Utility Rate Hikes Clear First Hurdle in Falls City (KLZA)--Falls City Utility customers are likely going to be paying more for utility services beginning October 1st.

During a special meeting Monday afternoon John Krajewski of J-K Energy Consulting, explained the recently completed rate study.

During the regular Council meeting the proposal was unanimously approved on first reading. If given final approval the ordinances will increase the rates and fees in the Electrical, Gas, Sewer and Water departments beginning October. 1st.

The last rate study was conducted three years ago. A number of projects to improve city infrastructure need to be accomplished in the near future and the increased rates should help cover some of those costs.

The proposal on the rates was recommended for approval by the Board of Public Works.

In other business the council approved an agreement with the Falls City Chamber of Commerce that will hold the City harmless for events associated with the upcoming Cobblestone Festival.

A request from Ryan Curtis for a metal building for a garage at 724 Fulton Street was approved as was a request to use the parking lot near Prichard Auditorium for a Household Hazardous Waste Collection on October 2nd.

Council members also approved a request to block off 18th Street between Stone Street and the Grand Weaver Hotel parking lot on August 21st and 22nd so the current sign atop the building can be removed and a new one set in place. Use of streets and parks for a Fun/Run Walk on September 21st sponsored by the Community Medical Center Therapy Department was also approved.

Many Signals Communications