

“Brodhead”

(Cont. from front)

helped spin the figures into the negative as the future principal and interest payments will total approximately \$10,260 annually until 2047.

Gilkerson said her company suggested one of two rate increases for the council to approve. The first option was a system wide rate increase of 6% for 2013 and 1.5% annually for 2014, 2015 and 2016.

The second option would increase the amount per thousand sold to WRWA by 54% and only have a system wide rate increase of 1.5% for 2013, 2014, 2015 and 2016. Gilkerson said that the city currently charges WRWA \$2.93 per thousand which is the same rate they buy it from Mt. Vernon. She said that by adding the city's operation and maintenance cost to the current WRWA rate of \$2.93 per thousand gallons would result in a 54% increase to \$4.52 per thousand gallons.

“You all don't charge WRWA any more than what you buy it from Mt. Vernon. We're suggesting that you all pass along the operation and maintenance costs of supplying that water to WRWA,” Gilkerson said. “You have expenses of that water passing through your lines and expenses of it being stored in your tanks. WRWA should meet that.”

Councilman Keith Graves said they need to re-think everything before they vote for one of the two plans. He said they need to figure rates up for the average customer before they make a decision.

“When an average citizen hears about a 6% rate increase or a 54% rate increase, it makes them want to pull their hair out,” Graves said. “But if we lay it all out for them and say this will affect your bill on an average increase of \$6 a month it makes sense to them.”

Councilman Mark Buras agreed with Graves and said they should discuss things further before making a hasty decision.

“It hasn't been long since our customers had a 36% increase in September 2012 after the City of Mt. Vernon increased their rates,” Buras said. “Then if we come along and add a 6% in the first year on top of that. That's almost a 50% increase for them.”

Water Superintendent Roger Bray reminded the council that if they don't keep a positive balance that it will be harder for them to get loans or grants.

“With Cumberland Valley if you don't get your butt out of the red it is hard to get money,” Bray said. “Pretty much if you try to get any loan or grant money you aren't going to get it until you're out of the red.”

Gilkerson went on to suggest that the city choose the second option which would increase the amount per thousand sold to WRWA by 54% and only have a system wide rate increase of 1.5% for 2013, 2014, 2015 and 2016. She said they believe this plan will accomplish the best chance of minimizing impact on the

majority of customers while attaining the necessary financial goals of Brodhead Water Utility.

Mayor Walter Cash suggested that they talk with officials at WRWA before they make a decision. The council agreed unanimously with Cash and said they will likely decide on which rate increase plan to go with at an upcoming meeting.

“Schools”

(Cont. from front)

just be an expansion and not a replacement for the things our guidance counselors help students with.” Mattingly said.

Mattingly said that the guidance counselors have started requiring interviews for graduating seniors to help them identify their career goals, college choice, college major, etc. She said the counselors could refer the students to the college center based on what they gather from the interview to help better serve their needs even after they graduate high school.

“These interviews are very detailed and they do a good job of uncovering what the student's true goals are for their life,” Mattingly said. “They encourage them to reach for their goals and they can now also reassure them that they have all the help they need in reaching their goals.”

Stallsworth went on to say that she thought creating a college center would be a great idea for the citizens of Rockcastle County.

“I know a lot of students in college that I work with and they are always fine with filling out the FASFA their first year because they have people at the high school to help them,” Stallsworth said. “But when they have to fill it out again their sophomore year a lot of them are lost and don't have that help anymore. A college center would be a great thing to have for cases like this.”

Pensol also presented the Educational Planning and Assessment System results to the board and he said the students were close to meeting the state average scores in the core curriculum of English, mathematics, reading and science.

The system involves three phases of testing, the Explore which is given to 8th graders, the Plan which is given to 10th graders and the ACT given to 11th graders.

Students in the eighth grade scored 15.4 on the composite score of all subjects, which tied the 15.4 state average.

In science, 8th graders scored the same as the state average 16.7; English was 14.5 to 14.6 for the state average; mathematics 15.0 to 15.4 and reading 14.8 to 14.5.

10th graders were a little further back in the composite score 16.7 to 17.3 state average. In English it was 16.2 to 16.6; mathematics 16.6 to 17.1; reading 16.3 to 16.8 and science 17.3 to 18.1.

11th graders were close to the composite score for all subjects 18.5 to 19.2. In English it was 17.0 to 18.4; mathematics 18.1 to 18.9; reading 18.7 to 19.4 science

was 19.6 to 19.5.

In voting action, the board approved Finance Officer Melanie Lyons' 2013-2014 working budget for the school district. Lyons told the board that she would present the quarterly figures to them during October's meeting. The board also approved Lyons as the authorized signature for the school district's financial obligations as well.

“Livingston”

(Cont. from front)

the commissioners that Joe Grider, engineer with HMB would be at next month's meeting to discuss the sidewalk project. He also reminded them of the Livingston School Alumni Banquet, scheduled for October 12th and a Car Cruise to be held in the city on Oct. 18th.

“Expo”

(Cont. from front)

The Healthy Joe Expo was created to reach those who are hardest to reach with health education and for whom that education might be most important. Men drink more than women, smoke more than women, don't live as long as women, engage in more high-risk activities than women. Yet, men are notorious for not seeing a doctor when they should. The American Academy of Family Physicians reveals that 55 percent of U.S. men haven't seen their M.D. in the past year.

For more information about this year's Healthy Joe Expo, contact Harris at 256-0950, or go to the events section of www.rockcastleregional.org.

The Expo is co-sponsored by the Southern KY Area Health Education Center, which is hosted by Rockcastle Regional Hospital.

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If you plan to attend, please call 256-7746 by September 27