



## ***Town of Torrey***

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Greetings Property Owners in the Town of Torrey's Water District 1,

Now that the major construction phase of the municipal water project is near completion in your area, this letter discusses some of the issues to follow. Most of these items were part of the Town of Torrey's resolution approving an increase in the maximum amount to be expended for improvements in Water District 1 (**WD1**). This resolution was approved by the Town Board following a public hearing on this matter held at the Dresden United Methodist Church on January 25, 2022 with the property owners in **WD1**.

The adopted resolution placed the estimated capital cost of the project at \$2.4 million with the amount to be financed to be approximately \$1,292,000. This means the 55.5 **Eligible Dwelling Units** (most of you are 1 **EDU**) will see a charge on their January County/Town Tax bill to start paying off this loan within 38 years. Based on the preliminary numbers for the completed project the yearly charge will initially be \$1003.87. This charge **must** be paid whether you connect to the main municipal water line or not!

If you have not connected to the municipal water line, but intend to do so, you should be aware you have **one (1) year** from the official completion date of the construction phase to avoid paying a "tapping" fee. This tapping fee includes such things as the tap, saddle, meter pit, meter, material, equipment (truck and excavator), labor (3 men at least a half day each). Presently during this interim year, you can connect for only the cost of the meter (\$355).

In regards to the quarterly minimum charge for those in **WD1** hooking up to the municipal water line. This quarterly charge (besides the cost of water bought from

the Town of Benton) includes administration, operation, maintenance, and building of a “reserve” fund. The estimated water usage cost per individual dwelling is approximately a maximum of \$438.00 a year based upon using 60,000 gallons of water over the year. Initially, the minimum quarterly water charge cost for a user is set at \$60.00 for the first 6,000 gallons. If water usage exceeds 6,000 gallons in a quarter, the additional charge is \$5.50 per 1000 gallons. If you are not connected or don’t draw municipal water, then you do not have a minimum quarterly bill.

It should be pointed out, if you do receive a minimum quarterly bill there are the following ramifications based on our recently adopted (June 11, 2024) Water Law. If an individual’s total quarterly water bills through September 30th are not paid prior to November 1st of a given year, the balance will be sent to Yates County to appear on your January tax bill. In addition, there is a \$100.00 administrative fee as well as a 10% penalty on the unpaid balance.

Also, those of you who are seasonal residents who wish to shut off their municipal water for a period of time during the year. This **must** be done by the Town of Benton Water Department for which there is a fee set by the Torrey Town Board.

Finally in order to keep the cost down for the project, the restoration work will be done by the Town of Torrey Highway Department. They will undertake this workload along with all their many other responsibilities so please bear this in mind and be patient. This restoration work will include the repaving of Serenity Road sometime within a year and will be done using **CHIPS** monies from the State when available.

We hope this letter is helpful as we move forward in supplying municipal water to your area. If there are questions, we would urge you to bring them forward at our regularly scheduled Town Board meeting which is held the second Tuesday of the month at 7:30 pm **or send an email to the attention of the Town Board regarding WD1 at the email address- [townclerk@townoftorrey](mailto:townclerk@townoftorrey).**

Respectfully,

Torrey Town Board

