

Sprague City Council Meeting
Public Hearing – Proposed Rate Increase
Wednesday, February 19, 2019 7:00 P.M.
Location: Sprague City Hall, 119 W Second
DRAFT UNTIL SIGNED

Public Hearings:

Utility rate increases: Mayor Eagleson opened the public hearing at 7:01 pm on the proposed water, sewer and garbage rate increases. The proposed 5 percent increases would total about \$5 over 2018 rates.

Beginning with the garbage rates, Clerk-Treasurer Behrens presented the council with Lincoln County Transfer Station rates that went up 5% effective January 2019 as well as Wheatland Waste Systems raising their rates 2.9%. Councilmember Monen informed the council that Wheatland Waste will soon have an automated truck and the city will need to go to one size can to accommodate. No public comment on garbage rates.

Council then discussed the sewer rates. Behrens informed the council that with the sewer fund in the negative and at the auditors' suggestions, our rates need to go up. The proposed increase would only be \$2.37 more for each resident. NO public comment on sewer rates.

Next was discussion on the proposed water rate increase. The 5% increase would cost each resident \$1.45 more for the base rate. Council informed the public that they are looking into raising the base rate, however, figuring out if the city can go without charging for overages. Tony Werdahl asked if the overages were detrimental to the city's budget. Behrens informed him that she believes the water collections revenue is only factored in the base rate times the amount of service locations, so if residents paid their bill every month, the city should still be in the positive.

Adjournment:

With no more public comment, Mayor Eagleson adjourned the meeting at 7:24 P.M.

We, the undersigned members of the City Council for the City of Sprague, DO HEREBY Certify that these minutes are true and correct from this Council meeting.

Mayor _____ Council Member _____

Council Member _____ Council Member _____

Council Member _____ Council Member _____

ATTEST: _____ Clerk/Treasurer