

Why were the 2006/2007 sewer service charges not on my property tax bill?

The City went through a process to increase the sewer service rates in 2006 but the Supreme Court issued a ruling making it necessary to issue a Majority Protest Notice in order to finalize the increase. This process required a 45 day noticing period prior to holding a public hearing. Because there was a delay with the Supreme Court ruling, the 45 day noticing requirement and the public hearing, the City was unable to get the new rate information to the County so it could be included on everyone's property tax bill.

Why am I just now receiving last year's bill for my sewer service charge?

Because this is the first time the City has ever been required to process a billing for all residents, it was necessary to research the process and determine an efficient, effective way to bill and collect the sewer service fee. The research took several months to complete and lead to the decision to utilize the services of an outside billing agency to process the 12,000 plus invoices.

Why have the sewer service rates been increased?

It is necessary to upgrade and maintain the City's 40+ year old sewer system in order to ensure public safety and avoid sewer spills and the possibility of pipes breaking. The City issued tax exempt bonds to fund the majority of the construction costs, and it was necessary to increase sewer service rates charged to the ratepayers to fund the debt service for the tax exempt bonds.

When is the payment due?

There are two options to pay your bill. The first option is pay the entire bill within 30 days of the invoice date. The second option is to pay half of the balance due within in 30 days of the invoice date and the other half will be due within the next 30 days. Regardless of the option you choose, simply mail your payment in the return envelope provided with your bill. If you selected the second option, you will receive a second bill for the remaining balance.

Payments must be received by the due date. Postmarks will not be accepted. Payments received late will be subject to late fees.

Will the City return to placing the annual sewer service charge on my property tax bill?

Yes, your sewer service charge will appear on your next year's 2007/2008 property tax bill.