

## City water rates to rise

Written by Elizabeth Barrett  
Friday, 31 January 2014 15:32 -

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A 5% increase in water rates is expected to pull in \$10,500 a year for improvements, according to city administrator Bruce Clymer.

Clymer said more in revenue will also help with increased costs of providing the service.

Gothenburg City Council members passed the measure on second reading and waived the third so the increase will be reflected on January bills.

On another matter, the council discussed a Safe Routes to School grant application and the work done by the parties involved.

Clymer said the Gothenburg Improvement Company's Way of Life Committee, the organization spearheading the application, and city staff had met with state officials and changed some things on the application form.

The city will formally apply for the grant, on behalf of the committee and school, which could provide \$550,645 to replace sidewalks and put into place other safety measures.

Clymer said application for funds is competitive and that if received, the state will take over the process and will choose the contractor, etc.

He said parts of some property along Avenue I, in city right of way, may have to be condemned for sidewalk installation.

The application will be sent this week. Notification of grant recipients will be at the end of February or in March, Clymer said.

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Way of Life committee members are looking at other ways to enhance quality of life in Gothenburg, he added, such as the encouragement of walking.

The council also passed a resolution that cleans up language in the employee safety policy such as not permitting smoking in city vehicles or within city buildings.

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