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Falls City utility rate increases gain first round approval

**(KLZA)-- The Falls City Council approved an ordinance on first reading Monday night to increase utility rates.**

**The last utility rate study was completed in 2016. The Board of Public Works commissioned J.K. Consulting, of Lincoln, to do a new rate study which was presented to Council members during a special meeting Monday afternoon.**

**Based on the study, a typical residential customer will see an increase in their Fiscal Year 2020, monthly utility bill of \$7.16 and an increase on their Fiscal Year 2021 monthly utility bill of \$7.68.**

**The increases approved are for a 2 percent increase each year through 2022 for electricity a total of 8 percent.**

**For water the increase would be 5 percent each year, with a total increase over the four years of 22 percent. The wastewater rate would increase 7 percent in 2020, 2021 and 2022 with the total increase coming in at 22.5 percent.**

**For natural gas the proposed increase is 1.3 percent annually.**

**The ordinance to reset the utility rates must be approved on three separate readings by the Council.**

Many Signals Communications