of these positions. Thank you.