



# Village of Jackson Center

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## From the Desk of the Administrator

I hope everyone had a wonderful Christmas with family and friends.

With January here, I want to discuss with you the upcoming utility rate adjustments you will be seeing in your Feb. 1, 2021 utility bill.

I will begin with the Electric rates, in 2017 we had a Cost of Service Study (COS) completed to determine the financial position the Electric Department is in. It was determined that we are in pretty good shape. For 2020, the cost per kilo-watt hour (kwh) was adjusted from 11.637 cents to 11.733 cents. Also, the customer charge was \$14 per month and will remain \$14.00 per month. And with our Power Cost Adjustment (PCA) which enables us to look at the rate and raise or lower it as needed. Presently our rate through the PCA is 10.163 cents per kwh, which is currently lower than the current set rate. We will be looking at our PCA again this month and if an adjustment is needed it will be reflected on your March 1<sup>st</sup> bill.

We have completed a COS for the Water and Sewer Departments in 2018 to check their financial wellness. Results show that there was a need to also have a rate adjustment to keep these departments on track. A couple of points for the need for these adjustments are, we have a utility agreement with Plastipak from when we ran water and sewer utilities to their facility. The Village received their final payment of that agreement this year. So, going forward that revenue source will not be available for both of these funds. Also, the Water Department finished in the red last year and the sewer Department did finish in the black. The adjustment for water this year will be an additional \$1.96 a month for the 5000-gallon minimum. For Sewer the adjustment for this year will be an additional \$5.56 a month for the 5000-gallon minimum.

For example, I will show the monthly adjustment using the minimum 5000 gallon. In 2020, the minimum for water was \$21.75 and in 2021 - \$23.71. An additional of \$1.96 a month. Sewer, in 2020, is \$37.07 and in 2021 - \$42.63. An additional \$5.56 a month. For a customer using the 5000-gallon minimum will see an additional total cost of \$7.52 for their water and sewer bill a month. There will be no increase in the customer charge for Water and Sewer.

Council has done a good job keeping our rates down, but at the same time realize these utilities need to be able to sustain operations on their own.

If anyone has any questions on either of these rate adjustments, please give me a call at the Village Office at (937) 596-6314.

(Next month: 2021 Outlook)