

2010 – Reasons for Water/Sewer Increases

The Borough of Fleetwood Water Distribution System was built and put into service in the late 1800's, about 120 years ago. Much of this infrastructure is still in place and in service along with galvanized steel water services; which are in very poor condition after all these years.

The water mains consist of 4 inch and 6 inch cast iron pipe that have corroded on the inside. This corrosion and the small diameter of these water mains severely restrict water flow throughout the Borough at times of high usage and fire flow conditions. The old water service lines are the source of many of our water leaks throughout the Borough.

Penn DOT has notified us that they are planning to rebuild Main Street and North Franklin Street in a few years. That is why it is even more important to replace this infrastructure before the road work is done.

The Borough will save money by not having to restore the street after the lines are installed. These new lines should help prevent many water leaks and the need to dig up the new street surface for years to come.

The other important part of water system infrastructure is the 1-1/2 million gallon concrete storage tank located in our watershed. This 20 year old tank is in need of refurbishing, cleaning and coating inside and out.

We need to construct a new ½ million gallon storage tank to supply pressure and volume for fire protection while this work is being done. When the old tank is refurbished both tanks will work in unison to supply 2 million gallons of storage and fire protection to the Borough.

The other drain on the Water Department Resources are the many new mandates and regulations being imposed by the Department of Environmental Protection. The implementation and monitoring of the new regulations has increased the cost of day to day operation of the Water Department.

Replacing and upgrading these parts of the water distribution system will help the water department to deliver the quality and quantity of water expected by the residents of the Borough of Fleetwood.

Eric Burkert
Water Department

The Sewer Department's Revenue has not covered its expenses for three of the last four years. Our expenses rise every year IE: Wages, Pension, Insurance, Employee Benefits, Sewer plant maintenance, Electricity. We therefore need to raise the sewer charges by a modest amount.

Keep in mind that after we raise the Sewer/Water rates as planned, our rates will still be 25% less than the other Boroughs in our area.

Pete Merkel
Sewer Department