

Water, sewer, other rates to increase

The Columbia Press

Death, taxes and city service costs.

All three are inevitable and, on Tuesday, Warrenton City Commission voted to raise water rates, sewer rates, recycling rates, developer fees and community center fees.

Nothing will go up by a huge margin, but the hikes are necessary to keep operations running, city leaders said.

"I feel like the city of Warrenton's rates are like the

state of Oregon. We are nickel and diming people to death," Commissioner Mark Baldwin lamented. "But I know we have to do this not to keep city services running fat and happy, but healthy."

Several commissioners blamed previous panel members from past eras who failed to raise rates and forced the city into its current short-funded predicament.

"You're digging a hole every year if you don't raise rates," Commissioner Rick

Newton said.

Mayor Henry Balensifer said there's a perception that Warrenton's water rates in particular are higher than neighboring communities and asked for a run-down of other cities pay.

"People heckle us about water rates," he said.

Water rates will rise 5 percent on July 1, after a 7 percent hike last year. The base rate of \$29.91 will go up to \$31.42.

Sewer rates will rise 4 percent, from \$58.29 to \$60.62. The curbside recycling rate will rise from \$7.38 to \$7.58.

In addition, the cost of renting Warrenton Community Center goes up \$1 per hour, along with some of the ancillary fees.

No residents spoke against the fee increases, but they'll have a second chance when the final vote is taken at the June 25 meeting.

The resolution raising developer fees received preliminary approval previously, so the commission's Tuesday decision was final.

Fees imposed on builders will go up an average of \$649 for a single-family home to bring the city more in line with the cost of providing inspection and other city review services.

Cleanup: Students step up

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Hammond. An unbelievable amount of trash."

At Tuesday's City Commission meeting, Mark Baldwin and Rick Newton praised the students and talked about how fortunate the town is to have such young people.

"We have some great community members coming up," Baldwin said.

Warrenton residents have done a lot to support its children, O'Brien said. Chief among them was passing a school bond so a new multi-campus facility can be built near Walmart.

"Our community is putting their tax dollars in to make our school district better,"

O'Brien said.

"I believe in servant leadership. How do we fulfill that as a school? How do we teach that to our students? Think about what kind of community we'll have if these young people graduate, go off to school and come back having learned a culture of 'it's good to give of your time and help others without asking for anything in return.' If we can get them to buy into that, it will just make our community stronger and better."

It was a bit of a "last hurrah" for Athletic Director Hoepfl, who is leaving the district to be with his wife, who has accepted a job in New Jersey.



Courtesy Pacific Power

Jane McGeehan of AAUW, right, accepts a check from Pacific Power Regional Business Manager Alisa Dunlap.

Utility foundation donates money for AAUW women's scholarships

The Seaside AAUW (American Association of University Women) recently received a \$2,000 grant from the Pacific Power Foundation for its scholarship programs.

The grant will help provide scholarships for local young women who are either the first in their family to attend college or are returning to college after a five-year absence.

Pacific Power Foundation is one of the largest utility-endowed foundations in the United States. Its mission is

to support the growth and vitality of communities served by Pacific Power.

The AAUW Scholarship Foundation has awarded more than \$20,000 in local scholarships since its formation in 1990.

The scholarships are dependent upon the generosity of individuals and organizations, AAUW scholarship committee chairwoman Jane McGeehan said.

Donations are welcome and can be sent to P.O. Box 693, Seaside, OR 97138.

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE STATE OF OREGON
FOR THE COUNTY OF CLATSOP

In the Matter of the Estate of MARETTE GLADYS ISLE, Deceased
Case No.: 19PB04236

NOTICE TO INTERESTED PERSONS

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Bryce A. Isle has been appointed personal representative of the Estate of Marette Gladys Isle. All persons having claims against the estate are required to present them, with vouchers attached, to the undersigned personal representative c/o Lawrence, Lawrence & Queener P.C., 427 S. Holladay Drive, Seaside, OR 97138, within four months after the date of first publication of this notice or the claims may be barred.

All persons whose rights may be affected by the proceedings may obtain additional information from the records of the court, the personal representative, or the attorney for the personal representative, Benjamin F. Lawrence, at the above address.

Dated and first published on June 14, 2019.

Benjamin F. Lawrence

Attorney for Personal Representative



A wind latch prevents the top from flying open, but doesn't interfere when the bin is dumped into a recycling truck.

Wind latches: They'll soon be coming to a bin near you

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on every bin in town.

"It always seems to fall on deaf ears because, quite frankly, you're paying nothing for tip (dump) fees because it's all over the road," Baldwin said.

Dave Larmouth, the rates and contract analyst for Recology, put everybody's mind to rest.

"If what you want is to put wind latches on all the carts ... I think we can do that," Larmouth said.

And that's how the city of Warrenton got wind latches for all if its residents, who will soon be paying 2.7 percent more to recycle at the new rate of \$7.58 per month.