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Water, sewer fees to rise as inflation hits close to home

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Sewer rates, water rates, business license fees and more will rise in the coming fiscal year.

Warrenton City Commission held hearings and discussions Tuesday night on half a dozen fee increases.

They approved all of them, but many of the increases are negligible.

Sewer rates will go up 4 percent beginning July 1. For most residential users, that amounts to about \$2.50 per month. It's expected to put \$109,056 annually into city coffers.

"I've been around long enough to remember when sanitation rates were beginning to have some issues," City Manager Linda Engbretson said of the city's inability to cover its costs because elected officials didn't want to impose higher costs on constituents. "I think we've done a real good job staying on top of things."

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City gifts Hammond's Old Town Hall to VFW

BY CINDY YINGST
The Columbia Press

The local VFW post will be the new

owners of Hammond's former town hall, a decaying but historic building deemed more a hindrance than an asset for the city of Warrenton.



"Oh my gosh, it's very exciting," said Debbie Little, president of the local auxiliary and soon to be president of the statewide auxiliary organization.

She already has begun putting binders together to look for grants to fix up the structure. Her husband, Bert, who is commander of Fort Stevens Post 10580, has begun working with Camp Rilea, the Army National Guard, and other groups to gather donations, supplies, and labor.

"All of our volunteers are over the moon," Debbie Little said.

The old town hall became an asset of Warrenton when residents of the former town of Hammond voted to disincorporate and join their bigger neighbor city in 1991. It served as Warrenton's community library until 2017, when it became too

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Debbie and Bert Little of the VFW Fort Stevens Post 10580 stand in front of Hammond's former town hall.

Astoria Regatta Court filled with plenty of Warrenton teen leaders

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Three of the five teens named to the 2022 Astoria Regatta Court attended (or recently attended) Warrenton High School.

Alejandra Lopez Nestor, Tiana Rehwald-Quicke, and Aaliyah Watson make up the court along with Emmy Huber of Astoria and Leah Boles, a junior at Seaside High.

For more than a century, Astoria Regatta has been represented by distinguished young women from Clatsop County high schools. In

2019, the Astoria Regatta Education Fund split from the Regatta Board to serve as an independent selection committee.

The group selected court members based on academic achievement and service to the community and their school.

Annalyse Steele of Astoria has been serving as queen since 2020, when the pandemic curtailed Regatta activities. She'll step down when a new queen is crowned in August.

The new court's first big



Leah Boles



Emmy Huber



Alejandra Lopez Nestor



Tiana Rehwald-Quicke



Aaliyah Watson

appearances were aboard a new gillnetter float at Long Beach's Loyalty Days and on a float in the Portland Rose Festival's Starlight Parade.

During their eight-month service, court members

participate in a mentorship program, make public speaking appearances, and represent the Regatta at regional events. For their service, court members earn college scholarships.

LEAH BOLES

- Attends Seaside High School

- Activities: Soccer, golfing, participating in children's ministries, hiking

- Quote: "I love how generous Clatsop County is. Without the support and generous donations from many businesses in my community, the activities I am part of would not be possible."

EMMY HUBER

- A graduated of Astoria High School

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