Council Business Meeting

May 2, 2017

Title: Public Hearing to Consider Increasing Water, Wastewater and Storm

Drain Utility Rates

From: Michael R. Faught Public Works Director

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Summary:

This is a public hearing to consider rate increases for water, sewer and storm drain fees. The proposed rate increases include a 4.5% water rate increase across-the-board, a 5% wastewater rate increase across-the-board and a 2.4% storm drain fee increase. If adopted these increases would cost a typical residence an additional \$4.70 per month: \$2.45 for water, \$2.14 for wastewater and \$.11 for storm drain. The system fees collected would be used to support maintenance, operations and capital expenditures to fund maintenance and to maintain regulatory compliance. If approved, the new rates will become effective July 1, 2017.

Actions, Options, or Potential Motions:

Move approval of resolutions titled,

"A resolution adopting a storm drain utility fee schedule pursuant to Ashland Municipal Code Section 4.27.050 and repealing Resolution 2016-07" and

"A resolution revising rates for water service pursuant to Ashland Municipal Code Section 14.04.030 and repealing Resolution 2016-09" and

"A resolution revising rates for wastewater (sewer) service pursuant to Ashland Municipal Code Section 14.08.035 and repealing Resolution 2016-08."

Staff Recommendation:

Staff recommends Council approve the attached resolutions raising water rates 4.5%, raising wastewater rates increase 5% and the storm water fee effective July 1, 2017.

Resource Requirements:

These rate increase have been incorporated into the proposed FY 2018-19 Biennium budget.

Policies, Plans and Goals Supported:

N/A

Background and Additional Information:

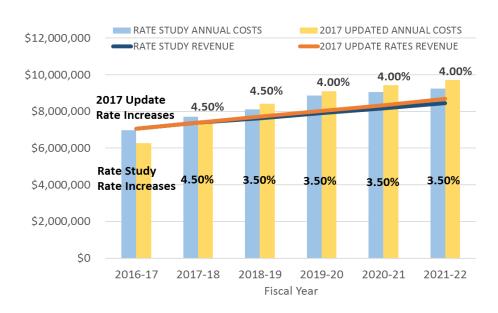
Water Fund Proposed Rate Increase

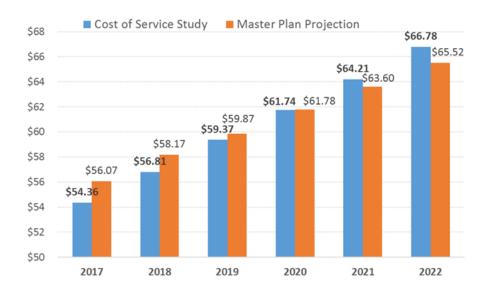
The proposed 4.5% water rate increase is as projected by the recent water cost of service study. While the first year is on target it's important to note that the out years increase slightly from the cost of service study. This is due to the increase in personnel costs. The plan outlines \$30.5



million in capital projects to ensure compliance with all regulatory requirements and meet Ashland's current and future water system demands.

Water Fund Annual Costs and Revenue





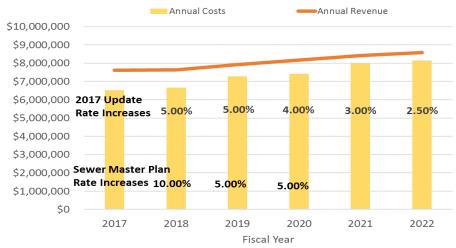
If approved, the proposed 4.5% water rate increase will be effective July 1, 2017.

Adopting the proposed water rate increase ensures adequate revenue streams to fund the capital projects and day-to-day operations as outlined in the plan. Some examples of the water capital

projects include; the new 2.5 mgd water plant, new 2.6 mg Reservoir and Clearwell (Crowson II), Piping the TID ditch, etc.

Wastewater Fund Proposed Rate Increase

The proposed 5% wastewater rate increase is less than projected in the adopted Wastewater Master Plan. The plan outlines \$10.8 million in high priority capital projects to ensure compliance with all regulatory requirements and meet Ashland's current and future wastewater system demands.



If approved, the proposed 5% wastewater rate increase will be effective July 1, 2017.

Adopting the proposed wastewater rate increase ensures adequate revenue streams to fund the capital projects and day-to-day operations as outlined in the plan. Some examples of the wastewater capital projects include; effluent outfall relocation and Bear Creek shading; a new oxidation ditch at the treatment plant; new sewer capacity pipes that parallel Bear Creek; and pipe replacement projects.

Attachments:

Resolution regarding Storm Drain Fee Resolution regarding Water Rates Resolution regarding Wastewater Rates

Additional Links:

- 1. Adopted Water Cost of Service Study may be viewed online Master Plan documents may be viewed online at: http://www.ashland.or.us/SIB/files/2012%20CWMP-Carollo(1).pdf
- 2. The adopted Wastewater Master Plan may be viewed online at: http://www.ashland.or.us/Page.asp?NavID=14696



RESOLUTION NO. 2017-

A RESOLUTION ADOPTING A STORM DRAIN UTILITY FEE SCHEDULE PURSUANT TO ASHLAND MUNICIPAL CODE SECTION 4.27.050 AND REPEALING RESOLUTION 2016-07.

THE CITY OF ASHLAND RESOLVES AS FOLLOWS:

<u>SECTION 1</u> . The "Storm Drain Utility Fee Schedule," marked "Exhibit A" and attached to this Resolution, is adopted as the Storm Drain Utility fee incorporating a 2.4% rate increase effective July 1, 2017.
SECTION 2. One copy of this Resolution and "Exhibit A" shall be maintained in the office of the City Recorder and shall be available for public inspection during regular business hours.
SECTION 3. The Fees adopted pursuant to this Resolution shall be effective July 1, 2017.
SECTION 4. Resolution 2016-07 is repealed on the effective date of this Resolution.
<u>SECTION 5.</u> The fees imposed by this Resolution are classified as not subject to the limits of Section 11b of Article XI of the Oregon Constitution (Ballot Measure No. 5).
This resolution was read by title only in accordance with Ashland Municipal Code §2.04.090 duly PASSED and ADOPTED this day of, 2017.
Barbara Christensen, City Recorder
SIGNED and APPROVED this day of, 2017.
John Stromberg, Mayor Reviewed as to form:
David Lohman, City Attorney

Exhibit A City of Ashland STORM DRAINAGE UTILITY FEES WITHIN THE CITY LIMITS

RESOLUTION 2017-Effective Date, July 1, 2017

	Cı	urrent	2.4% rate increas	e
Storm Drainage Fee	effectiv	/e 7/01/16	effective 7/01/17	Unit
A. Single Family	\$	4.64	\$ 4.75	Per month
B. Condominium, 1-9 Units		1.99	2.04	Per month per unit
C. Multi-Family, 1-9 Units		1.99	2.04	Per month per unit
D. Mobile Home & Trailer, 1-9 Units		1.99	2.04	Per month per unit
E. All other uses not classified above		1.54	1.58	Per 1,000 square feet impervious area
F. Minimum charge per account		4.64	4.75	Per month

NOTE: Users with in the Downtown Overlay District shall be charged on the same basis as elsewhere within the city. The minimum fee per month for any commercial account is:

\$ 4.64 \$ 4.75

RESOLUTION NO. 2017-

A RESOLUTION REVISING RATES FOR WATER SERVICE PURSUANT TO ASHLAND MUNICIPAL CODE SECTION 14.04.030 AND REPEALING RESOLUTION 2016-09.

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Reviewed as to form:

David Lohman, City Attorney

<u>SECTION 1</u>. The water rate charges and rates as shown on the water rate schedule attached as Exhibit "A" shall be effective for actual or estimated consumption on or after July 1, 2017.

Prorated calculations are permitted for any bills prepared for a partial month or billing period that overlaps the effective date of this Resolution.

Miscellaneous Charges and Connection Fees established by previous resolutions remain in effect until revised by separate Council Action.

SECTION 2. Copies of this resolution shall be maintained in the Office of the City Recorder.

<u>SECTION 3.</u> Classification of the fee. The fees specified in Section 1 and Section 2 of this resolution are classified as not subject to the limits of Section 11b of Article XI of the Oregon Constitution (Ballot Measure 5).

SECTION 4. Resolution 2016-09 is repealed.
This resolution was duly PASSED and ADOPTED thisday of, 2017, and the effective date is July 1, 2017 upon signing by the Mayor.
Barbara Christensen, City Recorder
SIGNED and APPROVED this day of, 2017.

John Stromberg, Mayor

All water service provided by the City of Ashland shall be in accordance with Chapter 14.04 of the Ashland Municipal Code.

Billing:

The minimum monthly charge shall be the sum of the Customer Charge; Meter Charge; plus Quantity Charge, if applicable; and Miscellaneous Charges, if applicable. Billing shall occur monthly with charges due and payable upon receipt.

Customer Charge:

A single customer charge is applied to each water account regardless of the number of metered water services.

Customer Charge, per account	July 2016		July 2017
Per month	\$ 11.7	'4 \$	12.27

Meter Charge:

The meter charge applies to all metered water services and does not include any water consumption.

Meter Charge, per meter	July 2016	July 2017
0.75" and Fire Guard meters	\$ 13.75	\$ 14.37
1" meter	\$ 14.34	\$ 14.99
1.5" meter	\$ 65.61	\$ 68.56
2" meter	\$ 104.27	\$ 108.96
3" meter	\$ 209.08	\$ 218.49
4" meter	\$ 331.60	\$ 346.52
6" meter	\$ 652.47	\$ 681.83
8" meter	\$ 1,034.38	\$ 1,080.93

Quantity Charge:

All customers will be charged the following rates per cubic foot of water used.

Residential, per dwelling unit October - May		July 2016	July 2017
0-300 cf per cycle	\$	0.0246	\$ 0.0257
301 to 1,000 cf per cycle	\$	0.0307	\$ 0.0321
1,001 to 2,500 cf per cycle	\$	0.0415	\$ 0.0434
Over 2,500 cf per cycle	\$	0.0537	\$ 0.0561
Residential, per dwelling unit			
June - September			
0-300 cf per cycle	49	0.0246	\$ 0.0257
301 to 1,000 cf per cycle	\$	0.0307	\$ 0.0321
1,001 to 2,500 cf per cycle	\$	0.0415	\$ 0.0434
2,501 to 3,600 cf per cycle	\$	0.0537	\$ 0.0561
Over 3,600 cf per cycle	\$	0.0691	\$ 0.0722

Residential Irrigation October - May	July 2016	July 2017
0-1000 cf per cycle	\$ 0.0307	\$ 0.0321
1,001-2500 cf per cycle	\$ 0.0415	\$ 0.0434
over 2,500 cf per cycle	\$ 0.0537	\$ 0.0561
Residential Irrigation June - September		
0 to 1,000 cf per cycle	\$ 0.0307	\$ 0.0321
1,001 to 2,500 cf per cycle	\$ 0.0415	\$ 0.0434
2,501 to 3,600 cf per cycle	\$ 0.0537	\$ 0.0561
Over 3,600 cf per cycle	\$ 0.0691	\$ 0.0722

Commercial, less than 2" meter	July 2016		July 2017
0-2,500 cf per cycle	\$	0.0307	\$ 0.0321
> 2,500 cf per cycle	\$	0.0415	\$ 0.0434
Commercial, 2" or larger meter			
0-15,000 cf per cycle	\$	0.0307	\$ 0.0321
> 15,000 cf per cycle	\$	0.0415	\$ 0.0434

Institutional (governmental and municipal)	July 2016	July 2017
Per cubic foot	\$ 0.0294	\$ 0.0307

Commercial and Institutional Irrigation	July 2016		July 2017
October to May	\$	0.0331	\$ 0.0346
June to September	\$	0.0449	\$ 0.0469

Miscellaneous Charges:

TID Irrigation:

TID, unmetered service	July 2016	July 2017
Per season, per acre or portion of acre	\$ 183.11	\$ 198.53
TID, metered service		
Meter Replacement Charge*, by meter size		
0.75" meter	\$ 1.18	\$ 1.23
1" meter	\$ 1.77	\$ 1.85
1.5" meter	\$ 2.79	\$ 2.92
2" meter	\$ 3.76	\$ 3.93
3" meter	\$ 8.06	\$ 8.42
4" meter	\$ 17.51	\$ 18.30
6" meter	\$ 24.28	\$ 25.37
8" meter	\$ 29.27	\$ 30.59
Quantity Charge	\$ 0.0022	\$ 0.0023

^{*}Meter replacement charge is assessed each month, regardless of consumption.

Fire Protection Service:

Fire Protection Service	July 2016	July 2017
Customer Charge, if applicable	\$ 11.74	\$ 12.27
Meter Replacement Charge	\$ 1.18	\$ 1.23
Meter Charge	\$ 13.75	\$ 14.37
Quantity Charge	\$ 0.0338	\$ 0.0353
Unmetered Fire Protection Service	\$ 13.75	\$ 14.37

Bulk Water:

For water provided on a temporary basis through a bulk meter on a fire hydrant, the following charges apply:

Bulk Water	July 2016	July 2017
Deposit*	\$ 1,859.28	\$ 1,942.95
Basic Fee	\$ 234.77	\$ 245.33
Quantity Charge	\$ 0.0338	\$ 0.0353

^{*}Deposit is refundable less basic fee, quantity charge, and any damage to the city meter, valve, wrench, and/or hydrant.

Outside City Limits:

All rates and charges for water service provided outside the city limits will be 1.5 times the rates for water service provided within the city limits.

RESOLUTION NO. 2017-

A RESOLUTION REVISING RATES FOR WASTEWATER (SEWER) SERVICE PURSUANT TO ASHLAND MUNICIPAL CODE SECTION 14.08.035 AND REPEALING RESOLUTION 2016-08.

THE CITY OF ASHLAND RESOLVES AS FOLLOWS:

SECTION 1. The wastewater (sewer) rate charges and rates as shown on the wastewater (sewer) rate schedule attached as Exhibit "A" shall be effective for actual or estimated consumption on or after July 1, 2017.

Prorated calculations are permitted for any bills prepared for a partial month or billing period that overlaps the effective date of this Resolution.

Miscellaneous Charges and Connection Fees established by previous resolutions remain in effect until revised by separate Council Action.

SECTION 2. Copies of this resolution shall be maintained in the Office of the City Recorder.

SECTION 3. Classification of the fee. The fees specified in Section 1 and Section 2 of this resolution are classified as not subject to the limits of Section 11b of Article XI of the Oregon Constitution (Ballot Measure 5).

SECTION 4. Resolution 2016-08 is repealed.

This resolution was duly PASSED and ADOPTED this ______ day of _________, 2017, and the effective date is July 1, 2017 upon signing by the Mayor.

Barbara Christensen, City Recorder

SIGNED and APPROVED this _____ day of _________, 2017.

John Stromberg, Mayor

Reviewed as to form:

David Lohman, City Attorney

City of Ashland, Oregon SEWER SERVICE

All sewer service provided by the City of Ashland shall be in accordance with Chapter 14.08 of the Ashland Municipal Code.

Sewer quantity charges shall be adjusted annually in April based on the winter water consumption for the months of January, February, and March for all customers whose quantity charge is not determined by actual consumption.

No exception from these rates will be allowed for unoccupied units.

Billing:

The minimum monthly charge shall be the sum of the Monthly Service Charge and Quantity Charge. Billing shall occur monthly with charges due and payable upon receipt.

Service Charge:

Residential		July 2016		July 2017
Monthly Service Charge, per unit	\$	29.60	\$	31.08
Quantity Charge, per cf	\$	0.04416	\$	0.04637
Quantity charge is based on winter water average i	n e	xcess of 400 cu	ıbid	feet, per unit

Quantity Charge for single family residential water accounts with no consumption during the months of January, February and March will be based on 700 cubic feet.

Multi-family residential accounts are all accounts in which more than one residential dwelling is attached to the same water service and shall be assessed a Monthly Service Charge for each unit. Quantity Charge for multi-family residential water accounts with no consumption during the months of January, February and March will be based on 500 cubic feet per unit.

Commercial, Industrial, and Governmental		July 2016		July 2017
Monthly Service Charge	\$	30.89	\$	32.43
Quantity Charge, per cf	\$	0.04903	\$	0.05148
Quantity charge is based on actual monthly consumption				

Mixed residential and commercial accounts will be billed as commercial.

For commercial, industrial or governmental users where monthly water consumption is not measured through City water meters, the sewer rate will be established as follows: The annual water consumption will be estimated utilizing water consumption records of similar users or water consumption record of past use, if available. Quantity Charge is based on the twelve month average estimated water consumption. This rate shall be effective beginning in the month after the rate is determined until the rate schedule is amended by resolution of the City Council. Water consumption determined in this manner shall be lowered if the user can demonstrate through the use of a meter approved by the City that the actual consumption of the user is less than the estimate.

Special Cases:

Greenhouses, Churches, and Schools (K-12) operating on a nine month school year		July 2016		July 2017
Monthly Service Charge	\$	30.89	\$	32.43
Quantity Charge, per cf	\$	0.04903	\$	0.05148
Quantity charge is based on winter water average in excess of 400 cubic feet				

Bed and Breakfasts and Ashland Parks Bathrooms		July 2016		July 2017
Monthly Service Charge	\$	30.89	\$	32.43
Quantity Charge, per cf	\$	0.04903	\$	0.05148
Quantity charge is based on the sum of the winter water consumption				

Exemptions to commercial and industrial sewer rates:

- A: If a commercial, industrial, or governmental user can demonstrate that the volume of sewage discharged by the user is less than 50% of the water consumed, the City Administrator may adjust the quantity charge accordingly.
- B: Water sold through an irrigation meter is exempt from sewer charge.

Sewer rates outside the city limits:

- A: The Monthly Service Charge shall apply to those sewer users permitted under Section 14.08.030 of the Ashland Municipal Code.
- B: The sewer rates for users outside the city limits shall be two times the sewer charges for inside the city limits.
- C: Quantity charge for metered residential accounts is based on the average winter water consumption in excess of 400 cubic feet, per unit, per month and shall be adjusted annually in April.
- D: Quantity charge for unmetered residential accounts will be calculated on an average winter water usage of 700 cubic feet for single family residences, and 500 cubic feet, per unit, for multi-family residences.
- E: Quantity charge for commercial, industrial, and governmental accounts will be based on actual monthly water consumption.