

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**CITY OF NEWPORT  
UTILITY BILL INFORMATION**

The City of Newport is beginning to close out its conversion to a new utility billing software system.

In the past several weeks, city staff “purified” the old utility billing system; converted the database of 4,500 water meters to the new software system; replaced the aging meter reading equipment; and, reconciled the 41 routes that will eventually be downloaded into the new meter reading equipment. It has been a bumpy process, but the end is in sight.

The utility bill is comprised of a base rate charge plus a usage charge. The bill that customers received in early January was lower because it included only the base rate and not the usage charge. As a result, the next billing will be higher because it will include the base rate plus usage for the past two month period.

The city apologizes for this inconvenience but reminds utility customers that the new software will provide improved service with more readable bills, and the ability to pay with debit/credit cards or online. Further information on new payment options will be provided in the near future.

For additional information, contact David Marshall, Finance Director, at 541.574.0610.

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