

Chapter 38: Utility Rates

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§38.01 Utility Rate Setting

The Mayor and Council shall set the utility rates to be charged to customers of the Electric Department, Natural Gas Department, Sewer Department and Water Department of the City. All such utility rates shall be set by Ordinance and on file in the office of the City Clerk. The Council may classify customers of the City for the purpose of providing more equitable utility rates. No utility rates shall be discriminatory against any other customer of the same class. All other provisions relative to said utility rates, such as, but not limited to, the calculation of utility usage, the generation of a statement, the terms of payment, the collection thereof, the commencement of utility service, tap fees, deposit amounts, and termination of utility service, shall be as determined by the Wahoo Board of Public Works and as codified in the Wahoo Board of Public Works Code Book.

(Ord 2021, passed 2-28-13)

§38.10 Electric Department Rates

The Mayor and Council of City have established the rates to be charged all customers of the Electric Department of City as set forth in this Chapter.

§38.11 Electric Definitions

For purposes of this Section, the following definitions shall apply to the Electric Department unless the context clearly indicates or requires a different meaning:

Customer – Any and all users typically connected via one or more billing meters of the electrical system of the Electric Department, including all persons, firms or corporations whose premises are served thereby and all owners and tenants of real estate connected to said electrical system of the Electric Department.

Residential Service – Applicable to all separately metered single family living facilities which include cooking, bath and sleeping accommodations, to include separately metered apartments, mobile home parks, motel units and rental units. Residential Service shall not be applicable to structures / houses where commercial business or income generating activity is conducted in the major part of the premise. All Residential Service shall be single phase electricity. When units are individually metered for some services and other services are supplied in different metering configurations, the various services shall be billed in accordance with their individual load characteristics.

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Municipal Service – Applicable to facilities owned and/or operated by the City of Wahoo, Nebraska.

Small General Service – Applicable to any single phase or three phase non-residential customer with less than 15,000 kWh monthly consumption and less than 50 kW demand. All services shall be provided at the available Electric Department electric system standards.

Large General Service – Applicable to three phase non-residential accounts consuming more than 15,000 kWh monthly or 50 kW demand for four months billing during any twelve month period. All services shall be at the available Electric Department electric system standards.

Large Power Service – Applicable at services for loads with any monthly demand greater than 500kW. Large Power Service is master metered three phase primary voltage. The minimum bill shall be the customer charge plus 500kW times the Winter Coincident Peak demand charge. The Power Factor shall be maintained greater than 92% lagging or leading for the kW coincident with the NPPD billing period.

Irrigation Service – Applicable at 3-phase services for motor loads of greater than 10 HP used for pumping non potable water and applied to the land.

Load Factor – Percentage ratio of measured Kilowatt hours (kWh) to the product of the maximum demand in kW times the hours during the specific billing period.

Demand Charge – Non-coincident Peak kW and Coincident Peak (CP) kW with system peak hour will be determined by metering in the current billing period. Demands shall be determined by interval recording metering using 30 consecutive minutes of consumption or with other industry accepted billing equipment, at the option of the utility.

Power Factor – Customers with demand meters are responsible for maintaining a minimum power factor of 92% leading or lagging on a system coincident basis as determined at intervals defined in the then current NPPD GFPS Rate. When the power factor is less than 92% the metered Coincident Peak (CP) Demand will be adjusted by multiplying such CP Demand by the difference of 92% minus the

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metered Power Factor percentage, (i. e. CP kW * (92%-metered Power Factor %). In order to allow the Customer appropriate time to correct a low power factor, a Customer transferred to or new to power factor charges will not be billed for power factor adjustments on the first three bills rendered to the Customer after the power factor metering has been installed.

Wholesale Service – Applicable to any user of the electric system of the Electric Department pursuant to a contract entered into between the City and said user. Said contract to be entered into at the discretion of the Wahoo Board of Public Works, subject to the approval by the Mayor and Council of City, when said user desires service in excess of normal Electric Department standards for retail purposes.

Street Lighting – Applicable to all Municipal streetlights.

§38.12 Municipal Service Electric Rates

The Electric Department rates for Municipal Service shall be as follows:

One phase (minimum rate) per month	\$ 20.00
Three phase (minimum rate) per month	\$ 38.00
Oct thru May energy; per month	\$0.0623/kWh
June thru Sep energy; per month	\$0.0973/kWh

§38.13 Residential Service Electric Rates

The Electric Department Rates for Residential Service shall be as follows:

One phase (minimum rate) per month	\$17.25
<i>Oct thru May energy; per month</i>	
First 825 kWh, per month	\$0.0747/kWh
Over 825 kWh, per month	\$0.0597/kWh
<i>June thru Sep energy; per month</i>	\$0.0797/kWh

§38.14 Small General Service Electric Rates

The Electric Department Rates for Small Commercial Service shall be as follows:

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One phase (minimum rate) per month	\$ 20.00
Three phase (minimum rate) per month	\$ 38.00
<i>Oct thru May energy; per month</i>	
First 1900 kWh, per month	\$0.0941/kWh
Over 1900 kWh, per month	\$0.0641/kWh
<i>June thru Sep energy; per month</i>	
	\$0.0941/kWh

§38.15 Large General Demand Service Electric Rates

The Electric Department Rates for Large General Demand Service shall be as follows:

One phase (minimum rate) per month	\$ 51.25
Three phase (minimum rate) per month	\$100.00
<i>Oct thru May energy; per month</i>	
	\$0.03595/kWh
<i>June thru Sept energy; per month</i>	
	\$0.04095/kWh
<i>Oct thru May demand charge, per month</i>	
kW per month on Coincident Peak (CP)	\$ 11.00/kW
kW per month on Non-coincident Peak minus CP	\$ 10.00/kW
<i>June thru Sep demand</i>	
kW per month on Coincident Peak (CP)	\$12.00/kW
kW per month on Non-coincident Peak minus CP	\$10.00/kW
Primary Line Delivery, for meters served from 12KV distribution line	
<i>Jan thru Dec</i>	
	\$.40/kw

§38.16 Wholesale Service Electric Rates

The Electric Department Rates for Wholesale Service shall be as follows:

Three phase (minimum rate) per month	\$ 350.00
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Oct thru May energy; per month	\$0.0385/kWh
June thru Sep energy; per month	\$0.04385/kWh

Oct thru May demand

kW per month on Coincident Peak (CP)	\$ 13.00/kW
kW per month on Non-coincident Peak minus CP	\$ 13.00/kW

June thru Sep demand

kW per month on Coincident Peak (CP)	\$ 18.60/kW
kW per month on Non-coincident Peak minus CP	\$ 16.60/kW

§38.17 Irrigation Service Electric Rates

The Electric Department Rates for Irrigation Service shall be as follows:

Three phase	\$ 30.00
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Oct thru May energy

First 1900 kW per month	\$0.0722/kWh
Over 1900 kW per month	\$0.0656/kWh

June thru Sep energy

First 1900 kW per month	\$0.0722/kWh
Over 1900 kW per month	\$0.0656/kWh

Annual Horsepower charge

Firm Service/ per horsepower	\$ 80.00/hsp
Interruptible Service/per horsepower	\$ 16.50/hsp

§38.18 Large Power Primary Voltage Service Electric Rates

The Electric Department Rates for Industrial Service shall be as follows:

Three phase (minimum rate) per month	\$ 430.00
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Oct thru May energy; per month	\$0.0319/kWh
June thru Sept energy; per month	\$0.0369/kWh

Oct thru May demand charge

kW per month on Coincident Peak (CP)	\$ 10.00/kW
kW per month on Non-coincident Peak minus CP	\$ 10.00/kW

June thru Sep demand charge

kW per month on Coincident Peak (CP)	\$ 12.00/kW
kW per month on Non-coincident Peak minus CP	\$ 9.00/kW

§38.185 STREET LIGHTING ELECTRIC RATES.

The Electric Department Rates for Street Lighting Service shall be as follows:

Single phase (minimum rate) per month	\$20.00
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<i>Oct thru May energy; per month</i>	\$0.06576/kWh
<i>June thru Sept energy; per month</i>	\$0.06576/kWh

§38.19 Customer Owned Generation Excess Power Rate

(A) Availability - to a customer signing an Interconnection Agreement with the Electric Department and who owns and operates cogeneration and small power production facilities with production capacity of 100 kW and less that qualify under the guidelines for implementing PURPA Sections 201 and 210 and as outlined in the Electric Department's Policy and Guideline for Customer Owned Generation.

(B) Character of Service - Unless otherwise provided by in the interconnection agreement, the character of purchased power will be single or three phase alternating electric current of 60 hertz. Voltage shall be determined by the voltage of the Electric Department's distribution system in the vicinity unless otherwise agreed.

(C) Purchase Of Output From Qualifying Facilities - Owners of qualifying Facilities will be allowed the option to either (1) sell the entire electrical output to their Qualifying Facilities to the Electric Department, or (2) use the electrical

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output of their Qualifying Facilities to instantaneously supply all or a portion of their own load and sell the instantaneous surplus to The Electric Department.

(D) Purchase Price - Energy from qualifying facilities will be paid for on the following basis:

(1) For Qualifying Facilities of 100 kW and less without time of day metering, payment on a monthly basis of an amount of \$0.0295 per kilowatt hour for the summer season and \$0.0216 per kilowatt hour for the winter season for all power and/or energy delivered to the Electric Department.

(2) The purchase price shall be adjusted up or down to reflect the savings or costs resulting from variations in losses compared to if the Electric Department had generated or purchased elsewhere an equivalent amount of energy. Such an adjustment factor shall be identified in the Interconnection Agreement.

(E) Accounting Charge - The owner of the Qualifying Facility will pay to the Electric Department the following monthly charges for additional energy accounting expenses incurred by the Electric Department:

- | | |
|--------------------|--------------------|
| (1) kWh Meter | \$4.00 per meter * |
| (2) Interval Meter | \$20.00 per meter |

*For qualifying facilities utilizing kWh meters, the energy accounting charges will be waived until December 31, 2012

(Ord 2339, passed 12-26-19)

§38.20 Natural Gas Department Rates

The Mayor and Council of City have established the rates to be charged all customers of the Natural Gas Department of City as set forth in this Chapter.

(Ord 2013, passed 3-26-09)

§38.21 Residential General Service Natural Gas Rates

(A) Availability and priority of service - Natural gas shall be furnished, subject to availability, to all residential customers on the city's existing gas distribution facilities supplied at one point of delivery for which no other specific schedule is provided. This service shall have the highest priority regarding availability.

(B) Character of service - Natural gas will be supplied at the standard pressures and quality.

(C) Residential general service natural gas rate schedule

(1) Customer Charge/per month	\$12.65
(2) Base Rate	
0-15 ccf	.319/ccf
Over 15 ccf	.1320/ccf

(3) Purchase Gas Adjustment: PGA formula

Step 1 - Sum the previous month's future purchase of market purchased costs minus the proceeds of any resale credits and divide by the ccf delivered for that billing period to the power plant meter.

Step 2 - Sum the previous month's transmission service, surcharges and service fees and divide by the ccf delivered for that billing period to the power plant meter.

Step 3 - Sum the gas and transmission costs and multiply by the system average loss of 4.8% (or other value that may be estimated from time to time) and add to average costs..

Step 4 – The resulting sum will be used as the PGA for the next monthly billing period, then add .001.

(D) Minimum bill – The minimum bill shall be the customer charge.

(Am. Ord. 1697, passed 10-14-99; Am. Ord. 1982, passed 9-17-07), (Am. Ord. 1697, passed 10-14-99; Am. Ord. 1982, passed 9-27-07; Am. Ord. 2121, passed 02-28-13)

§38.22 Nonresidential General Service Natural Gas Rates

(A) Availability and priority of service – Natural gas shall be furnished, subject to availability, to all nonresidential customers on the city's existing gas distribution facilities supplied at one point of delivery whose maximum monthly requirement has not exceeded 3,000 DTH during the most recent 12-month period. This service shall have the second highest priority regarding availability.

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(B) Character of service – Natural gas will be supplied at the standard pressures and quality.

(C) Nonresidential general service natural gas rate schedule.

(1) Customer Charge/per month	\$13.90
(2) Base Rate	
0 – 55 ccf	.6490/ccf
Over 55 ccf	.1300/ccf

(3) Purchased Gas Adjustment: PGA formula

Step 1 - Sum the previous month's future purchase of market purchased costs minus the proceeds of any resale credits and divide by the ccf delivered for that billing period to the power plant meter.

Step 2 - Sum the previous month's transmission service, surcharges and service fees and divide by the ccf delivered for that billing period to the power plant meter.

Step 3 - Sum the gas and transmission costs and multiply by the system average loss of 4.8% (or other value that may be estimated from time to time) and add to average costs.

Step 4 - The resulting sum will be used as the PGA for the next monthly billing period, then add .001

(D) Minimum bill - The minimum bill shall be the customer charge.

§38.23 POWER GENERATION SERVICE NATURAL GAS RATES

(A) Availability and priority of service - Natural gas may be furnished, subject to availability, to all nonresidential customers on the city's existing gas distribution system supplied at one point of delivery whose maximum monthly requirement has not exceeded 3,000 DTH during the most recent 12-month period. This service shall have the second highest priority regarding availability.

(B) Character of service - Natural gas will be supplied at the standard pressures and quality.

(C) Nebraska Public Power service natural gas rate schedule.

(1) Customer Charge/per month	\$475.00
(2) Base Rate	
0 – 1500 ccf	.640/ccf
Over 1500 ccf	.130/ccf

(3) Purchase Gas Adjustment: PGA formula.

Step 1 - Sum the previous month's future purchase of market purchased costs minus the proceeds of any resale credits and divide by the ccf delivered for that billing period to the power plant meter.

Step 2 - Sum the previous month's transmission service, surcharges and service fees and divide by the ccf delivered for that billing period to the power plant meter.

Step 3 - Sum the gas and transmission costs and multiply by the system average loss of 4.8% (or other value that may be estimated from time to time) and add to average costs.

Step 4 – The resulting sum will be used as the PGA for the next monthly billing period, then add .001.

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Background

The City of Wahoo Board of Public Works (“BPW”) currently charges for natural gas service through base rates. Each year, the BPW prepares a budget that includes all costs of providing service such as Natural Gas operations and maintenance expenses, administrative expenses, debt service payments, and construction expenditures. The purchased power component of Natural Gas operations expenses is by far the greatest expense incurred by the BPW. From February 13th through the 17th of 2021, the country experienced a historical natural gas shortage as a result of extreme negative temperatures which caused coal piles to freeze, water pipes to burst, natural gas pipelines to seize up, wind turbines to get ice on blades, etc. This resulted in a price tsunami which would have caused rate increases around \$220 to \$240 per customer to account for the gas price hike had the BPW not utilized \$200,000 of existing cash reserves to offset approximately 40% of the increased costs. The Natural Gas Rate Stabilization Fund allows the BPW to accrue a contingency reserve to protect ratepayers from future similar occurrences by alleviating or lessening the impact of power supply cost variances and transmission true-ups and potential timing issues associated with such variances and true-ups.

Natural Gas Rate Stabilization Fund

The Natural Gas Rate Stabilization Fund will be established in an initial amount of \$400,000. The initial funds will be made up of funds from the Municipal Natural Gas System Emergency Funds Grant received by the BPW in August of 2021 together with the BPW’s natural gas operating cash.

The intent thereafter is that base rates will be used to increase this Fund balance. When the Natural Gas Rate Stabilization Fund balance of \$500,000 is reached, the BPW may suspend funding until such time as the reserve funds are drawn down below \$500,000. Up to \$250,000 of the Natural Gas Rate Stabilization Fund may be utilized to address either a gas rate spike or other gas related emergencies. The determination of when to utilize the Fund and in what specific dollar amount shall be held to the sole discretion of the BPW. Once monies are utilized then base rate profits would be used to replace the Fund until it reaches the \$500,000 level.

The BPW retains the authority to deviate from this policy should it determine it necessary and appropriate as well as to utilize the Natural Gas Rate Stabilization Fund to meet other unanticipated changes in costs or revenues. *(passed 11/17/21)*

§38.30 Sewer Department Rates

The Mayor and Council of City have established the rates to be charged all customers of the Sewer Department of City as set forth in this Chapter.

(Ord 2010, passed 2-19-09)

§38.31 Sewer Definitions

For purposes of this Section, the following definitions shall apply unless the context clearly indicates or requires a different meaning:

Consumer – Any and all users of the sewer system of the Sewer Department, including all persons, firms or corporations whose premises are served thereby, and all owners and tenants of real estate connected to said sewer system.

Residential Service – Shall be supplied to single family living facilities which include cooking, bath and sleeping accommodations. Separately water metered apartments, mobile home parks, motel units and rental units are applicable to this schedule. Residential Service shall not be applicable to structures/houses where commercial business or income generating activity is conducted in the major part of the premise.

When units are individually metered for some services and other services are supplied under different metering configuration, the various services shall be billed in accordance with their individual characteristics.

Commercial Service – Applicable to use by any consumer which is not a residential consumer. All services shall be provided at the available Sewer Department system standards. High strength or excessive volume requires special contracts with appropriate rates.

Municipal Service – Applicable to facilities owned by the City of Wahoo, Nebraska.

Volume Rate Charge – rate multiplied per 1,000 gallon units of potable water metered every month for all services except residential. Residential rates are multiplied by an average of 1,000 gallons of potable water metered in Jan., Feb., and March. This is an annual charge starting in April of each year.

§38.32 Residential Service Sewer Rates

The Sewer Department rates for Residential Service shall be as follows:

- (A) Customer Service (minimum rate) Charge: \$24.50 per month
- (B) Volume Rate Charge: \$3.05 per 1,000 gallons/per month/avg calculated

§38.33 Commercial Service Sewer Rates.

The Sewer Department rates for Commercial Service shall be as follows:

(A) Customer Service (minimum rate) Charge

¾ inch water meter	\$28.31 per month
1 inch water meter	\$28.31 per month
1 ½ inch water meter	\$36.31 per month
2 inch water meter	\$45.81 per month
3 inch water meter	\$57.31 per month
4 inch water meter	\$80.31 per month

(B) Volume Rate Charge: \$3.05 per 1,000 gallons/per month

§38.34 Municipal Service Sewer Rates

The Sewer Department rates for Municipal Service shall be as follows:

(A) Customer Service (minimum rate) Charge:

¾ inch water meter	\$28.31 per month
1 inch water meter	\$28.31 per month
1 ½ inch water meter	\$36.31 per month
2 inch water meter	\$45.81 per month
3 inch water meter	\$57.31 per month
4 inch water meter	\$80.31 per month

(B) Volume Rate Charge: \$3.05 per 1,000 gallons/per month

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§38.40 Water Department Rates

The Mayor and Council of City have established the rates to be charged all customers of the Water Department of City as set forth in this Chapter.

(Ord 2386, passed 3/22/22)

§38.41 Water Definitions

Consumer – Any and all users of the water system of the Water Department, including all persons, firms or corporations whose premises are served thereby, and all owners and tenants of real estate connected to said water system.

Residential Service – Shall be supplied to separately metered single family living facilities which include cooking, bath and sleeping accommodations and includes separately metered apartments, mobile home parks, motel units and rental units are applicable to this schedule. Residential Service shall not applicable to structures/houses where commercial business or income generating activity is conducted in the major part of the premise.

Municipal Service – Applicable to facilities owned and/or operated by the City of Wahoo, Nebraska.

Commercial Service – Applicable to any consumer which is not a Residential Service or a Municipal Service consumer. All services shall be provided at the available Water Department system standards.

Wholesale Service – Applicable to any user of water of the water system of the Water Department pursuant to a contract entered into the City and said user, said contract to be entered into at the discretion of the Wahoo Board of Public Works when said user desires service in excess of normal water system standards for retail purposes, subject to approval by the Mayor and Council of City.

Minimum Charge Schedule – There shall be a minimum water use charge per month to each consumer located within the corporate limits of the City which shall be determined by the size of the consumer's meter.

§38.42 Residential Service Water Rates (Minimum)

The Water Department rates for Residential Service shall be as follows:

Meter Size	Consumer Charge
Res ¾"	\$ 17.50
Res 1"	\$21.75
Res 1 ½"	\$30.20
Res 2"	\$38.75

§38.43 Commercial Service Water Rates (Minimum)

Meter Size	
Comm. ¾"	\$17.50
Comm. 1"	\$21.75
Comm. 1 ½"	\$30.20
Comm. 2"	\$38.75
Comm. 3"	\$70.00
Comm. 4"	\$93.30

§38.44 Wholesale Service Water Rates

6 Inch Meter \$150.00

For water used in excess of one thousand (1,000) gallons:

1,000 gallons and over \$1.990 per thousand gallons

§38.45 Municipal Service Water Rate (Minimum)

Meter Size	Consumer Charge
Municipal ¾"	\$17.50
Municipal 1"	\$21.75
Municipal 1 ½"	\$30.20
Municipal 2"	\$38.75
Municipal 3"	\$70.00
Municipal 4"	\$93.30

§38.46 Water Rate Schedule In Excess Of Minimum

The following Rate Schedule shall apply to all City water consumers located within the corporate limits of the City. Any use less than 1,000 gallons of water per month shall be charged at the minimum charge as specified in Sections 38.42, 38.43, or 38.45 hereof. For water used in excess of one thousand (1,000) gallons per month, the rate charged, in addition to the applicable minimum charge, shall be:

Residential	1,000 gallons and over	\$1.364 per thousand gallons
Commercial	1,000 gallons and over	\$2.402 per thousand gallons
Municipal	1,000 gallons and over	\$2.402 per thousand gallons



§38.47 Per Person Service Contract Rate

The Utilities General Manager shall be responsible for determining sales and charges of bulk water from hydrants or wells.