



## MUNICIPAL OFFICES

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*Council Member*  
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*Council Member*  
Dennis E. Champine  
*City Manager/City Clerk*  
Joseph Sobota  
*City Treasurer/Finance Dir.*

***“Did your water and sewer rates go up?”, click here to find out why.***

“During the June 6, 2022 Center Line City Council meeting, and after public notice of the agenda for said meeting, the City Council did approve a 10% increase in water rates and 5% increase in sewer rates. Upon approval of the City Council for the rate increase, the city did post notice of same on the city website [www.centerline.gov](http://www.centerline.gov). These increases in water and sewer rates are the result of increases in water and sewer charges levied by the Great Lakes Water Authority (GLWA) over the past several years.

According to the City Treasurer’s research, the City of Center Line’s cash outlays in the Water and Sewer Fund in the ensuing fiscal years will be significantly and negatively impacted by several factors, including several necessary one-time investments in infrastructure, a significant increase in water and sewer rates charged by the Great Lakes Water Authority, and a need to use water and sewer funds to make bond payments that had been previously paid by an expired property tax. The City has not increased water and sewer rates since July 1, 2019, despite the fact that the Great Lakes Water Authority has increased rates every year since. Also, due to reduced community water usage, the city is expected to be about \$50,000 short of budgeted water revenue and \$150,000 short of budgeted sewer revenue in the current fiscal year. A summary of the projected cash flow for through the fiscal year ending June 30, 2023, is attached. This combination of various circumstances and demands on cash has resulted in the need to reevaluate the City’s water and sewer rate structure, including both fixed rates and rates based on usage.

In an effort to meet the cash demands of the water and sewer system, the City Treasurer has calculated a net increase in water rates of \$269,705 over current collections and a net increase in sewer rates of \$73,000 over current collections, for a total of \$342,705. With the average residential customer paying a bimonthly bill for four measured units of water used, the increase would be about \$6.50 per month, or twenty-one cents (\$.21) per day.

***The good news is,*** that although water and sewer rate increases did occur, the City Council also approved a reduction in total millage rates by just over 4.01 mills in the FY2023 budget. That is equivalent to \$4.00 dollars per \$1,000 taxable value, or for a home with a taxable value of \$100,000.00, a \$400.00 annual savings. So, although we saw an increase in water and sewer rates, and with the millage rate reduction, most property owner should see a total reduction in costs of \$300 to \$600 annually.”

For more information, please feel free to contact the City Manager at [dchampine@centerline.gov](mailto:dchampine@centerline.gov).

**7070 E. 10 Mile Rd., Center Line 48015 - 586-757-6800**

**[www.centerline.gov](http://www.centerline.gov)**

***“Smalltown Lifestyle in the Heart of Metro-Detroit”***