

RESOLUTION No. 3443

A RESOLUTION OF INTENT OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF RED LODGE, MONTANA TO ADJUST THE FEE SCHEDULE AND WATER AND SEWER RATES FOR SEASONAL OCCUPANTS AND UNDEVELOPED LOTS AND MISCELLANEOUS CHARGES FOR THE CITY OF RED LODGE TO BECOME EFFECTIVE ON JANUARY 1, 2018 AND TO SET A DATE AND TIME FOR A PUBLIC HEARING.

WHEREAS, the application of the water and sanitary sewer rates and charges in effect at the present time is not complete and thorough enough to provide for fair and consistent utility billing throughout the City; and

WHEREAS, the Council desires to have a sustainable budget source to fund major sewer and water infrastructure projects that is beneficial to and supported by all Red Lodge City residents; and

WHEREAS, the lack of a complete and thorough fee schedule hinders the collection of adequate revenue to defray the increased costs of operation, maintenance, and capital improvements of the City's water and sewer distribution facilities and systems; and

WHEREAS, a Water and Sewer Rate Study had been conducted for the City of Red Lodge, March 2015, to ensure that rates, charges and classifications are reasonable and just and in accordance with MCA 69-7-101 and to ensure that undertakings are self-supporting in accordance with MCA 7-7-4424; and

WHEREAS, the provision of the water and sewer systems and facilities is essential to the preservation of the public's health and welfare; and, that how the adjustment of rates are applied must, before taking effect, be approved by the City Council after advertising and conducting a public hearing pursuant to the Rules and Regulations governing Water and Waste Water Service for the City of Red Lodge, Title 10, Chapter 8, Section 1, as previously adopted by the City Council through Ordinance 835 and MCA Section 69-7-111; and

WHEREAS, current budgetary requirements with respect to the operation of said facilities in addition to on-going and future projects require that the proposed rates become effective on January 1, 2018 to enable the City to proceed as expeditiously as possible to accomplish the objectives herein above recited; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to Montana law, the City Council has determined that a public hearing must be advertised and held to gather public testimony and input regarding the proposed increases in water and sewer rates for seasonal occupants and undeveloped lots, and increases in miscellaneous charges.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the City Council:

1. That the City Council considers it advisable and necessary to both adjust the application of the Water and Sewer Fee Schedule, and to also increase certain fees as noted on Exhibit A, attached hereto; and to extent permitted by Montana Code Annotated and/or the existing service agreements with those applicable portions of Remington Ranch; Beartooth Business Park; and the Woodlands to also apply Exhibit A thereto.
2. That a Public Hearing shall be held on the 10th of October, 2017 at 6 p.m. in the City Council Chambers, at City Hall, at 1 Platt Ave. S., Red Lodge, MT, for the purpose of gathering and receiving testimony, input and comments from all interested or affected users, citizens, persons, associations, corporations and/or companies.
3. Notice of the Public Hearing shall be published in the Carbon County News, pursuant to MCA § 7-1-4127 and 69-7-111.

INTRODUCED at a Regular meeting of the City Council on September 12, 2017 by Council Member Corey Thompson.

PASSED AND APPROVED BY THE RED LODGE CITY COUNCIL on this 12th day of September, 2017.

City of Red Lodge:



Michael Schoenike, Mayor

Attest:



Loni Hanson, City Clerk