



**Stevensville Special Town Council Meeting  
Agenda for  
TUESDAY, AUGUST 06, 2024  
6:00 PM  
206 Buck Street, Town Hall**

1. Call to Order and Roll Call
2. Pledge of Allegiance
3. Public Comments (Public comment from citizens on items that are not on the agenda)
4. Public Hearings
  - a. Town of Stevensville Municipal Water Rate Increase
  - b. Town of Stevensville Municipal Sewer Rate Increase
  - c. Discontinuation of the Utility Bill Assistance Program
5. New Business
  - a. Discussion/Decision: Resolution No. 549 a Resolution of the Town of Stevensville, Montana to Increase the Rates for the Users of the Municipal Water System
  - b. Discussion/Decision: Resolution No. 550 a Resolution of the Town of Stevensville, Montana to Increase the Rates for the Users of the Municipal Sewer System
  - c. Discussion/Decision: Rescind Resolution No. 380 a Resolution Creating and Funding a Water/Sewer Bill Reduced Rate Program
  - d. Discussion/Decision: Rescind Resolution No. 486 a Resolution Reinstating Funding for the Water/Sewer Bill Assistance Program
6. Adjournment

**Welcome to Stevensville Town Council Chambers**

We consider it a privilege to present, and listen to, diverse views.

It is essential that we treat each other with respect.

We expect that participants will:

- ✓ Engage in active listening
- ✓ Make concise statements
- ✓ Observe any applicable time limit

We further expect that participants will refrain from disrespectful displays:

- ✗ Profanity
- ✗ Personal Attacks
- ✗ Signs
- ✗ Heckling and applause

**Guidelines for Public Comment**

Public Comment ensures an opportunity for citizens to meaningfully participate in the decisions of its elected officials. It is one of several ways your voice is heard by your local government. During public comment we ask that all participants respect the right of others to make their comment uninterrupted. The council's goal is to receive as much comment as time reasonably allows. All public comment should be directed to the chair (Mayor or designee). Comment made to the audience or individual council members may be ruled out of order. Public comment must remain on topic, and free from abusive language or unsupported allegations.

During any council meeting you have two opportunities to comment:

1. During the public comment period near the beginning of a meeting.
2. Before any decision-making vote of the council on an agenda item.

Comment made outside of these times may not be allowed.

Citizens wishing to speak during any public comment period should come forward to the podium and state their name and address for the record. Comment may be time limited, as determined by the chair, to allow as many people as possible to comment. Comment prior to a decision-making vote must remain on the motion before the council.

**Thank you for observing these guidelines.**

**File Attachments for Item:**

a. Discussion/Decision: Resolution No. 549 a Resolution of the Town of Stevensville, Montana to Increase the Rates for the Users of the Municipal Water System



## Stevensville Town Council Meeting

### Agenda Item Request

**To be submitted BEFORE Noon on the Wednesday immediately preceding the Thursday agenda publishing deadline (8-days ahead of the meeting).**

<b>Agenda Item Type:</b>	New Business
<b>Person Submitting the Agenda Item:</b>	Bob Michalson
<b>Second Person Submitting the Agenda Item:</b>	
<b>Submitter Title:</b>	Mayor
<b>Submitter Phone:</b>	
<b>Submitter Email:</b>	
<b>Requested Council Meeting Date for Item:</b>	08/06/2024
<b>Agenda Topic:</b>	Discussion/Decision: Resolution No. 549 a Resolution of the Town of Stevensville, Montana to Increase the Rates for the Users of the Municipal Water System
<b>Backup Documents Attached?</b>	Yes
<b>If no, why not?</b>	
<b>Approved/Disapproved?</b>	Approved
<b>If Approved, Meeting Date for Consideration:</b>	08/06/2024
<b>Notes:</b>	

**RESOLUTION NO. 549**

**RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN OF STEVENSVILLE,  
MONTANA TO INCREASE THE RATES FOR THE  
USERS OF  
THE MUNICIPAL WATER SYSTEM**

**WHEREAS**, the Town of Stevensville, MT pursuant to authority conferred by Montana Code Annotated (M.C.A.), Title 7, Chapter 13, Parts 43 and 44, as amended (the "Act"), and other laws of the State of Montana, has established and presently owns and operates a municipal water system (the "System"); and

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to Section 7-13-4307, M.C.A., the rates and charges established for the services and facilities afforded by the System shall be sufficient in each year to provide income and revenues adequate for the payment of reasonable expense and operation and maintenance and for the accumulation of such reserves and the making of such expenditures for depreciation and replacement of the System; and

**WHEREAS**, it is necessary to collect sufficient revenues and pay costs associated with the operation and maintenance of the System; and

**WHEREAS**, the Town has determined that the current rates and charges for the services and facilities afforded by the System are inadequate to meet the requirements of Section 7-13-4307, M.C.A.; and

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to Sections 7-13-4308 and 69-7-101, M.C.A., the Town has the power and authority to regulate, establish, and change, as it considers proper, rates, charges, and classifications imposed for utility services to its inhabitants and other persons served by the municipal systems. Rates, charges, and classifications must be reasonable and just; and

**WHEREAS**, the Town in consultation with the Montana Rural Water Users Association has determined it to be in the best interest of the Town and the users of the System to increase the rates and charges for the services provided by the System in order to collect sufficient revenues to meet the requirements of Section 7-13-4307, M.C.A.; and

**WHEREAS**, a notice of public hearing was mailed to all users of the Town's System notifying them of the proposal to increase the rates and charges for water service and notice of public hearing was published as required by Section 69-7-111, M.C.A. A public hearing was held on August 6, at 6:00 p.m. at the Town of Stevensville, Town Hall, 206 Buck Street, Stevensville, Montana, for the purpose of hearing comments from the public on the water rate increase; and

**WHEREAS**, all persons appearing were given an opportunity to speak at the public hearing.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, THAT**, by the Town Council of the Town of Stevensville, Montana, the new rates for water shall be effective September 1, 2024 (September usage) as follows:

**Proposed New Water Rate \$52.00 per EDU**

Next rate increase for water will take place the month of January 2025:

**\$13.50 for water per EDU**

Section 1. Determination of Annual Budget for System. Each year the Council of the Town shall determine the amount of money needed to pay the costs of the System including but not limited to: (a) the payment of the reasonable expense of operation and maintenance of the System; (b) administration of the System; (c) the payment of principal and interest on any bonded or other indebtedness of the System; and (d) the establishment or maintenance of any required reserves, including reserves needed for expenditures for depreciation and replacement of facilities as may be determined necessary from time to time by the Council or as covenanted in the ordinance or resolution authorizing any outstanding bonds of the System. Based on the annual needs of the System, the Council will establish monthly charges for the use of the System.

Section 2. Equivalent Dwelling Unit and Water Usage. The Town utilizes an equivalent dwelling unit methodology for billing rates and charges, which is based on the size of the water line or meter servicing each connection. A ¾ inch service, which is the standard service for single family residential users, is 1 Equivalent Dwelling Unit (EDU). The following table shows the number of EDUs for each size of service, based on current metered connections:

Water Line/Meter Size	Connections	Multiplier	EDU's
¾ inch	836	1.00	836.00
1 inch	45	1.79	80.55
1.5 inch	22	4.00	88.00
2 inch	3	7.14	21.42
3 inch	1	16.00	16.00
4 inch	0	28.57	0
<b>TOTAL</b>	907		1,041.97

Section 3. Proposed Rate. The Town currently bills rates and charges to users of the Water System on a monthly billing cycle.

Water Line/Meter Size	Cost per EDU	Multiplier	Base Rate WATER
¾ inch	\$52.00	1.00	\$52.00
1 inch	\$52.00	1.79	\$93.08
1.5 inch	\$52.00	4.00	\$208.00
2 inch	\$52.00	7.14	\$371.28
3 inch	\$52.00	16.00	\$832.00
4 inch	\$52.00	28.57	\$1,485.64

The Town will continue the monthly usage charge proposed (the "Usage Charge") of **\$2.50 per 1,000 gallons** of water used in excess of each user's Base Usage Allowance. For this purpose, "Base Usage Allowance" equals (i) 3,000 gallons, multiplied by (ii) the multiplier for such user, based on the water line/meter size for such user. All water used each month up to the Base Usage Allowance is included in the Base Rate. For example, a user with a ¾" line has a Base Usage Allowance of 3,000 gallons and will incur the Usage Charge for the amount of water used in excess of 3,000 gallons in a month. The Base Usage Allowance for each line size is shown below.

Water Line/Meter Size	Multiplier	Base Usage Allowance
¾ inch	1.00	3,000 gallons
1 inch	1.79	5,370 gallons
1.5 inch	4.00	12,000 gallons
2 inch	7.14	21,420 gallons
3 inch	16.00	48,000 gallons
4 inch	28.57	85,710 gallons

Upon the implementation of the Base Rate and the Usage Charge, the monthly charge for

the use and availability of the System for each user will be the sum of the user's Base Rate and Usage Charge.

Section 4. Further Rate Increases. Subsequent adjustments to the Base Rate and Usage Charge or other charges will be made by resolution of the Town Council duly adopted after a public hearing with notice thereof given as provided by law.

Section 5. Effective Date of Resolution. This resolution shall be immediately filed with the Town Clerk and shall become effective upon passage.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT,** the adoption of this resolution voids previous resolutions pertaining to rates for the users of the municipal water system.

**PASSED AND ADOPTED,** dated this 6<sup>th</sup> day of August 2024, after motion and second at a special meeting of the Stevensville Town Council.

**Approved:**

**Attest:**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Bob Michalson, Mayor**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Jenelle S. Berthoud, Town Clerk**

**File Attachments for Item:**

b. Discussion/Decision: Resolution No. 550 a Resolution of the Town of Stevensville, Montana to Increase the Rates for the Users of the Municipal Sewer System





## Stevensville Town Council Meeting

### Agenda Item Request

**To be submitted BEFORE Noon on the Wednesday immediately preceding the Thursday agenda publishing deadline (8-days ahead of the meeting).**

<b>Agenda Item Type:</b>	New Business
<b>Person Submitting the Agenda Item:</b>	Bob Michalson
<b>Second Person Submitting the Agenda Item:</b>	
<b>Submitter Title:</b>	Mayor
<b>Submitter Phone:</b>	
<b>Submitter Email:</b>	
<b>Requested Council Meeting Date for Item:</b>	08/06/2024
<b>Agenda Topic:</b>	Discussion/Decision: Resolution No. 550 a Resolution of the Town of Stevensville, Montana to Increase the Rates for the Users of the Municipal Sewer System
<b>Backup Documents Attached?</b>	Yes
<b>If no, why not?</b>	
<b>Approved/Disapproved?</b>	Approved
<b>If Approved, Meeting Date for Consideration:</b>	08/06/2024
<b>Notes:</b>	

**RESOLUTION NO. 550**

**RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN OF STEVENSVILLE,  
MONTANA TO INCREASE THE RATES FOR THE  
USERS OF  
THE MUNICIPAL SEWER SYSTEM**

**WHEREAS**, the Town of Stevensville, Montana (the "Town") pursuant to authority conferred by Montana Code Annotated (M.C.A.), Title 7, Chapter 13, Part 43, as amended (the "Act") and other laws of the State of Montana, has established and presently owns and operates a municipal sewer system (the "System"); and

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to Section 7-13A307, M.C.A., the rates and charges established for the services and facilities afforded by the System must be sufficient in each year to provide income and revenues adequate for the payment of reasonable expense and operation and maintenance and for payment of the sums required to be paid into the sinking fund and for the accumulation of reserves and the making of such expenditures for depreciation and replacement of the System; and

**WHEREAS**, it is necessary to collect sufficient revenues to repay such sewer system revenue bonds and pay costs associated with the operation and maintenance of the System; and

**WHEREAS**, the Town has determined that the current rates and charges for the services and facilities afforded by the System are inadequate to meet the requirements of Section 7-13-4307, M.C.A.; and

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to Sections 7-13-4308 and 69-7-101, M.C.A., the Town has the power and authority to regulate, establish, and change, as it considers proper, rates, charges, and classifications imposed for utility services to its inhabitants and other persons served by the municipal systems. Rates, charges, and classifications must be reasonable and just; and

**WHEREAS**, the Town in consultation with its engineer has

determined it to be in the best interest of the Town and the users of the System to increase the rates and charges for the services provided by the System in order to collect sufficient revenues to meet the requirements of Sections 7-13-4307 and 7-7-4424. M.C.A.; and

**WHEREAS**, a notice of public hearing was mailed to all users of the Town's System notifying them that it was the intention of the Town to increase the rates and charges for the System and notice of public hearing was published as required by Section 69-7-11 J, M.C.A. A public hearing was held on August 6, 2024, at 6:00 p.m. at the Town of Stevensville, Town Hall, 206 Buck Street, Stevensville, Montana, for the purpose of hearing comments from the public on the sewer rate increase; and

**WHEREAS**, all persons appearing were given an opportunity to speak at the

public hearing.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, THAT,** by the Town Council of the Town of Stevensville, Montana , the new rates for sewer shall be effective September 1, 2024 (September usage), as follows:

**Proposed New Sewer Rate \$61.00 per EDU**

**Next rate increase for sewer will take place the month of January 2025:**

**\$13.50 for sewer per EDU**

Section 1. Determination of Annual Budget for System. Each year the Council of the Town shall determine the amount of money needed to pay the costs of the System including but not limited to: (a) the payment of the reasonable expense of operation and maintenance of the System; (b) administration of the System; (c) the payment of principal and interest on any bonded or other indebtedness of the System; and (d) the establishment or maintenance of any required reserves, including reserves needed for expenditures for depreciation and replacement of facilities, as may be determined necessary from time to time by the Council or as covenanted in the ordinance or resolution authorizing any outstanding bonds of the System. Based on the annual needs of the System, the Council will establish monthly charges for the use and availability of the System.

Section 2. Equivalent Dwelling Unit and Water Usage. The Town utilizes an equivalent dwelling unit methodology for imposing rates and charges, which is based on the size of the water line or meter servicing each connection. A 3/4-inch service, which is the standard service for single family residential users, is 1 Equivalent Dwelling Unit (EDU). The following table shows the number of EDUs for each size of service: (sewer rates are based off of water meter size at said location)

<b>Water Line/Meter Size</b>	<b>Connections</b>	<b>Multiplier</b>	<b>EDU's</b>
<b>¾ inch</b>	801	1.00	836.00
<b>1 inch</b>	44	1.79	78.76
<b>1.5 inch</b>	22	4.00	88.00
<b>2 inch</b>	3	7.14	21.42
<b>3 inch</b>	1	16.00	16.00
<b>4 inch</b>	0	28.57	0
<b>TOTAL</b>	871		1005.18

Section 3. Proposed Rate. The Town currently bills rates and charges to users of the Sewer System on a monthly billing cycle.

Water Line/Meter Size	Cost per EDU	Multiplier	Base Rate SEWER
¾ inch	\$61.00	1.00	\$61.00
1 inch	\$61.00	1.79	\$109.19
1.5 inch	\$61.00	4.00	\$244.00
2 inch	\$61.00	7.14	\$435.54
3 inch	\$61.00	16.00	\$976.00
4 inch	\$61.00	28.57	\$1,742.77

Section 4. Further Rate Increases. Subsequent adjustments to the Base Rate and Usage Charge or other charges will be made by resolution of the Town Council duly adopted after a public hearing with notice thereof given as provided by law.

Section 5. Effective Date of Resolution. This resolution shall be immediately filed with the Town Clerk and shall become effective upon passage.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT,** the adoption of this resolution voids previous resolutions pertaining to rates for the users of the municipal sewer system.

**PASSED AND ADOPTED,** dated this 6<sup>th</sup> day of August 2024, after motion and second at a special meeting of the Stevensville Town Council.

**Approved:**

**Attest:**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Bob Michalson, Mayor**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Jenelle S. Berthoud, Town Clerk**

**File Attachments for Item:**

c. Discussion/Decision: Rescind Resolution No. 380 a Resolution Creating and Funding a Water/Sewer Bill Reduced Rate Program



## Stevensville Town Council Meeting

### Agenda Item Request

**To be submitted BEFORE Noon on the Wednesday immediately preceding the Thursday agenda publishing deadline (8-days ahead of the meeting).**

<b>Agenda Item Type:</b>	New Business
<b>Person Submitting the Agenda Item:</b>	Bob Michalson
<b>Second Person Submitting the Agenda Item:</b>	
<b>Submitter Title:</b>	Mayor
<b>Submitter Phone:</b>	
<b>Submitter Email:</b>	
<b>Requested Council Meeting Date for Item:</b>	08/06/2024
<b>Agenda Topic:</b>	Discussion/Decision: Rescind Resolution No. 380 a Resolution Creating and Funding a Water/Sewer Bill Reduced Rate Program
<b>Backup Documents Attached?</b>	Yes
<b>If no, why not?</b>	
<b>Approved/Disapproved?</b>	Approved
<b>If Approved, Meeting Date for Consideration:</b>	08/06/2024
<b>Notes:</b>	

**RESOLUTION NO. 380**

**A RESOLUTION CREATING AND FUNDING  
A WATER/SEWER BILL REDUCED RATE PROGRAM**

**WHEREAS**, the Town of Stevensville, Montana (the "Town") pursuant to authority conferred by Montana Code Annotated (M.C.A.), Title 7, Chapter 13, Part 43, as amended (the "Act"), and other laws of the State of Montana, has established and presently owns and operates a municipal sewer system (the "System"); and

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to Sections 7-13-4308 and 69-7-101, M.C.A., the Town has the power and authority to regulate, establish, and change, as it considers proper, rates, charges, and classifications imposed for utility services to its inhabitants and other persons served by the municipal systems. Rates, charges, and classifications must be reasonable and just; and

**WHEREAS**, the residents of the Town of Stevensville have requested at numerous Town Council meetings that such a program be created; and

**WHEREAS**, the Stevensville Town Council has determined that this program will meet the requirement that all rate payers pay essentially the same rates for water and sewer utilities; and

**WHEREAS**, a notice of public hearing was mailed to all users of the Town's System notifying them that it was the **intention** of the Town to increase the rates and charges for the System and notice of public hearing was published as required by Section 69-7-11 J, M.C.A. A public hearing was held on September 10, 2015 at 6:00 p.m. at the Chambers of the Town Council, Town Hall, 206 Buck Street, Stevensville, Montana, for the purpose of hearing comments from the public on the sewer rate increase; and

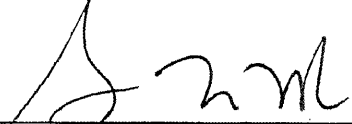
**WHEREAS**, all persons appearing were given an opportunity to speak at the public hearing.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, THAT**, by the Town Council (the "Council") of the Town of Stevensville, Montana, the Town Council adopts and establishes this program as shown in exhibit A.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT**, Resolution No. 303 (Help to Others) shall be rescinded and upon implementation of this program, those individuals currently enrolled in the Help to Others program shall cease to receive the benefit from that program.

Passed and adopted by the Town Council of the Town of Stevensville, Montana, this  
10<sup>th</sup> day of September, 2015.

**ATTEST:**

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Gene Mim Mack, Mayor

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Stacy Bartlett, Town Clerk



**File Attachments for Item:**

d. Discussion/Decision: Rescind Resolution No. 486 a Resolution Reinstating Funding for the Water/Sewer Bill Assistance Program



## Stevensville Town Council Meeting

### Agenda Item Request

**To be submitted BEFORE Noon on the Wednesday immediately preceding the Thursday agenda publishing deadline (8-days ahead of the meeting).**

<b>Agenda Item Type:</b>	New Business
<b>Person Submitting the Agenda Item:</b>	Bob Michalson
<b>Second Person Submitting the Agenda Item:</b>	
<b>Submitter Title:</b>	Mayor
<b>Submitter Phone:</b>	
<b>Submitter Email:</b>	
<b>Requested Council Meeting Date for Item:</b>	08/06/2024
<b>Agenda Topic:</b>	Discussion/Decision: Rescind Resolution No. 486 a Resolution Reinstating Funding for the Water/Sewer Bill Assistance Program
<b>Backup Documents Attached?</b>	Yes
<b>If no, why not?</b>	
<b>Approved/Disapproved?</b>	Approved
<b>If Approved, Meeting Date for Consideration:</b>	08/06/2024
<b>Notes:</b>	

Town of Stevensville  
PO Box 30  
Stevensville MT 59870



STATE OF MONTANA RAVALLI COUNTY Page: 1 of 1  
DOCUMENT: 765864 MUNICIPAL RESOLUTIONS  
RECORDED: 9/8/2021 10:07:54 AM  
Regina Plettenberg, CLERK AND RECORDER  
Fee \$0.00 By *Carrianna M Newton* Deputy

**RESOLUTION NO. 486**

**A RESOLUTION REINSTATING FUNDING  
FOR THE WATER/SEWER BILL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM**

**WHEREAS**, the Town of Stevensville, Montana (the "Town") pursuant to authority conferred by Montana Code Annotated (M.C.A.), Title 7, Chapter 13, Part 43, as amended (the "Act"), and other laws of the State of Montana, has established and presently owns and operates a municipal sewer system (the "System"); and

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to Sections 7-13-4308 and 69-7-101, M.C.A., the Town has the power and authority to regulate, establish, and change, as it considers proper, rates, charges, and classifications imposed for utility services to its inhabitants and other persons served by the municipal systems. Rates, charges, and classifications must be reasonable and just; and

**WHEREAS**, the Stevensville Town Council has determined that this program continues to meet the requirement that all rate payers pay essentially the same rates for water and sewer utilities; and

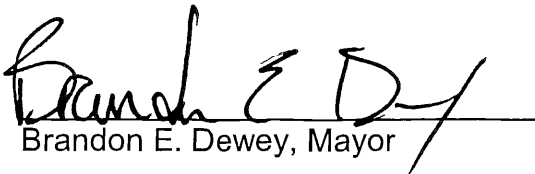
**WHEREAS**, a notice of public hearing was mailed to all users of the Town's System notifying them that it was the intention of the Town to reinstate the rates and charges for the program and notice of public hearing was published as required by Section 69-7-11 J, M.C.A. A public hearing was held on March 4, 2020 at 6:30 p.m. at the at the LDS Church, Middle Burnt Fork Road, Stevensville, Montana, and on March 8, 2020 at 6:30 p.m. virtually on Zoom, for the purpose of hearing comments from the public on the reinstatement of the charge for the program; and

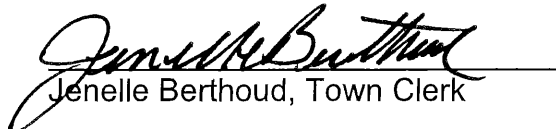
**WHEREAS**, all persons appearing were given an opportunity to speak at the public hearing.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, THAT**, by the Town Council (the "Council") of the Town of Stevensville, Montana, the Town Council reinstates a charge of forty cents (\$0.40) to support the water/sewer utility bill assistance program.

Passed and adopted by the Town Council of the Town of Stevensville, Montana, this 11<sup>th</sup> day of March, 2021.

**ATTEST:**

  
Brandon E. Dewey, Mayor

  
Jenelle Berthoud, Town Clerk