



3070 EAST U.S. 2 - Iron River, MI 49935
(906) 265-2787

February 12, 2021

RE: UTILITY RATE INCREASE / EFFECTIVE APRIL 1, 2021

Dear Township Water/Sewer Customer,

The Township's current water rates are \$35.00/month for 4000 gallons and \$2.00/1000 gallons thereafter. These water rates have not increased since June 2007.

The Township's current sewer rate is \$24.00/month. This rate has not increased since dating back to 1995.

It has been recommended by USDA Rural Development which holds our water infrastructure loan that our rates be increased to continue to support maintenance, updates, and continual testing of the systems.

Throughout the past couple of decades, we have all seen rate increases in heating, electricity, telephones, and cost of living in general. The cost of operations for the Township has increased also.

The State of Michigan has dramatically increased their "permitting rates" for water and sewer systems as well as mandated policies and procedures for infrastructures which the Township has had to comply with and pay for.

Please note that this is a water rate increase of **\$.36 per YEAR** since the last increase and a sewer rate increase of **\$.20 per YEAR** since the last increase. Bates Township has done well in maintaining our infrastructure as well as trying to be mindful of keeping costs to a minimum. We would like to continue to maintain our systems with the same level of excellence into the future. It is for these reasons that we will be raising rates as indicated below.

New Rates - Effective April 1, 2021
Water will be \$40.00/month for 4000 gallons and \$2.00/1000 gallons thereafter.
Sewer will be \$29.00/month.

Sincerely,

Board of Trustees
Bates Township

Utility Rate Increase Ltr 2021

"Bates Township is an equal opportunity provider and Employer."