

Crescent City looking at water, sewer rates

May 25, 2021



The Crescent City Council is moving forward with a study on water and sewer rates, which may result in increased rates for residents.

After receiving a grant from the California State Water Resources Control Board totaling about \$80,000, the city is pressing on with the overdue rate studies. Typically, rate studies for water and sewer are completed every five years, however, the last water rate study came in 2013 and the last update to wastewater came in 2015, said City Manager Eric Wier. Wier said these projects are the first-step in maintaining the overall health of both systems.

Currently, residents inside city limits pay \$22.49 per 0-500 cubic feet of water and \$72.21 for sewer, equaling a minimum bill of \$94.70. Before an increase could be instituted, it would first have to appear on a ballot after the study.

Jon Olson, public works director, said the process to obtain the grant was one of the easiest he's ever experienced.

"To the point of push button, get grant," said Olson.

While there was virtually no discussion from the council, some members of the public spoke on the issue. Robert Derego said utility rate studies in the past have been unimpressive.

Ultimately, the council unanimously decided to move forward with study, which will be coordinated by a contractor of the state water board's choosing.