

Item:	Set public hearing for Resolution 10129 Establishing Residential and Commercial Water, Sewer and Storm Drain Utility Service Rates effective June 1, 2016
From:	Melissa Kinzler, Fiscal Services Director
Initiated By:	Public Works and Fiscal Services
Presented By:	Jim Rearden, Public Works Director & Melissa Kinzler, Fiscal Services Director
Action Requested:	Set Public Hearing

Suggested Motion:

1. Commissioner moves:

"I move the City Commission (set / not set) a public hearing for May 3, 2016, on Resolution 10129 to establish residential and commercial water, sewer, and storm drain utility service rates effective June 1, 2016."

2. Mayor calls for a second, discussion, public comment, and calls for the vote.

Summary: Each year, staff reviews and analyzes the financing needs of the water, sewer, and storm drain funds. The review ensures the City has adequate funding necessary for day to day operations, and provide for any capital improvements, emergency main breaks, or replacements. These funds also provide the financing to run the Water and Wastewater Treatment Plants effectively.

Background: Adjustments in utility rates are necessary to provide adequate revenue to finance the capital improvements program, meet debt service coverage requirements and to maintain appropriate reserves. Staff is recommending a 10% increase in water rates, a 3% increase in sewer rates and a 10% increase in storm drain rates.

Staff has found moderate annual increases to service rates are more effective in meeting revenue needs as opposed to sporadic large increases. For Residential customers, an average water bill would increase \$3.22 per month or 10%, an average sewer bill would increase \$.71 per month or 3%, and an average storm drain bill would increase \$.47 per month or 10% with the proposed rate increases. For Commercial customers, an average water bill would increase \$2.81 per month or 10%, an average sewer bill would increase \$1.18 per month or 3%, and an average storm drain bill would increase \$1.18 per month or 3%, and an average storm drain bill would increase \$1.18 per month or 3%, and an average storm drain bill would increase \$1.55 per month or 10% with the proposed rate increases.

The average annual service rate and fee increase for the 10 year period 2006-2015 is 4.7% for water, 5.3% for sewer and 1% for storm drain.

The rate increase for water is due to the approximately \$81.1 million in capital improvements needed over the next 5 years in which approximately \$50 million or 62% is attributed to direct and indirect regulatory compliance issues.

The water rate change also applies to Fire Hydrant charges. Fire hydrants are integral to the water system as a whole, and are included as a monthly charge within the rate structure rather than a once a year special assessment.

The rate increase for sewer is due to the approximately \$12.3 million in capital improvements needed over the next 5 years. Of this amount, \$5.23 million will be used for sewer line projects. The remaining \$7.07 million will be used for equipment and upgrades to maintain, replace and upgrade aging infrastructure. Of the \$7.07 million, \$1 million reflects state and federal regulatory requirements needed, including \$325,000 for Lift Station 29 upgrades, \$550,000 to install a septage receiving station and \$125,000 for the installation of a Fats, Oils and Grease (FOG) receiving station.

The rate increase for storm drain is due to the approximately \$15.55 million in capital improvements needed over the next 5 years.

Fiscal Impact: Comparisons of current versus proposed charges, rate and fee structures are attached. With the proposed rates beginning June 1, 2016, the average monthly Residential utility bill would increase 7.3% or \$4.40 per month. The average monthly Commercial utility bill would increase 6.2% or \$4.54 per month.

Alternatives: The City Commission could choose to not set the public hearing and thereby deny Resolution 10129.

Concurrences: Representatives from Public Works and Fiscal Services worked together throughout the process.

Attachments/Exhibits:	Resolution 10129 w/ Appendix A
	Public Notice
	Current Rates vs. Proposed Rates
	2016 Utility Rate Review Calendar

RESOLUTION NO. 10129

A RESOLUTION ESTABLISHING RESIDENTIAL AND COMMERCIAL WATER, SEWER, AND STORM DRAIN UTILITY SERVICE RATES EFFECTIVE JUNE 1, 2016

WHEREAS, an annual review is performed of the water and wastewater cost of service for the municipal water and wastewater utilities, and rate and fee schedules prepared to generate sufficient revenue to pay all costs for the operation and maintenance, administration, and routine functions of the existing and such future facilities as may be established within the service area;

WHEREAS, the cost of service review indicates a need for extension, repair, improvement, and continued operation and maintenance of existing and proposed water and wastewater system facilities for the providing of water and wastewater services to inhabitants of the City of Great Falls; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to Title 13 of the Official Code of the City of Great Falls, the City of Great Falls is authorized to regulate the City's municipal water and wastewater utility and to establish all rates, fees and charges for use of the utility systems or for permits, licenses, connections or inspections; and

WHEREAS, it is essential to the public health, welfare and safety of the inhabitants of the City of Great Falls to provide an adequate public water and wastewater system and to provide adequate funding to meet the cost of constructing, maintaining, and operating the same; and

WHEREAS, notice having been provided as required by law, the City Commission of the City of Great Falls conducted a public hearing on Tuesday, May 3, 2016, at the Civic Center, 2 Park Drive South, Commission Chambers Room 206, Great Falls, Montana, at 7:00 p.m., and did consider the cost of operation, equipment, facilities, debt service, and capital improvements for the Water, Sewer, and Storm Drain Utility systems.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF GREAT FALLS, MONTANA, that:

Water, Sewer, and Storm Drain Utility Service Rates are hereby established as set forth in Appendix A, attached hereto and made a part hereof.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the City Commission of the City of Great Falls, Montana, this 3rd day of May, 2016.

Bob Kelly, Mayor

ATTEST:

Lisa Kunz, City Clerk

(SEAL OF CITY)

APPROVED FOR LEGAL CONTENT:

Sara Sexe, City Attorney

				CITY	OF GRE	EAT FAL	LS, MO	NTANA							
				Resol	ution 10	0129, Ap	pendix	A, Rates							
						pg 1 of	3								
Combined		Quantity	Charges					Мо	nthly Se	ervice Cł	narges				
Water & Sev	wer	CCF		Not		r	T	Mete	r Based -	Service L	ine Size	(inches)	n		
		1st 300 cf	Over 300 cf	Meter Based	(3/4") 0.75	1	1.25	1.50	2	3	4	6	8 8	ee 6" if "r 10	na" 12
RESIDENT	TIAL											1		1	
WATER															
	2016 10.00%														
2016	Regular Residential	1.34	2.23]	6.88	7.33	13.28	13.28	16.83	44.88	64.94	130.89	197.03	278.61	411.14
2016	Low Income Residential	1.21	2.01]	6.19	6.59	11.95	11.95	15.14	40.38	58.46	117.81	177.33	250.76	370.03
	(90 % of Regular Residentia	al)													
Fire Hyd	drant														
	2016 Monthly				2.45	2.81	7.78	7.78	10.76	34.10	50.93	105.93]		
	2016 Annual				29.36	33.66	93.36	93.36	129.09	409.17	611.15	1,271.10]		
SEWER	2016 3.00%														
2016	Regular Residential	1.80	2.99	8.41]										
	Low Income Residential	1.63	2.69	7.56	-										
	(90 % of Regular Residentia	al)			-										
COMMED		,													
COMMER(WATER	JIAL														
WATER	2016 10.00%														
2016	Regular Commercial	1.66	1.66		6.88	7.33	13.29	13.29	16.83	44.88	64.94	130.89	197.03	278.61	411.14
2016	Black Eagle	1.72	1.72								2 - 8	3" meters @	197.03	-	
2016	Malmstrom AFB	1.91	1.91					1 - 4	l" plus 1 -	10" meter	64.94	plus		278.61	
2016	Raw Water	0.28	0.28]											
Fire Hyd	drant														
T no riye					0.15				40 70			105.00	7		
	2016 Monthly				2.45	2.80	7.78	7.78	10.76	34.10	50.93	105.93]		
	2016 Annual				29.36	33.66	93.36	93.36	129.09	409.17	611.15	1,271.09			
Fire Line	es														
	2016 Monthly				na	na	na	na	2.62	3.98	6.15	10.95	14.83	na	38.18
	2015 Annual 2016 Annual				na na	na na	na na	na na	28.58 31.44	43.41 47.75	67.14 73.86	119.41 131.35	161.78 177.96	na na	416.40 458.04
0-14/55	2010 / 111001				na	na	na	na	01.44	41.10	70.00	101.00	177.50	па	400.04
SEWER	2016 3.00%														
2016	Regular Commercial	2.57	2.57	8.41]										
2016	Black Eagle	2.57	2.57	8.41]										
2016	Malmstrom AFB	2.23	2.23	8.41]										
2016	MaltEurop	1.79	1.79	7.64]										

						Y OF GREA Ilution 1012 P							
				WATER 2016	10.00%	SEWER 2016	3.00%						
PRE-TREATMENT SEWER	CHA	ARGES				Quantity CCF 1st	Charges / Mo. Over	Not Meter Based Based					
			2016	3.00%		300	300	Daseu					
	2016	Regula	r Charg	es		1.25	1.25	8.41					
		BOD > TSS > (per pound		0.529					
SEWER EXTRA STRENGT			s			<u></u>							
BOD > 200 m	q/L		2016	3.00%									
	2016		mstrom	nercial AFB & Black Ea	agle	per pound		0.529					
	2016	MaltEu	rop			per pound		0.322					
TSS > 250 mg		Regula	r Comm	nercial		per pound		0.362					
		inc Malı	mstrom	AFB & Black Ea	agle								
	2016	MaltEu	rop			per pound	ino Sino //	0.303					
		(3/-	4") 0.75	1.00	1.50	2.00	4.00	6.00	8.00	12.00			
CONNECTION FEES	;												
Fee shall be ADDED TO: Gene	2016 ral Plu		\$458 Permit	\$508 for extension to			\$1,291 n Permits for la	\$2,001 rger diameter pi	\$3,345 pe.	\$6,705			
SEWER Single Family Residential	2016	\$	254										
Commercial & Multi Family Units	2015	\$	247	\$ 461	\$ 905	\$ 1,899	\$ 6,522	\$ 9,424	\$ 14,457	\$ 27,814]		
Connection Fees are for conne There is no fee to connect to t Call City of Great Falls Comm	he ST	ORM SE	WER S	SYSTEM.			nclude installat	ion or general p	lumbing permits	3.			
Inspections and the associated Call City of Great Falls Engine						ater and sewer	service work a	nd connections	under OCCGF, 1	Fitle 13			
Where one meter serves one n industrial, residential use zone	es or v	ariance	, the co	onnection charg	ge wil be based	d upon the size o	of the water tap	. If there is no					
the charge will be based upon	the th	ie sewag	- 4")		on the same rat						1		
TAPPING FEES (Wa	iter)		0.75	1.00 Fee for any nev	1.50 w or replacement	2.00 nt tap being mad	4.00 e on a water ma	6.00 in.	8.00	12.00			
1 to 5 taps Fee per Tap:	2016	\$	491	\$ 516	\$ 777	\$ 980	\$ 463	\$ 483	\$ 503	\$ 541]		
6 or more taps Fee per Tap:	2016	\$	439	\$ 481	\$ 777	\$ 980	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A]		
INCLUDED in this fee is install NOT INCLUDED, and to be BIL													
TURN ON/OFF		,		,	After Hours		5 1	•			After Hours		
Flat fee of:	2016	\$	75	2015	\$ 100	REOCCU	RRENCE FOR	NON-PAY	2015	\$ 150	2015 \$	200	
WATER TREATMEN Laboratory Fees	T PL	ANT	(WT	P)									
Akalinity 2016 \$	20.50	Hard \$	ness 28.50	рН \$ 10.25	Specific Conductance \$ 10.75	& E. coli. P/A	Total Coliform & E. coli. MPN \$ 26.00	Turbidity \$ 12.00	HPC \$ 40.00	Ammonia, Total as N \$ 20.25	Free	Residual	Chlorine, Total Residual \$ 14.00
WASTEWATER TRE Industrial Discharge Perm Gallons per Day (GPD)				•		Wastewater Disc	harge Quantity)						
	2016	0 to 1	0,000 124.00	10,001 to 25.000 \$ 201.00	25,001 to 100,000 \$ 257.00	Over 100,000 \$ 257.00	+PLUS \$ 76.00	per 100,000 GPD, or portion thereof					
Hauled Waste Disposal Fe 0 to 100 Gallons	es												
	2016	No Ch	arge			ng tanks of private creational vehicle							
	2016	; \$	20		ns, or portion th or each load de	nereof, for hauled livered.	waste. A minim	um charge for 10	000 gallons				
Additional Fees Additional fees may be charged NSF Fee \$30. Delinguent Penalty 1.5% after 60		cessary t	testing p	prior to acceptan	nce of wastes cla	assified as non-d	omestic or indus	strial in nature.					

				olution 1012		, MONTANA ndix A, Rates	
s [.]	TORN	I DRAIN	2016	10.00%			
A		Single Family Re	s.	Sq Ft Cap	15,000		
	2016	Base	1.5970402800	1.5970402800 F	Per Sq Ft	0.0004791121	0.0004791121
в		Multiple Resident	tial	Sq Ft Cap	0		
	2016	Base	1.5970402800	1.5970402800 F	Per Sq Ft	0.0005988901	0.0005988901
С		Commercial		Sq Ft Cap	0		
D	2016	Base Heavy Commerci		1.5970402800 F Sq Ft Cap	Per Sq Ft 0	0.0007785572	0.0007785572
E	2016	Base Unimproved Area	1.5970402800	1.5970402800 F Sq Ft Cap	Per Sq Ft 10,000	0.0010780022	0.0010780022
	2016	Base	1.5970402800	1.5970402800 P	Per Sq Ft	0.0001197780	0.0001197780

PUBLIC NOTICE PUBLIC HEARING ON RESOLUTION 10129 TO ESTABLISH WATER, SEWER, AND STORM DRAIN RESIDENTIAL AND COMMERCIAL UTILITY SERVICE RATES

The City of Great Falls is proposing to raise residential and commercial water, sewer and storm drain utility service rates, effective June 1, 2016. The increases are necessary to provide adequate revenue to finance the capital improvements program, to meet debt service coverage requirements and to maintain appropriate reserves.

Residential and Commercial customers would see rate increases of 10% for all water services, 3% for all sewer services, and 10% for storm drain services.

Typical Residential Customers

Residential customers with a lot size of 7,500 square feet and a 1" meter who use 1,250 cubic feet of water per month and have a winter quarter average of 650 cubic feet per month to calculate their sewer rate would see rate increases as follows:

- A water bill would increase \$3.22 or 10%, from \$32.15 to \$35.37 per month;
- A sewer bill would increase \$.71 or 3%, from \$23.59 to \$24.30 per month; and
- A storm drain bill would increase \$.47 or 10%, from \$4.70 to \$5.17.

The average monthly Residential utility bill would increase \$4.40 or 7.3%.

Typical Commercial Customers

Commercial customers with a lot size of 7,500 square feet with a 1" meter and consumption of 1,250 cubic feet of water and sewer per month would see rate increases as follows:

- A water bill would increase \$2.81 or 10%, from \$28.08 to \$30.89 per month;
- A sewer bill would increase \$1.18 or 3%, from \$39.33 to \$40.51 per month; and
- A storm drain bill would increase \$.55 or 10%, from \$5.53 to \$6.08.

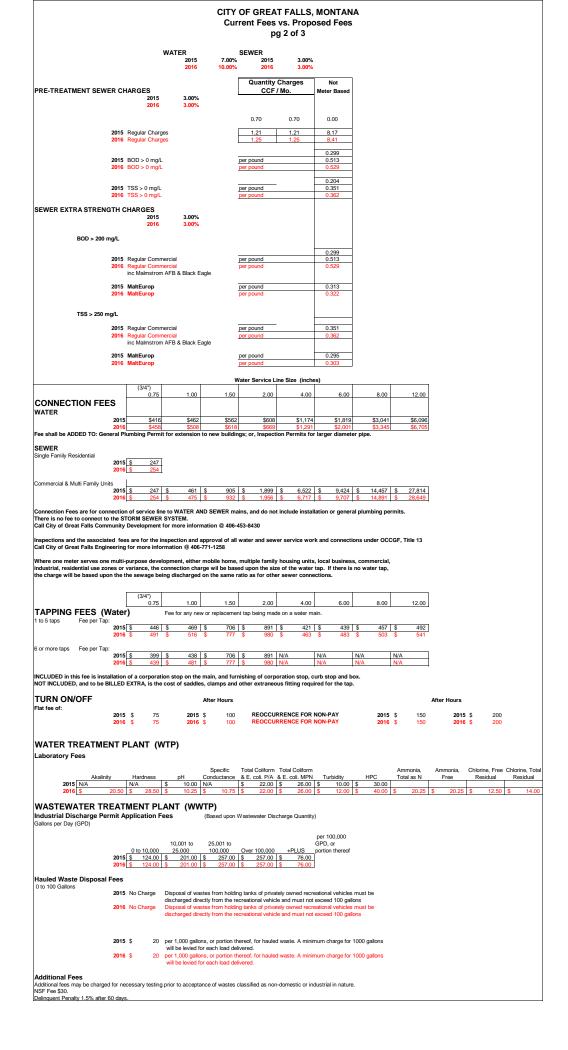
The average monthly Commercial utility bill would increase \$4.54 or 6.2%.

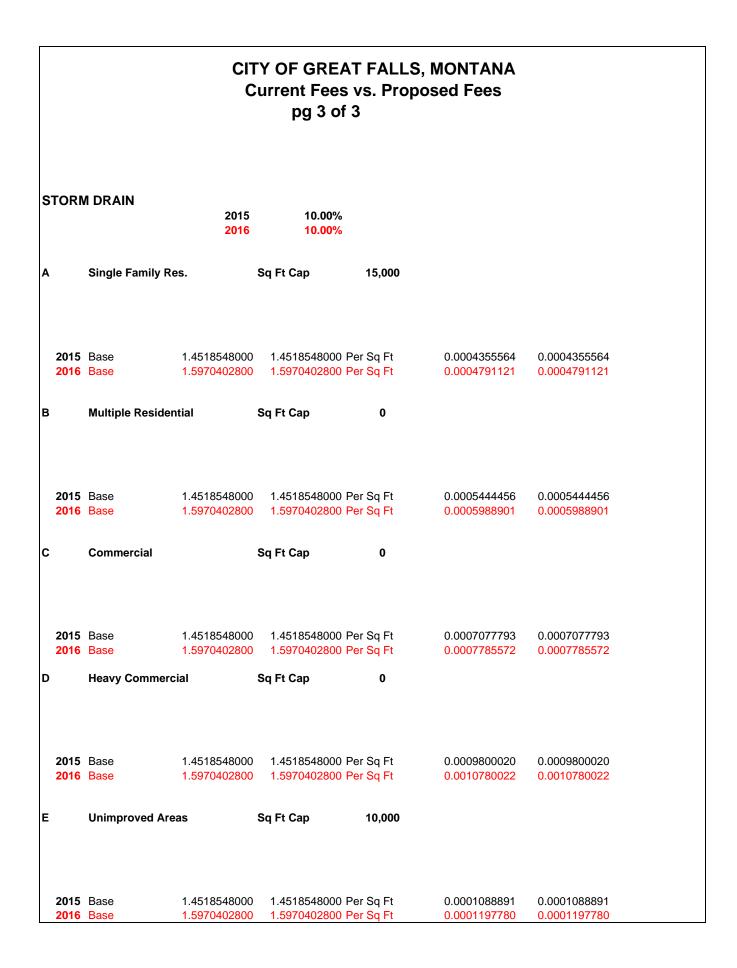
Public Hearing

The public hearing will be held on Tuesday, May 3, 2016, at 7:00 p.m. in the Civic Center Commission Chambers, 2 Park Drive S. Please mail any comments to City Clerk, City of Great Falls, PO Box 5021, Great Falls, MT 59403.

For further information, contact a Utilities Customer Service Representative at (406) 727-7660 or Room 104 of the Civic Center, 8:00 am to 5:00 pm.

							LLS, MO								
				Cur	rent Rat	esvs.P pg1o	Proposed f 3	Rates							
Combined		0	01												
Combined Water & Sewe	ər	-	Charges / Mo.	Not						ervice Ch Service L		(inches)			
		1st 300 cf	Over 300 cf	Meter Based	(3/4") 0.75	1	1.25	1.50	2	3	4	6	8 8	ee 6" if "r 10	na" 12
RESIDENTI/ WATER	4L														
WATER	20157.00%201610.00%														
	Regular Residential Regular Residential	1.21 1.34	2.03 2.23		6.25 6.88	6.66 7.33	12.08 13.28	12.08 13.28	15.30 16.83	40.80 44.88	59.04 64.94	118.99 130.89	179.12 197.03	253.28 278.61	373. 411.
2016 L	ow Income Residential ow Income Residential	1.10 1.21	1.83 2.01		5.63 6.19	5.99 6.59	10.86 11.95	10.86 11.95	13.76 15.14	36.71 40.38	53.15 58.46	107.10 117.81	161.21 177.33	227.96 250.76	336.3 370.0
؟) Fire Hydra	90 % of Regular Residenti	al)													
File Hyula	2015 Monthly				2.23	2.55	7.07	7.07	9.78	31.00	46.30	96.30]		
	2016 Monthly 2015 Annual				2.45 26.69	2.81 30.60	7.78 84.87	7.78 84.87	10.76 117.36	34.10 371.97	50.93 5555.59	105.93 1,155.54]		
	2016 Annual				29.36	33.66	93.36	93.36	129.09	409.17	611.15	1,271.10]		
SEWER	20153.00%20163.00%														
	Regular Residential Regular Residential	1.75 1.80	2.90 2.99	8.17 8.41]										
	ow Income Residential ow Income Residential	1.59 1.63	2.62 2.69	7.34 7.56]										
	90 % of Regular Residenti	al)													
COMMERCI WATER	AL														
	2015 7.00% 2016 10.00%														
	Regular Commercial Regular Commercial	1.51 1.66	1.51 <mark>1.66</mark>]	6.25 6.88	6.66 7.33	12.08 13.29	12.08 13.29	15.30 16.83	40.80 44.88	59.04 64.94	118.99 130.89	179.12 197.03	253.28 278.61	373.7 411.1
	Black Eagle Black Eagle	1.56 1.72	1.56 1.72									3" meters @ 3" meters @		_	
	Ialmstrom AFB Ialmstrom AFB	1.73 1.91	1.73 1.91							10" meter 10" meter		plus plus		253.28 278.61	
	Raw Water Raw Water	0.26 0.28	0.26 0.28]											
Fire Hydra	Int														
	2015Monthly2016Monthly				2.23 2.45	2.55 2.80	7.07 7.78	7.07 7.78	9.78 10.76	31.00 34.10	46.30 50.93	96.30 105.93]		
	2015 Annual 2016 Annual				26.69 29.36	30.60 33.66	84.87 93.36	84.87 93.36	117.36 129.09	371.97 409.17	555.59 611.15	1,155.54 1,271.09]		
Fire Lines					_										
	2015Monthly2016Monthly				na na	na na	na na	na na	2.38 2.62	3.62 3.98	5.60 6.15	9.95 10.95	13.48 14.83	na na	34.70 38.10
	2015 Annual 2016 Annual				na na	na na	na na	na na	28.58 31.44	43.41 47.75	67.14 73.86	119.41 131.35	161.78 177.96	na na	416.4 458.0
SEWER	2015 3.00% 2016 3.00%														
	Regular Commercial Regular Commercial	2.49 2.57	2.49 2.57	8.17 8.41]										
2016 R	look Fordo	2.49	2.49	8.17 8.41]										
2015 B	Black Eagle	2.57	2.57		-										
2015 B 2016 B 2015 M		2.57 2.16 2.23	2.57 2.16 2.23	8.17 8.41]										







2016 UTILITY RATE REVIEW CALENDAR

January									
Su	Мо	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa			
					1	2			
3	4	5	6	7	8	9			
10	11	12	13	14	15	16			
17	18	19	20	21	22	23			
24	25	26	27	28	29	30			
31									

			March			
Su	Мо	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

	February									
Su	Мо	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa				
	1	2	3	4	5	6				
7	8	9	10	11	12	13				
14	15	16	17	18	19	20				
21	22	23	24	25	26	27				
28	29									

			April			
Su	Мо	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30

			May			
Su	Мо	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

Resolution 10129

DATE	ТАЅК	RESPONSIBILITY
1/20/2016	STAFF DISCUSSION RE:	Engineering
	UTILITY RATE REVIEW	Fiscal
	Public Works/Fiscal Services	Public Works
2/18/2016	STAFF PRESENTATION TO CITY MANAGER	City Manager
@ 2:30 pm	City Manager's Office	Engineering
		Fiscal
		Public Works
3/15/2016	PRESENTATION OF RATE ANALYSIS	Fiscal
	City Commission Work Session	Public Works
		Commission
3/15/2016	SET PUBLIC HEARING	Commission
	City Commission Meeting	Fiscal
4/6/2016	WEEK 2 PUBLIC NOTICE INSERTED IN UTILITY BILLS AND EMAIL SENT TO EBILL CUSTOMERS	Fiscal
4/10/2016	1st PUBLICATION OF NOTICE IN GF TRIBUNE	Great Falls Tribune
4/13/2016	WEEK 3 PUBLIC NOTICE INSERTED IN UTILITY BILLS AND EMAIL SENT TO EBILL CUSTOMERS	Fiscal
4/17/2016	2nd PUBLICATION OF NOTICE IN GF TRIBUNE	Great Falls Tribune
4/20/2016	WEEK 4 PUBLIC NOTICE INSERTED IN UTILITY BILLS AND EMAIL SENT TO EBILL CUSTOMERS	Fiscal
4/24/2016	3rd PUBLICATION OF NOTICE IN GF TRIBUNE	Great Falls Tribune
4/27/2016	WEEK 1 PUBLIC NOTICE INSERTED IN UTILITY BILLS AND EMAIL SENT TO EBILL CUSTOMERS	Fiscal
5/3/2016	PUBLIC HEARING/FINAL ACTION City Commission Meeting	Commission Fiscal
6/1/2016	EFFECTIVE DATE FOR RATE INCREASES	Fiscal