

PUBLIC HEARING THE TOWN OF WINNETT HELD November 8th, 2023

THOSE PRESENT– Dave Harris - Mayor

Brad Olson, Leo Tarplee, and Tom Tiarks- Council (Levi absent)

Savannah Moore – Clerk & Treasurer

Bobbie Shular – Montana Rural Water Systems

Ralph Corbett, Carol Schaeffer, Richard Voigt, Connie Voigt, Bill Lowe, Ronnie Kastner,

Kathleen Johnson, Denise Manley, Dana Jones – Guest

I. Call Meeting to Order: Dave Harris called the hearing to order at 5:00 PM.

- a. Pledge of Allegiance
- b. Review and Adopt Agenda – switch a. Public Comment to after b. Rate Analysis presentation

II. New Business

a. Rate Analysis conducted by Montana Rural Water Systems; Review & Discuss

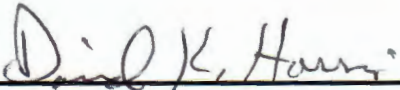
- Bobbie Shular introduces herself as a Circuit Ryder with MRWS, she works primarily with small communities on their water and wastewater systems and has conducted the rate analysis for Winnett.
- She explains how the numbers are calculated (last year's expenditures along with active users and size of meter.)
- The funds are required, by Montana Code Annotated, to be self-sustaining (water revenue pays for water, wastewater revenue pays for sewer, etc.)
- Per the rate analysis the base rate for a standard $\frac{3}{4}$ inch hook up should be as follows:
 - Water: \$35.71
 - Sewer: \$30.64

b. Public Comment

- Kathleen asks about charging turned off services or empty lots the base rate – Bobbie explains when there is a loan, everyone is responsible for paying back that loan, as for a situation with no loan, every community is different and can set standards accordingly.
- Discussion is had and some others agree that charging all accessible hook ups and empty lots would be a good idea – The Town will look into the legality of doing something like this before making any final decisions.
- Bobbie answers any further questions and discussion is had.

III. Adjourn Meeting 6:16 PM.

- a. Leo made a motion to adjourn the public hearing at 6:16 PM, Tom seconded and the vote passed unanimously.

X 

David Harris
Mayor

X 

Savannah Moore
Town Clerk & Treasurer