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During this year's storm, Jackson County and I were in constant communication and if needed, the Town people could have been relocated. Than did not have to happen. We prevailed because of our community spirit, but a fund to draw from in the future is a very wise idea.

Now, to the water/sewer bill. I hope you are sitting down for this one. Contrary to the rumors flooding about Town, the new building for the bottled water business has not, nor is the reason for the water/sewer increases. The Sewer Reserve increase of .50 cents is to cover expenses for installing a sewer line extension from Laurel Ave to Plum Creek Lane. This increase will be omitted from your bill in September upon receipt of grants funds.

In the year 2000, the Town Council started a new sewer facility upgrade at the original cost of \$1.6 million dollars. That cost has since been reduced to \$1 million, of which we have a \$750,000 grant. The balance turns out to be a 20 year loan at approximately \$8.70 per month. The \$4.70 portion of this is being levied now so we can make an interest payment in May 2009.

Sewer operation and maintenance has always been under funded, so an increase of \$2.25 will help bring the department to the proper operating level.

Our August bill should look something like this:

Water	\$10.25	(over 10,000 gallons and you pay .38 cents per thousand)
Sewer	\$26.50	
New Water Bond	\$17.69	reduced in July 2010 to \$16.12.
Old Sewer Bond	\$ 5.71	removed in July 2015
Water Plant	\$ 2.00	removed in Jan. 2009
Capitol Project Eq.	\$ 1.91	removed in 2010
New Sewer Loan	\$ 4.70	
Water Reserve	\$ 1.16	reduced in May 2009 to .77 cents.
Sewer Reserve	\$.50	removed in Sept 2008
Total	\$70.42	

Also, in July 2015 any proceeds from the water bottling revenue will be directed towards the water/sewer bills as per our ordinance.

I am going to present to the Town Council and Budget Committee the following idea of inserting back into our Town Charter the finance section that deals strictly with property limitations, bond issues, assessments and fee restrictions. This charter amendment will be voted on by the residents of Butte Falls in the November election of 2008.

If any of you have questions or concerns, please contact me at 973-7821. If you can't reach me at this number, call City Hall at 865-3262 and leave a message with the City Recorder.

Ron Ormond
Mayor, Town of Butte Falls

