## **Rate Changes**

On May 8, the City Council approved the 1st consideration for the ordinance amendment to increase water, sewer, garbage & recycling rates. The council will need to approve 2 additional considerations of the ordinance before the new rates would take effect in late July and will be reflected on the utility bills due August 20th.

Utility rate increases are a necessity for every city in order to provide safe and effective service to citizens as well as preserving the infrastructure of the utility systems. Currently, the City is in the pre-planning and design stages of a sewer lagoon rehabilitation and improvement project that is expected to begin construction in 2025. The water plant just went through a filter and valve replacement process and the water tower will undergo a major rehab this month. Due to recent and anticipated project costs, as well as current operating expenses and previous project debt, it is necessary to increase water and sewer rates at this time.

Garbage and recycling rates from the vendor have had minor changes over the last several years so no rate increase to you, the customers, was necessary. Recently there was a significant increase in rates for recycling along with the added expense of twice a year clean-up days. These increases in operational costs have made a rate increase in recycling and garbage necessary.

New Water rates: minimum base-\$28.62 for the first 2000 gallons, \$6.48 per 1000 gallons over 2000 gallons. Bulk water will be charged at \$12.42 per 1000 gallons.

New Sewer rates: minimum base-\$25.60 for the first 2000 gallons, \$3.40 per 1000 gallons over 2000 gallons.

New Garbage rate: \$9.50 for regular garbage pick-up, \$50.00 for dumpster pick-up.

New Recycling rate: \$2.00 per address.

Since water and sewer charges are based on water usage, a household that uses 5000 gallons of water will see a sewer increase of \$8.61. If a household uses 2000 gallons of water or less, the sewer increase will be just \$5.67. All garbage customers will see an increase of \$1.50, those with dumpsters will see a \$5.00 increase

If you have any questions, please call City Hall.

# **Duncombe Community Events**

### June

12	Council Meeting- 6:00 pm
20	City Utility Bills Due

#### **Fireworks Ordinance**

- You may only discharge fireworks during the following time periods:
  June 30- July 8, 9:00 am- 10:00 pm
  July 4, 9:00 am- 11:00 pm
- Consumer fireworks can only be discharged on your own property or that of someone who has given permission.
- Consumer fireworks may NOT be discharged on public places including streets.
- No one under the influence of drugs or alcohol shall discharge consumer fireworks.
- No person shall discharge a consumer fireworks device in a reckless manner or manner likely to cause death, injury, fire, or property damage.
- It is unlawful for any person to use or explode any display fireworks.

For more information regarding the discharge of fireworks, please visit <u>cityofduncombe.com/</u> newsletters.

#### **Animal Nuisance Issues**

Chickens, other poultry animals, and livestock are not allowed to be kept within city limits per City Code (Ordinance No. 1217LS). This ordinance was passed in 2018 on the recommendation of Iowa Rural Water as part of our Water Well Protection plan, which was required by DNR.

Dogs are not allowed to defecate or urinate on someone else's property or on public spaces unless the owner of the animal immediately removes the waste and properly disposes of it. There are issues with people using the Community Center, City Hall, and other public is an issue for the mowing equipment.

If you would like to read the ordinance referenced above, please visit <u>cityofduncombe.com/</u> newsletters.

## **Online Bill Pay**

You may pay your city bill 24/7 by visiting <u>cityofduncombe.com/payment-options</u>.