

**PUBLIC HEARING
MEETING MINUTES
THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 10th, 2015
6:00 p.m.**

The Stevensville Town Council came together for a public hearing at Town Council Chambers for the purpose of considering proposed Water and Sewer Rate Increases and a Proposed Utility Billing Reduce Rate Program.

Present were Mayor Mim Mack, Councilmember's Perrin, Crews, Hunter and Holcomb. Also present were several members of the public.

Mayor Mim Mack called the hearing to order at 6:00 p.m. and gave a history of the water and sewer infrastructure improvement, 2010 rate increases (effective 2012) and engineer's recommendation of future 3% annual rate increases. Mayor presented the proposed rate increases and informed the public this is a proposed 3% annual increase on both water and sewer for the next 5 years.

Mayor then reviewed the proposed Utility Billing Reduced Rate Program to help low income seniors and adults on disability.

Public Comment

Ann Susen, 327 Main Street, commented against the proposed water and sewer rate increases. She also commented on the poor taste and smell of water due to chlorine, and on the cost for her to water the Main Street bulb out tree.

Kevin Chason, 409 Spring Street, commented against the proposed water and sewer rate increases. He also commented on being a disabled veteran but won't qualify for the reduced rate due to the income qualification being too low. He recommended the Town at least increase the reduced rate income qualification higher than \$28,000.

Jerry Phillips, 515 Mission Street, commented on the 3,000 gallons included in the base rate and recommended it be adjusted for some families to help with the high costs.

Patricia Miller, Groff Lane (rental property owner in Town), commented against the proposed water and sewer rate increases. She also commented on the water/sewer bonds and recommended charging the bond amounts to vacant lot owners to reduce all users costs.

There were no further public comments.

The hearing adjourned at 6:35 p.m.

APPROVE:



Gene Mim Mack, Mayor

ATTEST:



Stacy Bartlett, Town Clerk