

City of Bennington
February 2019 Newsletter

Hello everyone! Hope this finds you well. Lots of sickness going around, hope you managed to avoid it! Lots to discuss, so I will get to it.

At the last city council meeting, natural gas and propane were discussed. If you are interested in knowing what the conversion cost would be for your home, call and ask one of the many heating and air companies if they give free estimates. Several people in town have said their estimate did not cost anything. This way, you would know what you are looking at regarding conversion costs for your home. This is important because the estimates have been vastly different depending on if the furnace would need replaced or if it can be converted, not to mention how many appliances that you use propane for now that would also need converted like fireplaces, stoves, hot water heaters etc. There have been no decisions made at all at this point. The city is waiting on the school, which is one of the main gas consumers in town, to get a firm estimate on their own conversion costs. The school being on board is going to be the vital in the natural gas company even bringing it to Bennington. We are estimating it will be a couple months before another town hall meeting is scheduled. When we know, it will be announced ASAP.

The city council approved reducing the alley maintenance charge on the monthly water bills from \$7.00 per month to \$5.00 per month starting on the February billing.

REMINDER!!!

The pet clinic will be held on Saturday, February 9th from 10:00 A.M. to 12:00 Noon! The Doctor will accept cash or checks. Please try and have correct change. You may also purchase your 2019 city tags this day. Please remember if you have animals that have not ever been registered, you need to provide proper rabies information for them to remain in the city limits and to purchase a tag. Citations will be written to anyone keeping an animal in the city limits that is not tagged. If the animals are seen at your residence, and they are not in our system when we check, a citation to appear in court will be written to you. If you get a pet that is too young to vaccinate yet, please call and let us know about it so we can put a note on file.

ATTENTION!!

If you have chickens or other animals besides dogs or cats at your home, a special permit is required to keep these animals in the city limits. The permit does not cost anything but must be approved by animal control and presented to the city council for final approval. The permit is only good for ONE YEAR, you then must apply for a new permit and have your enclosures inspected and be approved again based on animal controls assessment of your animals and the enclosures. Please call the city office ASAP if you have chickens and get new permits to keep them. Thanks for your prompt attention to this matter.

Because of all the inclement weather, water meters were estimated for the February billing to avoid several extra days being on the bill. This is done automatically in our system using last months readings. Dustin Murk read all the customers who had leaks last month to ensure that if the leak is still active, the reading will reflect that, if it is fixed, it will also reflect that. Most customers will see no difference in the price of your bill. Hopefully next month, there will not be any issues with reading the meters as normal.

I have had phone calls requesting names of anyone who works to remove snow or shovel sidewalks in the city. I do not have anyone that I know who does this currently. If you do snow removal, please call the city office 785-488-3767 and let me know and I will give your name to people who request it.
Thanks!!