



The City of Prosser's

7TH STREET NOTICES

~ A Pleasant Place with Pleasant People ~

Customers to See Utility Rate Increases

With the new year comes a new City budget and during the development of the 2016 Budget, it was determined that some rate increases were necessary to continue providing the quality of service our residents have come to depend on. You will see the following rate increases on your billing statements for 2016:

Water Utility Rates will increase by 3%. It is estimated that the average residential user (1,000 cubic feet of water consumption) will see an increase of \$1.45 on their monthly bill, or \$17.40 per year.

Sewer Utility Rates will increase by 2%. It is estimated that the average residential user (a winter average of 1000 cubic feet) will see an increase of \$0.90 on their monthly bill, or \$10.80 per year.

Garbage Rates will remain unchanged.

Finally, Irrigation Rates will increase by 2% in 2016. It is estimated that the average residential user (with a lot size of 7,188 square feet) will see an increase of \$0.24 on their monthly bill, or \$2.88 per year.

Collectively, an average home could see a monthly increase of \$2.59 or an annual increase \$31.08 for City of Prosser services beginning December 19, 2015.

The City of Prosser strives daily to provide quality programs and services to all residents and business owners. It is inevitable that as our costs increase, rates will increase, but we diligently pursue other avenues in order to limit the cost to all citizens. If you have any questions regarding how these rate increases will affect your utility bill, please feel free to contact City Hall at (509) 786-2332. Thank you!

Basin Disposal, Inc. will pick up Christmas Trees for FREE on Tuesdays. Schedule a pickup by going to the City's website at www.cityofprosser.com or by calling City Hall no later than 5:00 p.m. on Mondays. Please remove all tinsel, ornaments, etc. from your tree before it is picked up by BDI. Also, as a reminder if you have additional bags of trash from your holiday gatherings, BDI will pick those up on Tuesdays, along with your trees. There will be no changes to your normally scheduled garbage pickup day through the holiday season.



Christmas Trees

~Our Mission~

To provide dependable service to a safe, sustainable community of businesses, families, and neighbors with integrity, accountability and stewardship.

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Welcome to Our Council!

Beginning in 2016, our City Council will be made up of the following individuals, Mayor Randy Taylor and Council Members Don Aubrey, Morgan Everett, Rob Siemens, Bob Elder, Mary Ruth Edwards, Steve Becken, and Humberto Rodriguez. While Randy, Don, Morgan, Bob and Steve are familiar faces on the Council dais, we are thrilled to welcome the three new elected Council members.

Rob Siemens has been in the Prosser community for 10 years and is no stranger to getting involved in the many events and activities that we all enjoy. He has served on the Board for the Prosser Chamber of Commerce, the Hotel/Motel and Tourism Boards, Chairman of the UGN, Prosser Planning Commission, and has assisted with the Miss Prosser Royalty Court. With a degree in Civil engineering technology, his knowledge, experience, and love for Prosser will no doubt help guide him in his decisions while serving on the Council.

Mary Ruth Edwards has also lived in Prosser for the last 10 years. Having 25 years of business

experience, as well as, spending the last 10 years as an educator, she will bring her enthusiasm for helping our community and we look forward to having her perspective. In her candidate statement, Mary Ruth said, "I can't imagine living anywhere else. Prosser is a vibrant, growing community and I'd like to be a part of its continued success." With that sentiment, shared not only by Mary Ruth but by all our Council, we will be sure to see that continued success over the next four years.

Humberto Rodriguez, while still relatively new to our area, having lived in Prosser for 4 years, has already made a mark on our community. Serving as the Prosser Chamber of Commerce's Executive Director until the end of last year, he has seen first hand what it means to be a member of the community and how the City Council works for the success of all our residents and partnering agencies alike. Having a young family, he is invested in Prosser's future and maintaining the community and family atmosphere we all enjoy.

We look forward to working with this upcoming Council and the community is sure to benefit from their experience.

Welcome Aboard!

Reminders on Snow and Ice Removal

In order to keep our roads clear and safe, we have Police Patrol and Public Works Crews on the streets continually monitoring for potential adverse weather conditions. The following is a reminder of our procedures for conditions involving ice and snow.

ICE: Spray has to be applied prior to the weather condition (freezing rain) occurring. Gravel will be applied if deemed necessary in severe intersections.

SNOW: Wait until there is approximately 1" to 2" of accumulation, to start plowing the streets.

*When plowing or sanding the streets, the Public Works Crew generally follows this route:

1. Emergency Service Areas: Hospital

Routes/Area, Fire, and Police Departments

2. School Routes/Area
3. Primary Surface Streets
4. Secondary Surface Streets
5. Areas not normally covered (if time and resources allow).

Residents are responsible to maintain sidewalks and driveways adjacent to their property. Please pile snow on your yard, not in the street. If your sidewalk is icy, you may correct the hazard by applying a heavy coat of sand. When a sidewalk is not clear, the results can be very hazardous for pedestrians and school children. Pitch in and do your part to help keep your sidewalks and driveways hazard free!

A Message From Our Mayor

As I prepare to begin my term as Mayor, I am mindful of where we have been. The previous Mayors, Councils and staff have worked very hard and can take satisfaction in their success. I am very appreciative of the opportunity to serve the citizens of Prosser.

My number one priority is to build on the success of our previous Mayor. We are into the implementation phase of the following projects: 7th Street Improvements, City Park Restrooms, and Waste Water Treatment Plant Upgrade among others. Upon completion, these projects will be assets to our community for years to come.

Number two is to hire a City Administrator. Someone that can lead the senior management team and fits into the community. This is not a simple decision, there can be a lot of pressure to recruit the "perfect" individual. However, you can be assured that myself and those involved in the selection process are doing our due diligence in making sure we choose a candidate who meets all our criteria.

Number three is to make sure the budget reflects the priorities of the Council and the citizens. This is not always an easy task, but fiscal responsibility can drive a communities growth and success.

Number four is to support organizations that enhance the local economy and the quality of life in Prosser. By supporting these organizations and the individuals who spearhead their operations we are building for our future.

Number five is to strengthen relationships with agencies in and around Prosser. Included among them are Benton County, Prosser School District, West Benton Regional Fire Authority, and the Port of Benton. The individuals behind these agencies work tirelessly to provide each of us with vital services that make our community the place we call home.

Some of the challenges will be how to fund street repairs, when to build a Police station,

finding new housing in the city limits and keeping our economy growing all the while maintaining our small town charm. To keep communication open, I will be having some Saturday morning "Coffee Time" with myself and staff at various locations around town. I will have the times and locations posted on the City website and in the newspaper. I want to thank you for the opportunity to serve a wonderful community.

As we begin 2016, I am looking forward to working with a very diverse City Council. While we will see the familiar faces of Don Aubrey, Morgan Everett, Bob Elder, and Steve Becken, we will also be joined by Rob Siemens, Mary Ruth Edwards and Humberto Rodriguez. All of our Council Members are dedicated to serving the citizens of Prosser and we will all be working together for our communities continued success.

Sincerely,

Randy Taylor



Sign up for one or both of the following adult recreational programs.

OPEN GYM BASKETBALL

When: Wednesdays

Where: Housel Middle School Gym

Time: 7:00pm - 9:00pm

Fee: \$10 per session

Remaining Session: Jan - May 2016

PICKLEBALL

When: Mondays

Where: Housel Middle School Gym

Time: 7:00pm - 9:00pm

Fee: \$10 per session

Remaining Session: Jan - May 2016

Registration forms can be found online at www.cityofprosser.com or at City Hall.



City of Prosser

601 7th Street
Prosser, WA 99350

Monday - Friday
8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
(except holidays)

NEED INFORMATION?

www.cityofprosser.com

Contact Us:

Main Office	786-2332
Building	786-8210
Clerk	786-8218
Finance	786-8215
Fire Station	786-3873
Library	786-2533
Mayor	786-8216
PAC (Pool)	786-0097
Police*	786-1500
Public Works*	786-7300
*After Hours	786-2112

Follow Us On:



Meet Your Mayor and Council



Randy Taylor
Mayor

Don Aubrey
Position No. 1

Morgan Everett
Position No. 2

Rob Siemens
Position No. 3

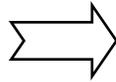
Bob Elder
Position No. 4

Mary Ruth
Edwards
Position No. 5

Steve Becken
Position No. 6

Humberto
Rodriguez
Position No. 7

Email the Mayor and City Council: citycouncil@cityofprosser.com



UTILITY BILLING

Dates

- Jan. 10 BILLS DUE
- Jan. 14 24HR Door Hangers & \$25 Penalty Assessed
- Jan. 18 Water Shut Off & \$50 Penalty Assessed
- Jan. 21 Balances Assessed 5% Late Fee

No Additional Fee to Use Credit/Debit Card

Reminders:

- City Hall will be closed on the following holidays:

New Years Day, 1/1/16

MLK Jr. Day, 1/18/16

- There will be no changes to garbage service on the holidays.
- Request a FREE extra garbage pick up online at www.cityofprosser.com or by calling (509)786-2332.
- If you want to pay a lower sewer fee for the 2016 calendar year, conserve water from Nov. 19th until Feb. 18th for a lower winter average.
 - Don't forget to renew your dog's license. All dogs within the city limits of Prosser, over 6 months of age, must have a license. All expired 2015 licenses must be renewed by Jan. 31st to avoid receiving a late fee of \$10.00.

- Information regarding the Elderly/ Disabled Low Income rate will be provided in next month's newsletter.
- City Hall is collecting Box Tops for Education. Send in your Box Tops with your utility statements or drop them off at City hall.

Meetings in January 2016

Work Session	1/5 7pm
Board of Adjustment	1/7 6pm
Budget & Finance Committee	1/12 5:30pm
Regular City Council	1/12 7pm
Planning Commission	1/21 6pm
Budget & Finance Committee	1/26 5:30pm
Regular City Council	1/26 7pm

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE



Participants

The Prosser City Council would like to extend a Big Thanks to the Scouts of Troop 641 and members of the Prosser Boys & Girls Club for leading the Pledge of Allegiance at the recent Prosser City Council meetings.

Thank you!



- * Make sure crawl space vents are closed up.
- * To prevent freezing, leave water dripping the size of a pencil lead.
- * Wrap or insulate exposed pipes.

Stop by City Hall to see our display of water saving products and ideas!