



# ORRVILLE UTILITIES

## OUR WATER AND WASTEWATER SYSTEMS

### *Investing in Our Future*

The City of Orrville Public Utilities has been providing reliable, quality water and wastewater treatment services to approximately 3,350 customers, 24 hours a day 7 days a week for more than 100 years. Over those ten decades we always put our customers first, because we understand that water is a critical part of our customers' lives. It is our responsibility to ensure every customer has quality water available from their tap when they need it and to provide efficient, responsible wastewater collection and treatment services.

All water and wastewater utilities across the country have a duty to ensure efficient daily operations and to maintain and improve their infrastructure to certify the quality and reliability of drinking water and the proper treatment of wastewater. We take this responsibility seriously.

Orrville Utilities Water and Wastewater Departments strive to keep costs as low as possible, however, some costs, such as EPA imposed regulations and aging infrastructure, are beyond the Department's control and have significant financial impact.

To ensure our rates adequately cover the necessary costs of quality service now and into the future a Cost of Service Study was performed earlier this year. A thorough review of each department's financial requirements for the upcoming five years was completed. This review identified the proposed increases outlined for the following reasons:

- The Wastewater Utility has had no rate increase since 1999. The utility now requires additional investment to maintain assets.
- Additional regulatory requirements have increased material, labor and system demands.
- Mandated EPA requirements have had a significant impact on water utility revenues.
- Infrastructure and facility capital investments identified, totaling approximately \$7.2 million. See details below.

## CAPITAL REQUIREMENTS

### **Capsule summary of major proposed projects:**

#### **Replace Water Lines in Burton City and on Wabash Avenue, Lenore Street, and West High Street:**

An investment of approximately \$2,080,000 is proposed to address numerous leaks that have occurred on these waterlines. Some leaks resulted in complete failures and required replacement of sections of pipe. Boil advisors were required in some instances which is inconvenient for the customer, time consuming, and costly. The City is planning to repave West High Street in 2019. If we do not make the necessary water line repairs and/or replacements prior to that date, we will then incur additional costs to remove sections of the new road surface and then replace the road surface which required removal.

#### **Sludge Press and High Flow Pumps:**

An investment of approximately \$1,120,000 is proposed for the purchase and installation of machinery to address excessive solids discharge and to reduce sludge hauling costs. This project will also minimize sludge storage requirements and associated costs. The high flow pumps are required to help prevent sewage overflows during extreme rain events. Plant efficiency increases are possible with this project.

#### **Paint West, South and Central Water Towers:**

An investment of approximately \$900,000 is proposed to paint three water towers. A recent inspections found the existing paint/coating is failing. If this project is delayed structural damage could occur which will result in additional repair costs to the water towers prior to then painting them.

#### **Install Sludge Storage:**

An investment of approximately \$500,000 is proposed to replace sludge lagoons to comply with federal regulations (if required) and provide additional storage as loads increase.

#### **Replace Trickling Filter Media:**

An investment of approximately \$175,000 is proposed to replace the original media installed in 1951 and 1967. Modern media provides efficiency and reduces risk of failures. Plant treatment capacity is increased with this project.

#### **Upgrade Monitoring System:**

An investment of approximately \$100,000 is proposed to replace monitoring system installed in 2001. This system monitors regulatory items and controls blowers to maximize efficiency.

#### **Replace Boiler Controls:**

An investment of approximately \$40,000 is proposed to replace all critical controls on the 1969 vintage boiler. The age of the

#### **Proposed Rates**

The proposed rate adjustments are necessary for daily operation and capital investments for 2017-2022 and are pending approval by the Orrville Public Utility Board and then proceeding through the Administrative Order process by Orrville City Council.

Effective Date	Proposed Rate Increase					
	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
	12.1.17	1.1.18	1.1.19	1.1.20	1.1.21	1.1.22
Water	8%	7%	7%	6%	6%	6%
Wastewater	7%	7%	6%	6%	6%	6%

Effective Date	Existing Rates	Average Residential Customer Monthly Bill with Proposed Rate Increase					
		2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
		12.1.17	1.1.18	1.1.19	1.1.20	1.1.21	1.1.22
	\$/Monthly	\$/Monthly	\$/Monthly	\$/Monthly	\$/Monthly	\$/Monthly	\$/Monthly
Water	\$ 28.88	\$ 31.20	\$ 33.36	\$ 35.69	\$ 37.83	\$ 40.14	\$ 42.56
Wastewater	\$ 22.67	\$ 24.26	\$ 25.96	\$ 27.52	\$ 29.17	\$ 30.92	\$ 32.78
Total	\$ 51.55	\$ 55.46	\$ 59.32	\$ 63.21	\$ 67.00	\$ 71.06	\$ 75.34

**Comparison**

Orrville Utilities is committed to ensuring that our rates are competitive with communities that have similar utility systems. A comparison of Annual Water and Wastewater costs from a 2015 Ohio EPA Survey on Average Yearly Residential Water and Wastewater costs is included below. For a detailed explanation of the systems in various communities please contact the Director of Utilities, Jeff Brediger.

