

**PUBLIC NOTICE  
PUBLIC HEARING ON RESOLUTION 4104  
TO ESTABLISH RESIDENTIAL AND COMMERCIAL SEWER RATES**

The City of Lewistown is proposing to raise residential and commercial sewer rates, effective January 1, 2023. The increases are necessary to provide adequate revenue to operate the utility, finance capital improvements, meet debt service coverage requirements and to maintain appropriate reserves.

**Residential Base Rate Charge:** as follows,

Effective January 2023 shall be \$19.25 per EDU  
Effective January 2025 shall be \$19.75 per EDU  
Effective January 2027 shall be \$20.25 per EDU

Effective January 2024 shall be \$19.50 per EDU  
Effective January 2026 shall be \$20.00 per EDU

**Commercial Base Rate Charge:** as follows,

Effective January 2023 shall be \$21.25 per EDU  
Effective January 2025 shall be \$21.75 per EDU  
Effective January 2027 shall be \$22.25 per EDU

Effective January 2024 shall be \$21.50 per EDU  
Effective January 2026 shall be \$22.00 per EDU

**Charges On Metered Use:** Each user, residential, commercial, or industrial, which is connected to the Lewistown municipal sewerage system and is metered for water, shall be assessed a sewer charge. The rate per 1,000 gallons of water used is as follows;

Effective January 2023 shall be \$7.50 per 1000 gallons  
Effective January 2024 shall be \$8.00 per 1000 gallons  
Effective January 2025 shall be \$8.50 per 1000 gallons  
Effective January 2026 shall be \$8.75 per 1000 gallons  
Effective January 2027 shall be \$9.00 per 1000 gallons

**Charges On Unmetered Services or Properties Not Connected to The Water System:** All residential dwelling units and commercial units, connected to the Lewistown municipal sewerage system and is not metered for water use shall be assessed a unmetered monthly sewer use charge of eighty five dollars (\$85.00) per EDU.

**In 2023 the Typical Residential Customers**

Residential customers with a winter average of 3,500 gallons per month and 1 Equivalent Dwelling Unit (EDU) would see an average monthly Residential sewer bill of \$45.50 this would be an increase of \$14.91 or 48%

**In 2023 Typical Commercial Customers**

Commercial customers with a monthly consumption of 16,000 gallons of water and sewer per month and just 1 Commercial Unit (1 EDU) would see an average monthly Commercial sewer bill of \$141.25 this would be an increase of \$47.16 or 50%

**Public Hearing**

The public hearing will be held on Monday, November 14, 2022, at 6:00 p.m. at the Council on Aging located at 307 W. Watson Street in Lewistown. Please mail any comments to City Clerk, City of Lewistown, 305 W. Watson, Ste 3, Lewistown, MT 59457.

For further information, contact City Clerk at (406) 535-1760 or stop by City Hall located at 305 W. Watson Street, Monday – Friday, 8 am to 5 pm.

# Legal Notice Advertised in Lewistown News Argus on Oct. 22 and 26, Nov. 5 and 9, 2022

## NOTICE OF PROPOSED SEWER RATE INCREASE FOR CITY OF LEWISTOWN

On October 3, 2022, the Lewistown City Commission passed Resolution number 4104, stating its intention to increase sewer rates for all city sewer customers, effective January 1, 2023. The increases are necessary to provide adequate revenue to operate the utility, finance capital improvements, meet debt service coverage requirements and to maintain appropriate reserves. The proposed rates are as follows:

### A. BASED METERED SERVICE SEWER CHARGE (monthly) for each EDU

<u>Use Type</u>	<u>Current Rate</u>	<u>Proposed Rate</u>
Residential	\$12.81	\$19.25
Commercial	\$12.81	\$21.25

### B. NON-METERED RESIDENCE RATE (monthly)

<u>Current rate</u>	<u>Proposed rate</u>
\$52.00	\$85.00

### C: METERED SEWER USAGE FEES (monthly) per 1000 gallons water used:

<u>Current rate</u>	<u>Proposed rate</u>
\$ 5.08	\$7.50

Residential: The sewer use charge is computed by taking the average amount of water as billed for the months of January, February and March of each year, multiplied by the current sewer use rate. Months showing no usage shall not be included in the calculation. For those utility customers that show no water use for the billing periods of January, February or March as a result of the property being vacant, the sewer use charge shall be computed using an average of two thousand (2,000) gallons per month.

Commercial: Each user in this classification will be assessed a sewer use charge based on actual water use throughout the year. However, those users utilizing water for irrigation and which have a separate meter for this water, will be assessed a sewer use charge based only on total water used, less the water used for irrigation.

## RESOLUTION 4104

### A RESOLUTION OF THE LEWISTOWN CITY COMMISSION OF ITS INTENTION TO INCREASE SEWER UTILITY RATE FEES FOR SEWER CUSTOMERS OF THE CITY OF LEWISTOWN

WHEREAS, in accordance with § 69-7-101 Montana Code Annotated, a municipality 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 municipal utility systems and such rates, charges, and classifications must be reasonable and just; and,

WHEREAS, the City Commission of the city of Lewistown has reviewed the city's sewer rates and has determined that an increase is necessary to properly care for, maintain and operate the city's sewer system; and,

WHEREAS, there has been no rate increase in more than 10 years and the City has determined increases are necessary to provide adequate revenue to finance the capital improvement program, to meet debt service coverage requirements and to maintain appropriate reserves;

WHEREAS, if the governing body of a municipality considers it advisable to regulate, establish, or change rates, charges, or classifications imposed on its customers, it shall order a hearing to be held before it at a time and place specified.


NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the City Commission proposes that the city's sewer rates should be increased, effective January 1, 2023, as hereby established as set forth in Appendix A, attached here to and made part hereof.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a public hearing on the proposed sewer rate increases shall be held on November 14, 2022 at 6:00 p.m. at the Lewistown Community Center, 307 W. Watson, Lewistown, Montana.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the city clerk give notice to the public, city sewer customers and the Montana consumer counsel in the manner and form provided by law.

PASSED AND ADOPTED this 3<sup>rd</sup> day of October, 2022.

ATTEST:

  
Gayle Doney  
Chairman of the Commission

  
Nikki Brummend  
City Clerk

Appendix A  
To Resolution 4104

**Proposed Sewer Rate increase**

**Residential Base Rate Charge:** as follows,

Effective January 2023 shall be \$19.25 per EDU  
Effective January 2024 shall be \$19.50 per EDU  
Effective January 2025 shall be \$19.75 per EDU  
Effective January 2026 shall be \$20.00 per EDU  
Effective January 2027 shall be \$20.25 per EDU

**Commercial Base Rate Charge:** as follows,

Effective January 2023 shall be \$21.25 per EDU  
Effective January 2024 shall be \$21.50 per EDU  
Effective January 2025 shall be \$21.75 per EDU  
Effective January 2026 shall be \$22.00 per EDU  
Effective January 2027 shall be \$22.25 per EDU

**Charges On Metered Use:** Each user, residential, commercial, or industrial, which is connected to the Lewistown municipal sewerage system and is metered for water use, shall be assessed a sewer use per one thousand (1,000) gallons of water used. The rate per 1,000 gallons of water used is as follows;

Effective January 2023 shall be \$7.50 per 1000 gallons of water used  
Effective January 2024 shall be \$8.00 per 1000 gallons of water used  
Effective January 2025 shall be \$8.50 per 1000 gallons of water used  
Effective January 2026 shall be \$8.75 per 1000 gallons of water used  
Effective January 2027 shall be \$9.00 per 1000 gallons of water used

- (a) Residential: The sewer use charge is computed by taking the average amount of water as billed for the months of January, February and March of each year, multiplied by the current sewer use rate. Months showing no usage shall not be included in the calculation. For those utility customers that show no water use for the billing periods of January, February or March as a result of the property being vacant, the sewer use charge shall be computed using an average of two thousand (2,000) gallons per month.
- (b) Commercial: Each user in this classification will be assessed a sewer use charge based on actual water use throughout the year. However, those users utilizing water for irrigation and which have a separate meter for this water, will be assessed a sewer use charge based only on total water used, less the water used for irrigation.

**Charges On Unmetered Services or Properties Not Connected to The Water System:** All residential dwelling units and commercial units, connected to the Lewistown municipal sewerage system and is not metered for water use shall be assessed a unmetered monthly sewer use charge of eighty five dollars (\$85.00) per EDU.

Appendix B  
To Resolution 4104

**Current Sewer Rate**

**Base Rate Charge:** shall be twelve dollars eighty-one cents (\$12.81) per sewer tap.

**Charges On Metered Use:** Each user, residential, commercial, or industrial, which is connected to the Lewistown municipal sewerage system and is metered for water use, shall be assessed a sewer use charge of (\$5.08) per one thousand (1,000) gallons of water used effective July 1, 2009. The sewer use charge of each class of user shall be computed as follows:

- (b) Residential: The sewer use charge is computed by taking the average amount of water as billed for the months of January, February and March of each year, multiplied by the current sewer use rate. Months showing no usage shall not be included in the calculation. For those utility customers that show no water use for the billing periods of January, February or March as a result of the property being vacant, the sewer use charge shall be computed using an average of two thousand (2,000) gallons per month.
  
- (b) Commercial: Each user in this classification will be assessed a sewer use charge based on actual water use throughout the year. However, those users utilizing water for irrigation and which have a separate meter for this water, will be assessed a sewer use charge based only on total water used, less the water used for irrigation.

**Charges On Unmetered Services or Properties Not Connected to The Water System:** All residential dwelling units, including single-residential units, each unit of multiple-residential units, and each mobile home unit, which is connected to the Lewistown municipal sewerage system and is either nonmetered for water use or is not connected to the city's water system shall be assessed a minimum monthly sewer use charge of fifty-two dollars (\$52.00).