



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
October 19, 2015

CONTACT: Mariel Platt
Hailey Public Works Director
208-788-9830- ext 24

New Water Rates Applied to November 2015 Billing Cycle

(Hailey, Idaho) –

Hailey City Council and Mayor Haemmerle held public hearings in September and October, 2015 to discuss water rate increases. On Oct. 19th, they approved new water rates that will be reflected in the November bills. Rates are evaluated each budget season to ensure that the amount of revenue collected meets, but does not exceed, the cost to maintain and operate the water system within the city.

The new fiscal year started on Oct. 1st with a total water division operating budget increase of 28%. This increase can be attributed in part to the following increased expenses for new or continuing projects:

- Mobile generator for pump houses/wells as recommended by the Water System Master Plan - \$85,000
- Engineering fees and construction for improvements to Indian Springs collection system - \$135,000
- Consulting and legal fees to address water rights - \$100,000
- Truck fill card reader system - \$20,000
- Pump upgrades - \$45,000

Water rates include three types of fees: a base, bond and metered fee. The base and bond are flat fees, assessed to each bill. The metered fee is based on actual water consumption. In order to cover the additional expenses listed in the new fiscal year's budget, the table below shows the changes that were made to the water rates (no changes have been made to the wastewater rates at this time).

Changes for Apartments, Condos and Other Multi-family Housing

Hailey City Council recently considered a separate change—not to rates, but to the way rates are calculated—that specifically affects multi-family dwellings that are not already individually metered. This includes most apartments and some condos and townhomes. Total water consumption will be divided by the number of units and each unit will be charged a base and bond fee for water along with the metered fee based on the average water usage for a unit or single family dwelling equivalent. Previously, the metered rate was applied to the total water usage for the entire property and only one base and bond fee was charged for water. The same will apply to sewer rates. These properties will see a change in their November bill as a result this change and the new water rates shown below:



Gallons Used	Old Bond Fee	New Bond Fee	Old Base Fee	New Base Fee	Old Metered Fee	New Metered Fee	Old Total	New Total
1,000	\$3.89	\$3.16	\$8.24	\$8.66	\$0.25	\$0.44	\$12.38	\$12.26
3,000	\$3.89	\$3.16	\$8.24	\$8.66	\$0.75	\$1.32	\$12.88	\$13.14
6,000	\$3.89	\$3.16	\$8.24	\$8.66	\$1.50	\$2.64	\$13.63	\$14.46
20,000	\$3.89	\$3.16	\$8.24	\$8.66	\$7.50	\$13.20	\$19.63	\$25.02
50,000	\$3.89	\$3.16	\$8.24	\$8.66	\$37.50	\$66.00	\$49.63	\$77.82
100,000	\$3.89	\$3.16	\$8.24	\$8.66	\$145.00	\$242.00	\$157.13	\$253.82
200,000	\$3.89	\$3.16	\$8.24	\$8.66	\$520.00	\$583.09	\$532.13	\$594.91

###