

Sellersburg Municipal Sewage Works

Rate Study Summary August 11, 2025

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Rate Study Overview

- Sewer rates and charges last adjusted in 2022 per Ordinance No. 2021-OR-005
 - Phase I: 72.2% increase effective May 1, 2021
 - Phase II: 41.9% increase effective May 1, 2022
- Operating expenses have increased steadily over the last several years
 - Last rate study was conducted in 2020 (based on 2019 data)
- Annual debt service payments of \$1,624,000 until January 1, 2043
- Sewage Works has sufficient cash balances (as of 12/31/24) with available cash for select capital improvements
- Capital improvements approximately \$501,000 annually through 2029
 - Excludes \$6M wish list project Allentown Road FM
- Across-the-board increase four alternatives for phasing in rate increase over 3-5 years

Historical Analysis

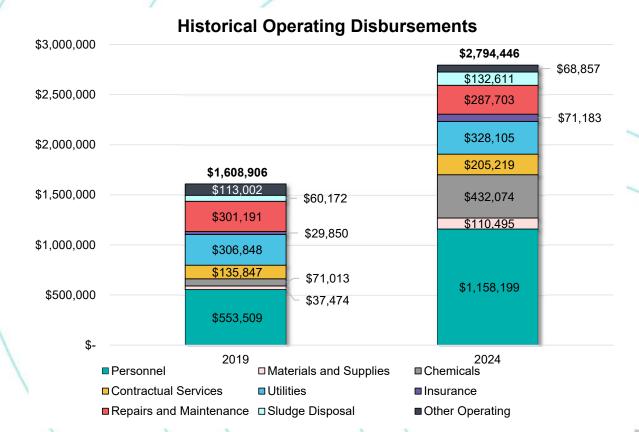
Historical Analysis

Comparison of Fund Balances with Minimum Balances Required

	Fund Balances 12/31/2024	Minimum Balance Required	Variance
Operation and Maintenance Fund	\$1,423,123	\$494,441	\$928,682
Sinking Fund:			
Bond and Interest Account	851,254	811,980	39,274
Debt Service Reserve Account	1,349,121	1,248,060	101,061
Tap-in Fund	1,190,896	1,190,896	-
Expansion Fund	1,265,439	1,265,439	_
Construction Fund	58,261	58,261	<u>-</u>
Totals	\$6,138,094	\$5,069,077	\$1,069,017

Historical Analysis

- Since the last rate study, operating cost categories have increased significantly:
 - Chemicals (+500%)
 - Sludge Disposal (+120%)
 - Personnel (+100%)
 - Contractual Services (+50%)
- Main driver of proposed rate increase



Future Estimates

Future Estimates

Utility Capital Improvement Plan

Capital Improvement Category	2025-2029
Creston Sewer Replacement	\$1,700,000
PS Lining	86,250
Manhole Lining	287,500
Pipe Lining	431,250
Total Capital Improvements	\$2,505,000
Average Annual Capital Improvements (5 Years)	\$501,000

Alternative I - 3 Phases

Estimated Revenue Requirements:	2025	2026	2027
Operation and Maintenance Disbursements (1)	\$2,966,100	\$3,055,100	\$3,146,800
2021 Revenue Bonds	1,624,000	1,624,000	1,624,000
Debt Service Reserve	300,800	75,200	-
Replacements and Improvements	110,000	420,000	501,000
Total Revenue Requirements	5,000,900	5,174,300	5,271,800
Less: Interest Income	(61,400)	(61,400)	(61,400)
Total Net Revenue Requirements	\$4,939,500	\$5,112,900	\$5,210,400
Estimated Annual Receipts:			
Collection and Treatment Services	\$4,413,800	\$4,413,800	\$4,413,800
Revenues from Rate Increase	-	525,700	699,100
Total Available Revenue	\$4,413,800	\$4,939,500	\$5,112,900
Additional Receipts Required	\$525,700	\$173,400	\$97,500
Change in Average Monthly Residential Bill (Current Inside Town Bill \$55.85)	\$6.64	\$2.20	\$1.21
Estimated Debt Service Coverage	125%	130%	135%

⁽¹⁾ Includes normalization adjustments to calendar year 2024 for salaries, benefits, audit fees in contractual services, utilities and a 3% contingency allowance. Future years assume annual inflationary increases of 3%.

Alternative II – 3 Level Phases

Estimated Revenue Requirements:	2025	2026	2027
Operation and Maintenance Disbursements (1)	\$2,691,100	\$2,871,100	\$3,146,800
2021 Revenue Bonds	1,624,000	1,624,000	1,624,000
Debt Service Reserve	300,800	75,200	-
Replacements and Improvements	110,000	420,000	501,000
Total Revenue Requirements	4,725,900	4,990,300	5,271,800
Less: Interest Income	(61,400)	(61,400)	(61,400)
Total Net Revenue Requirements	\$4,664,500	\$4,928,900	\$5,210,400
Estimated Annual Receipts:			
Collection and Treatment Services	\$4,413,800	\$4,413,800	\$4,413,800
Revenues from Rate Increase	-	250,700	515,100
Total Available Revenue	\$4,413,800	\$4,664,500	\$4,928,900
Additional Receipts Required	\$250,700	\$264,400	\$281,500
Change in Average Monthly Residential Bill (Current Inside Town Bill \$55.85)	\$3.17	\$3.36	\$3.55
Estimated Debt Service Coverage	125%	130%	131%

⁽¹⁾ Assumes Alternative I estimated operation and maintenance disbursements are reduced to allow for more even phases of rate increases. 2025 is estimated at a level lower than calendar year 2023 and 2024, so costs would need to be monitored.

Alternative III – 4 Level Phases

Estimated Revenue Requirements:	2025	2026	2027	2028
Operation and Maintenance Disbursements (1)	\$2,656,100	\$2,800,100	\$3,041,800	\$3,241,000
2021 Revenue Bonds	1,624,000	1,624,000	1,624,000	1,624,000
Debt Service Reserve	300,800	75,200	-	-
Replacements and Improvements	110,000	420,000	490,000	501,000
Total Revenue Requirements	4,690,900	4,919,300	5,155,800	5,366,200
Less: Interest Income	(61,400)	(61,400)	(61,400)	(61,400)
Total Net Revenue Requirements	\$4,629,500	\$4,857,900	\$5,094,400	\$5,304,800
Estimated Annual Receipts:				
Collection and Treatment Services	\$4,413,800	\$4,413,800	\$4,413,800	\$4,413,800
Revenues from Rate Increase	-	215,700	444,100	680,600
Total Available Revenue	\$4,413,800	\$4,629,500	\$4,857,900	\$5,094,400
Additional Receipts Required	\$215,700	\$228,400	\$236,500	\$210,400
Change in Average Monthly Residential Bill (Current Inside Town Bill \$55.85)	\$2.73	\$2.86	\$3.03	\$3.10
Estimated Debt Service Coverage	125%	130%	130%	131%

⁽¹⁾ Assumes Alternative I estimated operation and maintenance disbursements are reduced to allow for more even phases of rate increases. 2025 is estimated at a level lower than calendar year 2023 and 2024, so costs would need to be monitored.

Alternative IV – 5 Level Phases

Estimated Revenue Requirements:	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029
Operation and Maintenance Disbursements (1)	\$2,636,100	\$2,755,100	\$2,971,800	\$3,166,200	\$3,338,400
2021 Revenue Bonds	1,624,000	1,624,000	1,624,000	1,624,000	1,624,000
Debt Service Reserve	300,800	75,200	-	-	-
Replacements and Improvements	110,000	420,000	490,000	490,000	501,000
Total Revenue Requirements	4,670,900	4,874,300	5,085,800	5,280,200	5,463,400
Less: Interest Income	(61,400)	(61,400)	(61,400)	(61,400)	(61,400)
Total Net Revenue Requirements	\$4,609,500	\$4,812,900	\$5,024,400	\$5,218,800	\$5,402,000
Estimated Annual Receipts:					
Collection and Treatment Services	\$4,413,800	\$4,413,800	\$4,413,800	\$4,413,800	\$4,413,800
Revenues from Rate Increase	-	195,700	399,100	610,600	805,000
Total Available Revenue	\$4,413,800	\$4,609,500	\$4,812,900	\$5,024,400	\$5,218,800
Additional Receipts Required	\$195,700	\$203,400	\$211,500	\$194,400	\$183,200
Change in Average Monthly Residential Bill (Current Inside Town Bill \$55.85)	\$2.46	\$2.58	\$2.66	\$2.79	\$2.78
Estimated Debt Service Coverage	125%	130%	130%	130%	131%

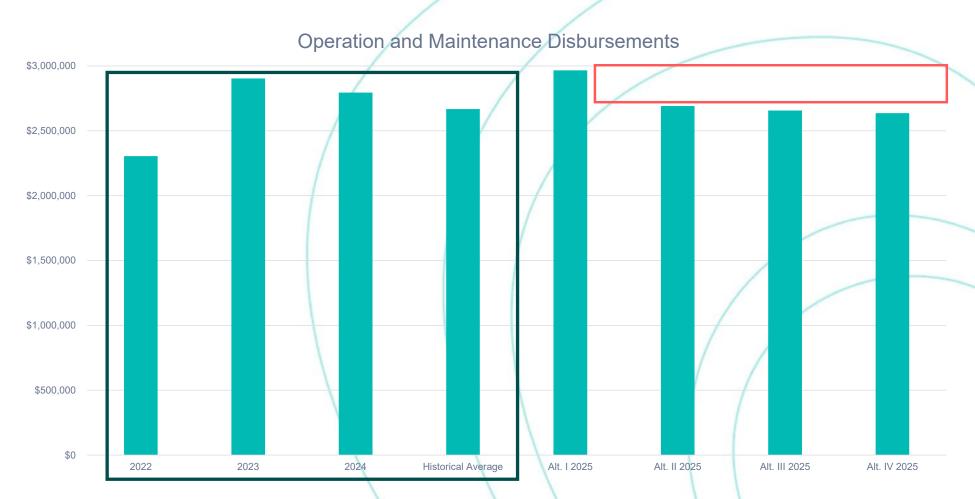
⁽¹⁾ Assumes Alternative I estimated operation and maintenance disbursements are reduced to allow for more even phases of rate increases. 2025 is estimated at a level lower than calendar year 2023 and 2024, so costs would need to be monitored.

Future Estimates

Average Monthly Residential Bill* at Each Phase of Proposed **Rate Adjustment**

			Average Monthly Residential Bill*				
Alternative	Customer Type	Current	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029
1	Inside Town	\$55.85	\$62.49	\$64.69	\$65.90		
I	Outside Town	73.51	82.25	85.15	86.74		
II	Inside Town	55.85	59.02	62.38	65.93		
II	Outside Town	73.51	77.68	82.10	86.77		
III	Inside Town	55.85	58.58	61.44	64.47	\$67.57	
III	Outside Town	73.51	77.10	80.86	84.85	88.93	
IV	Inside Town	55.85	58.31	60.89	63.55	66.34	\$69.12
IV	Outside Town	73.51	76.75	80.15	83.65	87.32	90.98

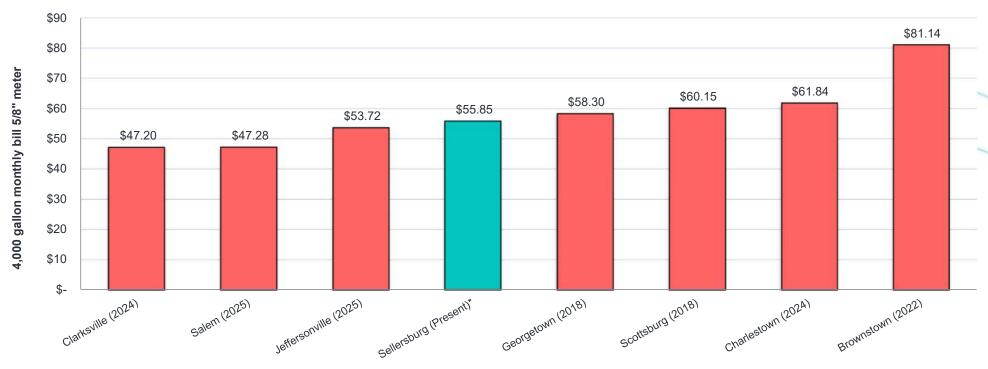
^{*}Based on an assumed usage of 4,000 gallons per month and a 5/8" meter



Alt. I assumes a level of disbursements based on historical trends and typical cost increases. Alts. II-IV assume reductions to achieve more level increases.

Future Estimates

Comparison of Monthly Residential Bills with Other Indiana Communities*



^{*}Based on inside town rates.

Summary

Summary

- Elevated operating costs
 - Large increases in personnel, chemicals, sludge disposal, and contractual services since last study
 - Combination of post-pandemic inflationary environment and expansion related to 2021 Bond projects
- Healthy cash balances in a position to be proactive for upcoming capital projects and increased costs
- \$6M wish list project Allentown Road FM
 - Uncertainty about timing/affordability
 - Could incorporate into current rate study and provide alternatives based on potential funding sources
- Proposed rate increase can be phased in over multiple years as illustrated





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