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**(S.D.)-Rapid City Writing Off Unpaid Utilities**

By: Chris Fankhauser Posted at: 01/04/2013 08:04 AM

RAPID CITY, S.D. (AP) - Rapid City intends to write off \$192,000 in unpaid 2012 utility bills ranging from \$10 to as much as \$11,000.

Nearly all the 900 bills from businesses and individuals are a few hundred dollars or less.

Finance Officer Pauline Sumption told the Legal and Finance Committee this week that although the city is taking the money off the books, it is still trying to collect on the bills.

Sumption says the total owed is less than 1 percent of the total bills collected by the city in 2012. She says the national write-off average is more than 10 percent.

The entire city council will vote Monday on a resolution to write off the bills.

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