

November 2019 UTILITY BILL INSERT
ALMIRA TOWN HALL 639-2601

GARBAGE PICK UP THE WEEK OF CHRISTMAS
WILL BE ON TUESDAY, DECEMBER 24TH.

**\$5 for the Lion's Club Christmas Board. You can pay at
Town hall.**

SNOW PLOW GUIDELINES: Parking on the street is prohibited. Alleys must be kept at a 20' width. Please check your alleyway to make sure it is free and clear by removing all clutter, including all overgrown bushes, shrubs and trees. If a car is parked on the street the snow plow will not clear that side of the road. There will not be a second trip if the plow comes by before vehicles are moved. The same applies to parking in the alleys.

***Snowmobiles are permitted only on arterials, only at a slow speed, only to get in and out of Town.**

***Leaving faucets turned on slowly during low temperatures can help avoid frozen pipes**

COUNCIL MEETINGS: There was a **PUBLIC HEARING FOR AD VALOREM** and for the **PRELIMINARY BUDGET:**

NUISANCE REPORT: After discussion about the properties on South 2nd street Council requested a letter to the owner of the property stating they had 30 days to clean the property up. At that time Council will begin fining the owner if the property is not cleaned up.

A letter will be sent to the owner of the downtown building with bricks, boards and tin falling off. He has 30 days to make the building safe again.

UPDATES BY STAFF: Jeanette reported she attended the Eastern Washington Finance Officers fall meeting and attended the AWC RMSA (Insurance) dinner and conference. At the RMSA dinner we received an additional \$500 in Risk Management grant.

Two accounts have been turned over to collections.

Weaver Exterminating has serviced the cemetery for the last time this year.

Someone dumped wood over the fence at the dump, obviously avoiding having to pay the small fee to dump.

Brent attended the meeting in Creston with EWU students regarding doing GIS mapping for water for the town. Margie Hall with EDC has received a grant to pay for this for the Lincoln County Communities. Brent would eventually like to do sewer lines also. He has looked in to purchasing a GPS receiver that would be very beneficial as we proceed with this project. Cost is approximately \$500 and insurance would pay for this.

He has started working on the Asset Management spread sheet. We need to adopt an Asset Management Plan also. This will track property of the town and replacement costs and needs.

Everything has been winterized.

OLD BUSINESS: IACC CONFERENCE: Jason Evers, Levi Mitchell, Brent Robertson and Jeanette Coppersmith attended the IACC tech team meeting with all of the state funders. The first thing they told us was that our rates were in the 20% lowest rates in the state. In order for us to be eligible for funding we need to increase our rates. We need to show we are being proactive and saving for the future also. Our current sewer system was installed in 1981 with a 30 year life span, we have far surpassed that! This past year there have been numerous issues with the pump and generator at the lift station generating substantial expenses.

SIX YEAR PLAN: Council is to make of list of projected projects for the six year plan and we will discuss it further at the December meeting.

COMPREHENSIVE PLAN: It was decided to table working on the Comprehensive plan until January.

MUTUAL AID AGREEMENT: The Lincoln Communities Asset Management Plan Group Water & Wastewater Service Providers Mutual Aid Agreement was once again discussed. Margie Hall had presented Council with the final draft for review and approval. Jason made the motion to approve and sign the Mutual Aid Agreement, Marvin made the second and it was approved.

NEW BUSINESS: RESOLUTION 2019-18 – PROPERTY TAX – Increasing the Property Tax for the Town the maximum amount allowed of 101.674% for a total increase for the community of \$637.

A Citizen had sent a letter to council wanting to bring it to their attention that people are using 7th street and across Country Road as a shortcut to Old Coulee Road. They are surpassing the speed limit. Council recommended that he contact the Sheriff's department and let them be aware of the speeders on 7th street.

BUILDING PERMITS: Marvin Gordon presented plans for remodeling his house on south 6th Street. Council reviewed them and approved. Anthony Alig had submitted a request to put storage containers on his Main Street property to rent or sell. Council did not have a problem with the plan.

STATUS OF UTILITY ACCOUNTS: Fourteen water off notices were sent, two paid in full and the others made payments. Two accounts have been turned over to collections and one the landlord is paying down the past due.

BUDGET: Sewer rates were discussed with a recommended \$7 a year for 3 years increase. Landfill prices are being increased the first of the year therefore the garbage rates will increase 20 cents for a 35 gallon container and accordingly depending on size. Council wanted Jeanette to put the information into the newsletter so the community could attend the next council meeting if they had questions.

Brent discussed a pay increase for the part time Public Works Assistant.

December adjusted hours:

December 5th – Closed

December 13th – Closed

+ -December 19th Open at 10 a.m.

December 23rd thru January 3rd – Closed

Available for payments – Call 641-2073

Mail and messages will be checked most days.

IF YOU SEE OR HEAR ANY ALARMS AT THE SEWER PLANT , RESERVOIR OR WELLS PLEASE CALL ONE OF THE FOLLOWING NUMBERS TO REPORT IT!

977-1218 – Brent Robertson

977-1217 – Darrell Francis

641-0942 – Mayor Einar Larson

