

Date: April 16th, 2022

To: Select property owners

From: Peter L. Lance, Supervisor, Sheridan Charter Township

Re: Expansion of the existing sewer district to include parcels on the south-west and south sides of Fremont Lake

By now, you may have heard about, or been contacted regarding, the potential expansion of the current township sewer district to include parcels on the southwestern and southern side of the lake. Many of these parcels, due to the low-lying nature of their land, are experiencing difficulties with on-site septic systems. While not proven, it is likely that nutrients from existing systems are leaching into the lake, contributing to the growth of undesirable weeds and algae. In an effort to address this situation, and at the behest of several members of the FLA, the township is investigating the feasibility of extending the current system around the south side of the lake. One factor in the timing of this proposal is the expansion of the City of Fremont's wastewater treatment plant, which will soon have the capacity to service potential additional effluent from any township sewer district expansion. An expansion was considered about fifteen years ago, but at that time there was not enough support to allow the project to proceed. I know that many of you would want to have an idea of the costs before approving any such expansion, and the township would like to provide as much data as possible. However, accurate estimates would also entail some cost, and at this time, the township is still looking to see if there is substantial support for the project among the likely affected property owners. While a formal petition will have to be signed by a majority of the property owners in order for the township to officially proceed with the creation of any expansion, at this time a general survey/petition is being circulated by the FLA. Responding to the informal survey/petition will allow the township board to gauge the amount of support for any further effort regarding the potential expansion, so please let your voice be heard!

While it is almost certain that at some point the sewer will need to be extended to service additional lake parcels, currently there are additional monies available that might be accessible for this project, making the timing critical. At this time, accurate, contemporary costs are not available, but using the data from 2007, it appears that the overall cost would have been approximately 2.5 million dollars. An assessment of around \$20,000 per user, stretched over 20 years, would have resulted in a cost of about \$100 per month. Obviously, costs have gone up over the last fifteen years, and note that the service area has not been established for certain. Also, it could be that extra, no-cost funding will be available to help allay the initial cost, so no reliance should be made on these figures, which are provided merely as general historical data.

Please consider supporting the extension. You will be informed of updated, estimated costs, and have the opportunity to vote on approval of the extension before any decision to proceed is made.

As always, the township board meets on the third Tuesday of every month, and there is an opportunity for any citizen to address the board on any subject. Feel free to attend any meeting and participate in local government!