

**WATER/SEWER COMMITTEE MEETING**  
**MONDAY, APRIL 06, 2026**  
**7:15 p.m.**  
Second Floor Conference Room

**Attendance:** Chairman Kyle Buettner  
Committee Members: Joel Vogt, Matt Buettner, Jim Hopkins, and Jordon Riley.

Attendees: Mayor Stan Darter, Tina Charron, Gary Most, J.R. Landeck, Nathan Krebel, Roberta Rohwedder, Jim Trantham, Sarah Craig, and Mechelle Childers.

**Meeting called to order at 7:15 PM.**

**Agenda Item 1:** Petitions by Citizens on Non-Agenda Items: None

**Agenda Item 2:** Annual CPI.

Water and sewer are subject to an annual increase per ordinance. The increase is based on the CPI per Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers, Midwest, All Items Index. Using the Consumer Price Index (CPI) ensures a consistent and standardized approach. The same methodology applies to both water and sewer rates. This year's CPI increase is 2.62%, which is slightly higher than last year's 2.59%. That is about \$0.39 more per 1,000 gallons. Under the 2.62% increase, sewer rates are structured with a base charge of \$49.00 for the first 2,000 gallons and \$22.00 per 1,000 gallons thereafter.

Alderman Vogt inquired if the increase could be more or less than the CPI. It was explained that the ordinance requires water service rates to be adjusted according to any percentage change in the Consumer Price Index for Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers (CPI-W). Any alteration to the reported CPI would require a formal amendment to the ordinance.

Alderman Matt Buettner mentioned that long-term cost alignment should be considered, especially for plant construction and operating costs, to keep rate adjustments in line with actual service costs and prevent significant discrepancies over time.

Although a detailed analysis of water production costs is not currently available, it is anticipated to be provided in the near future. While not an immediate concern, having this information will help with long-term financial planning and rate alignment. Discussion also highlighted the importance of accounting for infrastructure needs, including the replacement of aging cast iron water mains, which contribute to overall system expenses.

The water rate adjustment is scheduled to take effect on March 1, 2026, followed by the sewer rate increase on May 1, 2026.

A motion was made by Alderman Matt Buettner and seconded by Alderman Hopkins to approve the Annual CPI for water and sewer.

Motion passed unanimously by all committee members.

**Agenda Item 3:** Comments.  
None.

The motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Alderman Vogt and seconded by Alderman Matt Buettner. Motion passed by a unanimous voice vote.

Chairman Most adjourned the meeting at 7:24 p.m.  
Minutes submitted by Mechelle Childers