

Mayor's Notes

December 2008

We (the city of Wood Lake) have been doing our budget for the water and sewer for the upcoming year. We are about \$15,000.00 short on the 2009 budget. We are expecting to raise our water – sewer rates for 2009.

We (the city) have been trying this past year to keep costs down. We did not do some street tarring projects we expected to do, we did not vote ourselves another raise again this year, and we did not go forward with a building project that we need to face in the next few years. Unfortunately costs for everything continue to rise, and we, the city are not exempt from those rising costs. Some of the expenses that we cannot avoid are the repairs to a well and water tower this year.

With that said, we need to raise water rates in 2009. They will be going up \$ 8.00 per household. We also expect to have to raise the water rates annually (to cover future costs).

I understand this is a bad time to start the rate increase, but we have no choice. If the prices of some of our expenses go down, we will look at adjusting the water rates at that point.

If anyone has any questions, please call your council members or myself. You may reach me, at home 485-3750.

My wife, Deb and I wish each and every one of you, a blessed, healthy and happy 2009 !