

April, 2007

To All Landlords owning property located in the Village of Allegany:

On the advice of the New York Conference of Mayors, the Mayor and Board of Trustees at their regular meeting of April 2, 2007, resolved to cease billing tenants for water and sewer usage.

Generally, billing becomes an issue with regard to rental properties when the occupant is not the property owner of record. **Effective July 1, 2007, municipal water and sewer bills will be sent directly to the property owner and the property owner will be responsible for paying the Village.** The Mayor and Board of Trustees have adopted this change because, by operation of law, any lien for unpaid water and/or sewer rents attaches to the property in connection with which the service was used. That means that the property owner's tax bill will include any unpaid water or sewer bills, even if those bills were in a tenant's name and even if the lease made the water and sewer bills the responsibility of the tenant. To avoid surprise, and to give owners the opportunity to collect from their tenants before the end of the lease period, the Village will now bill the property owners.

It is up to the landlord to determine the manner by which such charges are to be passed on to their tenant or tenants.

It is our hope and intention that this billing change proceeds smoothly. If you have any questions, please contact me at 716-373-1460.

Sincerely,

Rena Flynn
Clerk Treasurer