



*At Your
Service*

PROVIDING
ELECTRIC, GAS, WATER AND
SANITARY SEWER SERVICES

October 2018

New Utility Rates for the 2018-2019 Fiscal Year

After a day of budget discussions and a work session in August, the Utility Advisory Board and the Hastings City Council have approved the 2018-19 budget for the Utilities Department. Multiple capital improvements and operations projects were approved in the budget, along with new rates on several utility services.

Each service department of Hastings Utilities (electric, water, natural gas, sanitary sewer, street lighting) is operated on the basis of what it costs to provide that particular service. That means that the costs for each department only affects the rates charged for that particular type of service. In 2018-19, water and sanitary sewer costs will be higher while electric and natural gas base rates plus street lighting assessments will remain unchanged.

On October 1st of this year, sanitary sewer rates will increase by 10%. Future, multi-million dollar upgrades to the wastewater treatment facility are the catalyst for the increase. In recent years, the EPA (United States Environmental Protection Agency) has set stricter environmental quality mandates on the amount of ammonia that can be discharged from the wastewater treatment facility. Modernizing the wastewater treatment facility is slated in the future to comply with the ammonia discharges levels set by the EPA.

What will the approved sanitary sewer increases mean for a residential household? On average, residential customers use six units of sanitary sewer service in a month. The 2017-18 charge for six units of usage was \$28.43. With the increase, that monthly usage will cost \$31.25, an increase of \$2.82/month.

To address the rising levels of nitrates in the local water distribution system, the Aquifer Storage and Restoration Project (ASR) was constructed and went into operation this spring. Additional expenses are required for the maintenance and operation of the ASR facility. Water rates will increase by 5% on October 1st, which is less than the forecasted 10% increase from last year. That means for a customer that uses 6 billing units of water monthly, the monthly bill will increase from \$21.32 in early 2018 to \$22.37, an increase of \$1.05/month.

The base rates for both electricity and natural gas services will not change in 2018-19. The monthly charge for community street lighting will also remain unchanged in the next fiscal year at \$3.52.

The Utilities will continue its efforts of providing the most reliable and dependable service possible, at a very competitive cost.

COMMUNITY BULLETIN BOARD

VETERANS

RECOGNITION
PARADE



Honoring Nebraska's Heroes

☆ ☆ Saturday, November 3, 2018 - Hastings, NE

Parade begins: 10 a.m.

Registration: 8:30-9:30 a.m. Masonic Temple, 4th Street & Hastings Avenue

- ☆ All veterans are encouraged to walk or ride in the parade.
- ☆ All businesses & individuals are encouraged to show support of our past & current Veterans by building a parade entry.

**Sponsorship Opportunity Available
to recognize Veteran's Parade Marshal's**

\$100 Sponsorship

- ☆ 2 Tickets to Veteran's Recognition Dinner
Wednesday, October 24, 2018 at 6 PM
- ☆ Recognition at the Veteran's Recognition Dinner
- ☆ Recognition at the Veteran's Recognition Parade

\$50 Sponsorship

- ☆ Recognition at the Veteran's Recognition Dinner
- ☆ Recognition at the Veteran's Recognition Parade
Sponsorship Deadline-Friday, October 19, 2018

Please call Mikki or Lorie at
402-461-8400 to secure Sponsorship
Please make check to: Hastings Lodge 50

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**HASTINGS
UTILITIES**

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