

## Village of Jackson Center

122 East Pike Street, P. O. Box 819 Jackson Center, OH 45334-0819

PH: (937) 596-6314 FX: (937) 596-6672 www.jacksoncenter.com

## From the Desk of the Administrator

I hope everyone had a wonderful Thanksgiving with family and friends.

With December here, I want to discuss with you the upcoming utility rate adjustments you will be seeing in your Feb. 1, 2020 utility bill.

I will begin with the Electric rates, in 2017 we had a Cost of Service Study (COS) completed to determine the financial position the Electric Department is in. It was determined that we are in pretty good shape, but with the need for the additional Substation, Council would need to do a rate adjustment. Council decided to do a small adjustment every year for four years instead of a larger one time adjustment. For 2020, the cost per kilo-watt hour (kwh) will be adjusted from 11.637 cents to 11.733 cents. Also, the customer charge will also be adjusted from \$12 a month to \$14 per month.

For example, I will show the adjustment in an electric bill using 832 kwh. This is actually the average kwh used by residential customers per month. In 2019, the cost of 832 kwh is \$96.82 (.11637 cents per kwh). In 2020, the cost for 832 kwh will be \$97.62 (.11733 cents per kwh). An additional of .80 cents per month. Add that to the \$2.00 adjustment in the customer charge and that will be an additional of \$2.80 for a customer using 832 kwh in a month.

We have completed a COS for the Water and Sewer Departments in 2018 to check their financial wellness. Results show that there was a need to also have a rate adjustment to keep these departments on track. A couple of points for the need for these adjustments are, we have a utility agreement with Plastipak from when we ran water and sewer mains to their facility. The Village will see these revenues go away in a couple of years. Also, the Water Department finished in the red once over the last three years and the Sewer Department has finished in the red the 3 of the last 4 years. It was not by a lot but not a pattern we want to continue. So, Council is looking at an adjustment for the next two (2) years to spread the adjustment over a longer period similar to the Electric rate adjustments being implemented. The adjustment for water will be an additional \$1.80 a month for the 5000 gallon minimum. For Sewer the adjustment will be an additional \$4.84 a month for the 5000 gallon minimum.

For example, I will show the monthly adjustment using the minimum 5000 gallon. In 2019, the minimum for water is \$19.96 and in 2020 - \$21.76. An additional of \$1.80 a month. Sewer, in 2019, is \$32.03 and in 2020 - \$37.07. An additional \$4.84 a month. For a customer using the 5000 gallon minimum will see an additional total cost of \$6.64 for their water and sewer bill a month. There will be no increase in the customer charge for Water and Sewer.

Council has done a good job keeping our rates down, but at the same time realize these utilities need to be able to sustain operations on their own.

If anyone has any questions on either of these rate adjustments, please give me a call at the Village Office at (937) 596-6314.



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(Next month: 2020 Outlook)