

MINUTES OF WATER RATE WORKSHOP OF THE SINCLAIR TOWN COUNCIL OF TOWN OF SINCLAIR, WYOMING, HELD AT 5:00 P.M. ON TUESDAY, APRIL 30, 2024, IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS OF THE SINCLAIR TOWN OFFICE BUILDING.

COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT: Mayor Cullen Meeks, Councilmember Michelle Serres, Councilmember David Robinson, with Councilmember Brennan Dunlap being excused.

TOWN EMPLOYEES PRESENT: Clerk/Treasurer Becky Slater, Assistant Treasurer Gina Helmetag, Maintenance Supervisor Chris Haldorson

RESIDENTS PRESENT: Leigh Nation

Mayor Meeks called the workshop to order at 5:03 p.m. to discuss water rates changes for the Town of Sinclair, as the City of Rawlins is raising the rates.

Mayor Meeks told the council that the raise had to happen as the Town of Sinclair does not have a water treatment plant of its own, so when the City of Rawlins raises their price, we have to raise our rates. Mayor Meeks stated that rates were raised last year from \$1.80 per 1,000 gallons to \$2.10 per 1,000 gallons for Residents and from \$2.20 per 1,000 gallons to \$2.60 per 1,000 gallons for Commercial.

Resident Leigh Nation told the council that she had heard from Bigfoot 99 radio station, that the City of Rawlins increased rates would be 80% and the Town of Sinclair would be 60%.

Haldorson told the council that at the conference he attended every community was discussing that their rates needed to raise 3% to 8% every year.

Mayor Meeks told the council that the agreement from the City of Rawlins was for a 60% increase for the Town of Sinclair. That would make the City of Rawlins charging the Town of Sinclair from \$2.09 per 1,000 gallons per customer from last year to \$2.78 per 1,000 gallons per customer.

Resident Nation suggested to the council that \$2.85 per 1,000 gallons per customer. Mayor Meeks suggested raising the amount to \$2.83 per 1,000 gallons per customer. Mayor Meeks stated that the City of Rawlins will vote in the raise with their May 21, 2024, council meeting.

The council discussed the Aqua Flow fill station rates to be raised 33% for residents. The residential in town fees will increase to \$2.80 per 1,000 gallons from \$2.10 per 1,000 gallons. The residential out of town fees will increase to \$3.26 per 1,000 gallons, from \$2.45 per 1,000 gallons. The commercial fees will increase to \$9.31 per 1,000 gallons, from \$7.00 per 1,000 gallons.

The council discussed the rates for residential rates for availability fee going to \$8.00, from \$7.00. The residential water fee to \$2.80 per 1,000 gallons from \$2.10 per 1,000 gallons.

The business rates for availability fee going to \$9.00, from \$8.00. The business water fee to \$3.46 per 1,000 gallons from \$2.60 per 1,000 gallons.

The commercial/industrial rates within town limits for availability fee to \$10.00 from \$8.00. The other commercial/industrial rates within town limits will be discussed at the next meeting, after getting more information.

The commercial/industrial rates outside town limits for availability fee to \$10.00 from \$8.00. The other commercial/industrial rates outside town limits will be discussed at the next meeting, after getting more information.

Councilmember Serres asked Slater to get more information with the Aqua Flow fill station and the gallons used for the residents, businesses and commercial/industrial for the next meeting.

Haldorson asked Slater to get the electricity used for both lift stations for the next meeting.

Landfill cost from the City of Rawlins are not rising. The sewer rates will be discussed at the workshop on May 6, 2024, at 5pm in the council chambers.

Mayor Meeks adjourned the workshop at 6:25 p.m.

Cullen Meeks, Mayor  
TOWN OF SINCLAIR

ATTEST: CLERK/TREASURER