



## CITY COUNCIL MEMORANDUM

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**TO:** City Council

**FROM:** Matthew R. Schmitz, MPA - City Manager

**DATE OF MEETING:** August 12, 2024

**ITEM TITLE:** Establish a date and time for a Public Hearing to consider an Ordinance Amending Water and Sewer Rate charges within Section 1.15 – Fines and Fees Schedule of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Independence, Iowa.

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### **BACKGROUND:**

This item was discussed at the August 5<sup>th</sup> and May 6<sup>th</sup> City Council Work Sessions. Staff presented plans for sewer rate increases to accommodate the costs related to the WWTP project, and for water, rate increases to begin building funds for upcoming water projects. While Staff is continuing to apply for grants and look for all funding options, we must assume a worst-case scenario when planning—that is, the Sewer Utility Fund will need to fund the entirety of the debt payments for the plant.

### **DISCUSSION:**

The attached Ordinance will be available for discussion at the Public Hearing meeting on August 26<sup>th</sup>, 2024, at 5:00 PM. This will be the public's opportunity to share thoughts about this proposed ordinance.

### **RESULTS:**

The City has established priorities during strategic planning sessions. This item supports the Vision from that session of Engaging and Catalyzing Community. This item helps achieve that vision by engaging the community to express their thoughts about this topic.

### **FINANCIAL CONSIDERATION:**

There is no financial consideration in holding the public hearing for the proposed amendment to water and sewer rate charges within Section 1.15 – Fines and Fees Schedule of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Independence, Iowa.

### **RECOMMENDATION:**

Staff recommends a motion to set a Public Hearing on August 26<sup>th</sup>, 2024, at 5:00 PM for consideration of an Ordinance amending Water and Sewer Rate charges within Section 1.15 – Fines and Fees Schedule of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Independence, Iowa.