At our present rate system, sewer is $67.25 and water is $48 for a total of $115.25 a month. We have 157 billable entities who pay this amount. Our commercial accounts add a little bit more to this, but not significantly.

At present rates, we are going to have a shortfall in our Water and Sewer Funds of $171,800 for the year 2027.

The Town of Silver Plume has not done a rate increase of water and sewer utilities in at least the last 5 years.

In order to simply break even, sewer rates must increase approximately $62/month for a total of $129. Our current base rate is $67.25.

Water base rates are presently at $48/month, and to break even they need to increase by $28/month to a total of $76/month.

The total of water and sewer, not including usage charges, will be $205/month.

Raising the rate per household to $205/month is only a break-even proposition, with no money going to capital expenditures. A rate study will need to be completed to determine how much needs to be collected in addition to this to be compliant with our reserve fund requirement.

For comparison, Georgetown's rates are presently $84/month for water and $62.76/month for sewer, for a total of $144/month. Our costs are higher, as we have fewer individuals participating in the overall financial picture.

If we do nothing, we will continue to have ongoing negative consequences, primarily being that the General Fund is responsible for the shortfall. This directly and significantly impacts the amount of preventative maintenance we can perform annually, as well as impacting the amount of resources and services we are able to offer our residents.