

Minutes of the Tropic Town Water Sewer Annual Rate Increase Public Hearing  
Held June 11, 2020 in the Tropic Town Heritage Center at 6:00 p.m.  
Held during Town Board Meeting

A motion was made by Gene Anderson to move into the Water/Sewer Annual Rate Increase public hearing. Second by Mike Ahlstrom. Voting was unanimous with Council persons Lisa, Gene, Marie and Mike voting “aye”. Mayor abstained

Public Attendance: Annette Chynoweth, Brad & Yolanda Cowan, Travis LeFevre

Welcome & Purpose: Mayor Brinkerhoff

Review of the proposed resolution to increase water/sewer rates annually was reviewed – the proposed increase will provide a gradual rate increase rather than a large increase every few years. Total cost for each service increase is as follows:

- ~ An Increase of Fifty Cents (.50) for each Water connection which is maintained, operated and serviced by and within the Town of Tropic boundaries. Total of \$6.00 yearly increase
- ~ An Increase of Fifty Cents (.50) for each Sewer connection which is maintained, operated and serviced by and within the Town of Tropic boundaries. Total \$6.00 yearly increase
- ~ An Increase of Twenty-Five cents (.25) to the Road Fee. Total of \$3.00 yearly increase
- ~An Increase of Twenty-Five cents (.25) to the Storm Drainage Fee. Total of \$3.00 yearly increase

Town’s month water/sewer bill is currently \$68.00 for these services; with this increase it would be \$69.50 a month.

Public Comments:

Annette Chynoweth asked for the timeframe of this increase. Mayor Brinkerhoff replied it has been proposed that the increase begin in January. After hearing comments from Annette and others, the increase would be better for businesses to have it implemented in the month of July rather than January.

Brad Cowan questioned the use of the water/sewer fees – are funds being used to find additional water resources. In reply, Mayor Brinkerhoff reported on projects completed and those currently underway; namely sewer lagoon and redevelopment of spring creek water; funding is also used for water/sewer studies. Other possible developments such as, a reservoir – to collect winter runoff, and ongoing negotiations with the Irrigation Company to obtain additional water shares was also discussed. Questions about the use of Well was also reviewed; noting it was for emergency purposes and was not used as part of the Town’s general growth plan – explaining the cost of updating the system, testing & maintenance, and operation.

**Adjourn:** The motion was made by Gene Anderson to close the public hearing and reconvene Town Board meeting –Second by Mike Ahlstrom. Voting was unanimous with Council persons Lisa, Gene, Marie and Mike voting “aye”. Mayor abstained.