

AS I SEE IT by Tom Raymond

On August 1st. 2007 The township took a huge step forward establishing its first water district that extends water from Ira township. The establishment of this district allows the township to establish ordinances that answer many questions that could not be answered prior as to how we address and charge large, corner and irregular shaped lots.

The engineer will now prepare the drawings necessary to get bids, the bid sheets go out and then and only then will we know what the cost of this project will be. We then start the search on how to finance this project, is there any grants we may qualify for, low interest loans or current interest on these types of bonds. Again and again we are looking for the best possible way to finance this program.

I cannot address where we are today without looking at how we got here. This started when a small group of people ask for water and realized they had to petition for it. This then turned into a township wide effort to bring in water. These petitions were then grouped and a resolution to supply water to the whole township was sought.

This resolution was defeated under act 188 with more than 20% of the folks objecting to the water.

It was back to the petitions which have different guidelines to move forward. Petitions allow a given area to precede with 50.1 % in favor of the project. We currently have 6 areas under petition, all with more than 55% in favor. The township looked at where the connections align, and have set them in numerical order as to which direction the water should go next.

The petitioned area 2 was challenged in court. The judge found it was not correctly formed and ordered the water district 2 be abandoned in its present form. However, the petitioners then submitted the 2a district which did indeed change the form. The judges ruling is under appeal by the township

For many of you this has gone on so long you are tired of it. Those who want

and don't want water have done their homework, spent their money, attended meetings, gave up many nights and weekends going door to door trying to get their point across. The frustration has turned to anger for many yet we have two very strong grass root efforts going on here. Thank God we live in a country where we have this freedom.

If you have questions, they must be asked to get answers.

If you do not understand something please ask me. I will not have the answers to all your questions or concerns however I will make every effort to get the answer or the sources to help you.