

March 2009.
To all Village of Port Dickinson property owners,
concerning Water and Sewer usage rate increases.

As many of you have seen in the news, the Binghamton Johnson City Joint Sewage Board (BJCJSB) due to many reasons has had to significantly increase the rates that municipalities must pay for sewage treatment. As a result of these increases that have already been billed to the Village we are forced to increase the sewer rate that each property owner pays.

Port Dickinson like all municipalities is invoiced by the BJCJSB on a schedule that is delayed several months. This requires us to pay the BJCJSB with money which we collected for past usage at a lesser rate. To lessen the total retroactive increase on our property owners we have used \$35,000.00 of the sewer reserve fund to prevent us from having to recoup the total increase from our residents.

Effective on April 1, 2009, the rate for sewage will increase from \$3.35 to \$4.43 per 100 cubic feet. (100cf is approximately 748 gallons). This is a considerable increase over the current rate but is directly reflective of the rate that the Village has already paid. This will appear on your combined Water/Sewer bill in the July billing which will be a one-time 3 month bill, (see next paragraph).

In a plan to help you decrease the amount that you have paid semi-annually for both sewer and water **we are changing to a cycle whereby the billings to our Village users will be in March, July and November.** This plan has a 2 fold impact in that it reduces the amount paid each period by our users but it also helps the Village respond more efficiently to adjustments by the BJCJSB.

In addition we need to increase the water rate slightly from \$2.05 to \$2.10 per 100 cubic feet due mainly to operations costs. Please keep in mind that amount you pay on your combined Water/Sewer bill is approximately 40% water and 60% sewer so your entire bill won't be impacted by the sewer rate increase.

We are working hard to maintain an efficient system at the lowest possible cost to you and are extremely sorry to have to process this increase on our residents.

Sincerely,

Kevin M. Burke, Mayor

Edward Corcoran, Trustee
Water, Sewers and Parks