

***By Jan Schultz***

***The Imperial Republican***

Utility customers in the city of Imperial will see slightly higher rates for water and sewer service when they receive their February billing.

At the council's Jan. 21 meeting, final approval was given for the increases recommended after a rate study by the Nebraska Rural Water Association.

Most homes in Imperial have either five-eighths inch meters (older homes) or one-inch meter sizes for water.

Most businesses have either the one-inch meter or 1.5-inch meter, according to city officials.

The rates are increasing as follows:

Five-eighths inch meter—from \$10 per month to \$11.

One-inch meter—From \$11 to \$12.10.

One and a half inch meter—From \$13 to \$14.30.

There are also increases for businesses using two, three and four-inch meters.

In addition to the per-month charge, customers pay an additional amount for each 1,000 gallons of water used. That rate will go up from \$1 to \$1.10.

Monthly sewer rates will increase from \$13.25 to \$14.75 for residential and \$18 to \$20 for commercial operations.