

## **2016 CITY OF JORDAN UTILITY BILLS**

The City of Jordan bills for utility services every other month. Jordan bills for water, sewer, storm water and street lighting. The funds collected are needed to supply service, support billing, provide maintenance and help fund capital improvements both in the past and in the future. Each utility has a comprehensive plan. The fees for the utilities are calculated based on the needs identified in the Comp Plans. These Comp Plans are reviewed yearly to see that the funds are adequate to support the utility system.

The capital improvements needed are system wide expenses. Some examples of improvements are the new 1998 wastewater treatment plant and reconstruction of the water, sewer and storm water system. One recent project was in 2008, when the City of Jordan upgraded its well system through a project that drilled a new well, rehabbed the water treatment plant and did maintenance on two other older wells. The City collects capital charges on new housing to help pay for these capital items as well. Most of the cost comes from these capital and connection fees but a portion is collected from the user fees through the availability fees, which are explained below.

### **UTILITY FEES**

On the semi-monthly utility bills the various items that may be charged to each citizen are as follows: water residential, water commercial, water flat, sewer residential, sewer commercial, sewer flat, storm water residential, storm water commercial, MN test fee and the street lighting fees.

### **WATER FEES**

The water utility portion of the bill consists of a user fee of either water residential or water commercial. This fee is collected at a set rate per 1,000 gallons used. The rate for 2016 is \$4.57 per 1,000 gallons up to 30,000 gallons, \$5.85 per 1,000 gallons 30,000-60,000 and \$7.13 for 60,000+ gallons. This rate is the same for commercial and residential. Another item under water is the water flat fee. This flat fee, charged at a rate of \$8.37/month, is an availability fee. Even if you do not use any water, this fee is charged as long as water is available to you. It is based on the capacity available. This fee is the same for both commercial and residential. The other fee for water is the MN test fee. The test fee is collected and sent to the state once a year. The test fee is \$6.36 annually and is collected on the first bill of the year.

### **SEWER FEES**

The sewer fees are similar to the water fees. There is a usage fee of either sewer residential or sewer commercial. This fee much like the water fee is charged on a basis of 1,000 gallons used. The fee for 2016 is \$6.67 per 1,000 gallons for both residential and commercial usage. There is also a sewer flat fee for both residential and commercial. This availability fee or flat fee is charged at a rate of \$13.73 per month. This fee is charged even if there is no usage. It is based on the capacity available.

### **STORM WATER FEES**

The fees for storm water are charged on a system wide basis to help pay for the cost of storm water infrastructure. The residential storm water fees are charged on a per unit rate of \$6.16/month. The commercial charges for storm water are \$18.50/acre per month.

### **STREET LIGHTING FEES**

The City of Jordan charges a street lighting fee to help pay for the cost of maintenance and service of the city streetlights. This fee is \$1.84 per lot/month for residential and \$4.31 per lot/month for commercial.

### **WATER METERING**

The City of Jordan has a radio reading system for reading the water meters. Each water meter has a radio device on it that sends the current reading to a computer in one of our public works trucks. This radio reading system is very precise and time saving for the City. Every two months starting in January the meters are read by Public Works.

### **SEWER USAGE**

The City of Jordan does not have a meter to read sewer usage. The City takes the winter month's water usage and uses an average of those three readings. The bills used for this average are the bills from January, March and May. These are called period 1, 3 and 5. The bills for these periods cover November through April. After a new meter reading gives a new current usage for one of these months it will take the previous years usage for the bill out of your average for the sewer usage. The current usage is not used in periods 1, 3 or 5 to figure the average until the next bill. This is done through the third bill of the year to figure your winter usage. Your sewer usage will most likely change every period during the March, May and July bills. It should then remain constant during the September, November and January bills. We use this winter average because it is assumed that there is no lawn watering or other outside water usage during the winter months. Thus all the water used in the winter is basically going down the sewer system. If a citizen does not have any winter usage, an average of 12,500 is used. By a comparison the average water usage is 5,200 for our City for residential accounts for a two-month period.

For all commercial accounts the sewer usage is the same as the water usage for each month. If commercial accounts have extensive watering during the summer a second water meter is recommended. To get a second water meter for a sprinkler system a commercial customer must request this from the City. If the City agrees that a second meter should be installed, the customer has to pay for the new meter, reading system and installation of the meter. The City does not install meters, so a plumber is needed.

### **QUESTIONS**

If you have any questions about your utility bills please come down to City Hall or call 952-492-2535. Our staff would be happy to speak with you.