

City of Newberg

Rate Review Meeting Minutes

February 10th, 2026

Call to Order

Chair Ned Knight called the Rate Review Committee meeting to order on February 10, 2026, at 5:32 PM.

Roll Call

Staff Natalí conducted roll call with the following members present: Inen Buerkle, Mary Meyer, Leisha Adams, Ned Knight, Peggy Kilburg, Ron Sinicki (virtual until 5:58PM; in-person thereafter), and Roger Kuhlman (virtual). Absent: Derrick Wharff, Derek Duff, and Raquel Peregrino de Brito. Derek Duff arrived at 5:35PM.

Pledge of Allegiance

The Committee participated in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Public Comments

No public comments were received.

Reports and Presentations

Stormwater and TUF CIP Presentation

City Manager Will Worthey presented completed stormwater projects, noting several came in under budget:

- 800 block Winooski outfall project: completed at \$298,333.73 (\$59,000 under budget)
- West Franklin stormwater line: completed at \$630,166.50 (\$120,000 under budget)
- Stormwater pipe replacement fund: not utilized this biennium

Future stormwater projects include:

- North Springbrook Road Stormline project: estimated at \$850,000 (25% SDC eligible)
- Stormwater Master Plan: nearing completion and will be presented to Council soon

City Manager Will Worthey discussed Transportation Utility Fund (TUF) projects, noting the city has significantly increased road improvements with \$1.3 million annual funding. Completed projects include slurry sealing in districts 1 and 3, parking lot maintenance, and a 100% LiDAR scan of city roads to assess conditions. The city is focusing road repairs on southern districts with the poorest conditions.

The committee discussed potential funding options for road improvements, including gasoline tax (\$350,000/year revenue potential) and the possibility of creating a regional road repair consortium to

reduce costs. The committee also discussed addressing unimproved gravel roads, which would require approximately \$2.5-3 million to complete.

Wastewater Financial Presentation

Deb Galardi of Galardi Rothstein Group presented the financial analysis:

Stormwater Utility:

- Current rate: approximately \$19/month per equivalent dwelling unit
- 93% of revenue comes from rates
- No outstanding debt or anticipated new debt
- Recommended rate increase: 4.5% (down from previously projected 6.5%)
- Capital improvement plan includes over \$1 million per year for next two years

Transportation Utility Fund (TUF):

- Current rate: \$6.86/month for residential customers
- Recommended rate increase: 4% annually
- This would result in a \$0.28 increase to \$7.14/month in year one

The combined utility bill impact with all proposed increases (including water, sewer, stormwater, and TUF) would result in approximately a \$5 increase (2.8%) from \$182 to \$187 for typical residential customers in the first year. The committee discussed the availability of assistance programs for residents on fixed incomes.

Additional Information

Supplementary handout was provided on the Pavement Surface Evaluation and Rating (PASER) Data.

Next Meeting – February 24th

The next meeting was confirmed for February 24, 2026, at 5:30 PM. It will be a town hall format where the public can provide feedback on the proposed rate increases. After public testimony, the committee will make official recommendations to the City Council

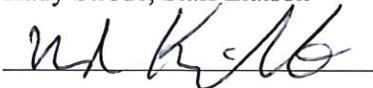
Adjournment

Chair Ned Knight adjourned the meeting.

Attested by:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Kady Strode", written over a horizontal line.

Kady Strode, Staff Liaison

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Ned Knight", written over a horizontal line.

Ned Knight, Committee Chair