

Town of Greenville
PUBLIC HEARING RE: WATER RATE INCREASE
March 20th, 2023 6:30pm

A public hearing was held by the Town Board of the Town of Greenville on March 20th, 2023 at 6:30pm at Pioneer Hall to discuss increasing the municipal water rates.

Four Board members were present, Councilman Richards was absent. Travis Smigel from Delaware Engineering was present as well as four guests.

This Public Hearing was advertised in the Town's official newspaper, The Catskill Daily Mail, on March 3, 2023.

Supervisor Macko opened the public hearing with the Pledge of Allegiance at 6:30pm.

Councilman Bensen motioned, seconded by Councilman Bear to open the public hearing at 6:30pm.

Supervisor Macko explained that the purpose of this public hearing was to discuss the need to increase the current municipal water rates. He stated that the rates have not been increased in the past 15 years. The outdated rates and inflation of our economy has caused the water departments reserve funds depletion. He also mentioned that a 15% increase would not bring the water rates up to where they need to be to sustain the costs of operation. Supervisor Macko stated in hindsight it may have been better to do slight increases yearly—in the future maybe it should be done that way.

Travis Smigel of Delaware Engineering did some calculations and explained the spreadsheet below:

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TOWN OF GREENVILLE
2023 WATER RATE ANALYSIS

3/20/2023

Water Sales Summary				
2020 Metered Revenue (Actual)	\$129,777			
2021 Metered Revenue (Actual)	\$105,789			
2022 Water Total Budget	\$161,564			
2022 Metered Revenue (Budgeted)	\$149,049			
2022 Metered Revenue (Estimated Actual)	\$96,255			
2023 Water Total Budget	\$176,710			
2023 Metered Revenue (Budgeted)	\$156,595			
2023 Metered Revenue (Estimated Actual)	See Options Below*			
*2023 Water Rate Option Analysis				
Option 1 - Current Rate Structure				
Users	Rate	Sales	Total Quarterly	Total Annual
201 users 10,000 gal or below	\$56.20	\$11,296.20	\$24,063.72	\$96,254.86
75 users above 10,000 gal	Gal x \$5.62/1000 gal + # of Users x \$56.20	\$12,767.52		
Option 2				
Users	Rate	Sales	Total Quarterly	Total Annual
201 users 10,000 gal or below	\$65.00	\$13,065.00	\$27,831.70	\$111,326.80
75 users above 10,000 gal	Gal x \$6.50/1000 gal + # of Users x \$65	\$14,766.70		
Option 3				
Users	Rate	Sales	Total Quarterly	Total Annual
201 users 10,000 gal or below	\$90.00	\$18,090.00	\$38,536.20	\$154,144.80
75 users above 10,000 gal	Gal x \$9.00/1000 gal + # of Users x \$90	\$20,446.20		
Option 4				
Users	Rate	Sales	Total Quarterly	Total Annual
201 users 10,000 gal or below	\$65.00	\$13,065.00	\$39,245.20	\$156,980.80
75 users above 10,000 gal	Gal x \$14.00/1000 gal + # of Users x \$65	\$26,180.20		

The Board and Mr. Smigel discussed these figures but opted to hold off on deciding on the new rates at this time.

Discussion Points:

Billing Program – The meter reading device is of great quality but the billing software that transfers meter reading information to is dated and sometimes inaccurate. Each billing cycle requires review to

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ensure that the readings from the device are properly interpreted by the software. Quotes were provided last year by Renee Hamilton to update the program but put on hold. At the time they were too costly for the remainder of the 2022 budget cycle.

Sewer Rates – Anita Zibura asked the Board if they will need to address the sewer rates as well. Supervisor Macko states that it would be ideal to stagger the increases but at some point in the near future they will need to be raised as well.

Water Rates – Anita Zibura expressed to the Board that even at a 26% increase of water rates you would not be able to operate a well for less than the \$0.77/day this increase would come to.

Effective Date – Supervisor Macko stated that he hopes to have the new rates ready for the April monthly meeting to put in effect for the April 2023 water billing cycle.

Supervisor Macko called upon the hearing for any further questions/comments/concerns and three times.

There being no further remarks from the public Councilman Bear motioned, seconded by Councilman VonAtzingen to close the public hearing at 6:57pm. Carried 4 ayes

Jessica K. Lewis, Town Clerk-Collector

_____ Supervisor Macko

_____ Councilman Bear

_____ Councilman Bensen

_____ Councilman Von Atzingen