

The **Informational Meeting**, of the Town Board of the Town of Herkimer was held on Monday March 2, 2020, at 6:00 PM, at Herkimer High School Cafeteria, 801 W. German Street, Herkimer, NY 13350.

01) Present: Supervisor-----Dominic Frank  
Councilwoman-----Kathy Penree  
Councilman-----Daniel Stalteri  
Attorney-----Christopher Bray  
Deputy Attorney-----Kyle Crandall

Excused: Councilman-----Randy Kast  
Councilman-----Vito Carbone  
Highway Supt.-----David McManus

02) Public Meeting:

Residents who attended and signed in:

*Joseph Rubino, Kris Palumbo, Julie Francis, Mike Hall, Robert Chapman, Ed Schneidmuller, Ron Dutcher, Carl Lane, David Gilbo, Walter Mai, Regina Frasier, Tobias Tobin, Heather Tobin, Richard Rotondi, Donna Rotondi, and Ray Henderie.*

Supervisor Frank thanked everyone for coming to hear more information for the possible proposed west water district. He stated Chris Lawton, engineer for Barton Logiudis, is here to explain more. We also have Philip Tangorra here from the Mohawk Valley Water Authority. Supervisor Frank stated we will begin with an educational session on the proposed formation of the West Herkimer Water District, then he will answer any questions, then there will be a public hearing and following that we will have our regular town board meeting for the Town of Herkimer.

Chris Lawton stated we he will review the map, plan and report with everyone. He stated we will benefit from Ilion's water issues. This has become a regional approach to help get the cost down. The Village of Herkimer has recently signed and that will help the cost as well. He explained that the West Herkimer Water District will be a little less than three miles long and that there is no need for booster pumps. He stated the three things that are needed are first the facilities, second the boundary, and third is how much it will cost. The total cost of the project is \$1,979,214.00. This does not include the cost for the line from the service to the home. The district will be formed but it is not required that everyone hook up. The Drinking Water State Grant covers sixty percent of the cost and the rest we are considered a hardship so we will get a zero percent interest loan for the rest of the cost. The Town of Herkimer will receive about \$24,957 from the IDA Grant and we will have to finance \$781,703 over thirty years for the remaining cost. This bring the total to \$26,057.00 owed per year by the district. This number is divided by the EDU (Equivalent Dwelling Unit) which we have a total of 60.5 EDU's in this district. A half an EDU has been calculated for those lots that are vacant. This would make the This would bring the annual cost to \$338.00 per EDU. This cost will go on the tax bill until the loan is paid off. The annual cost for the transmission line per EDU is \$93.00 and the average annual usage rate and maintenance for the water is \$373.52. This brings a total of \$804.52 owed per year or \$67.04 per month to have water. The next thing that has to be done before we can try to get more funding, is to form the district. After the board approves to form the district there will be a permission referendum period of thirty days that would make it so anyone in the district could petition against the project.

Heather Tobin asked if there will be grants or funding available to those who are elderly and are on fixed incomes?

Chris Lawton replied stating yes, there are grants with low interest loans from the USDA and CBG that can help with the costs if individuals meet the requirements to do so.

Tobias Tobin asked how much it will cost to hook up from the house to the line?

Chris Lawton replied stating on the high end it is an average of \$30 a foot to have them installed. He recommended that neighbors come together and agree to use the same contractor to try to get the cost down.

Tobias Tobin asked what type of material needs to be used to hook to the line?

Daniel Stalteri stated we have codes regulations on what is acceptable for the amount of water expected to be used.

Chris Lawton stated the plan is to get the district formed this spring, then the go after more grant funding this summer, be in the design stage from the end of 2020 through the beginning od 2021 and have construction be done by the end of 2022.

Supervisor Frank stated that some of the funding is only available to municipalities that are shovel ready when they apply. This meaning that if a district is formed and that we already have an engineering report we can apply more funding in hopes to get the cost even lower. He also stated that if this does happen the residents will be a water customer of the Authority. He thanked everyone for coming.

Jennifer DeMetro, Herkimer Town Clerk