

PUBLIC NOTICE TO ALL CUSTOMERS OF THE VILLAGE OF POUND WATER AND SEWER UTILITY PUBLIC HEARING MARCH 19, 2024 AT 11:00AM

The Village of Pound Water and Sewer Utility has filed an application with the Public Service Commission of Wisconsin (PSCW) to increase water rates. The increase is necessary due to a 29.71 percent increase in gross plant investment and a 149.17 percent increase in operating expenses since the last water rate case was completed in 2007.

The total increase in water revenues requested is \$42,848 which will result in an estimated overall rate increase of 58.91 percent over the water utility's present revenues. If the request is granted, the water bill for an average residential customer with a 5/8-inch or 3/4-inch meter who uses 8,000 gallons of water per quarter will increase from 60.96 to \$108.82, or 79% (not including the public fire protection charge), and will increase from \$60.96 to \$124.57, or 104% (including the public fire protection charge).

The Utility currently collects \$32,978 from the Village of Pound (Village) for providing Public Fire Protection (PFP) water service to the Village. This municipal PFP charge is based on 100 percent of the Utility's total PFP cost. The total PFP cost is increasing to \$44,498, which covers the additional storage, pumping, and distribution required to provide the high flows and pressures needed to fight fires. The Village collects the funds for the current municipal PFP charge from property taxes and pays this charge to the water utility. The Village recently approved changing the Utility's method of PFP cost recovery from a 100 percent municipal PFP charge, to a combination of a municipal charge, set at \$33,000, with the remainder to be direct PFP charges collected through direct bills to water utility customers.

The Village requested Commission authorization to collect a portion of the total PFP cost through direct PFP charges from each customer of the water utility, based on the Equivalent Meters method. This change in the method of recovery the PFP charge will allow the Utility to collect a portion of the PFP charge from property owners who are not subject to property taxes. The Utility does not intend to charge PFP charges to non-general service customers.

A public hearing on the application has been scheduled for Tuesday, March 19, 2024, at 11:00 a.m. This hearing has no physical location. Parties and Commission staff appear by Zoom. Parties and Commission staff may use the telephone connection as a backup or if no practicable internet connection exists. Members of the public attend by Zoom or by audio-only telephone connection.

Join Zoom over the internet at:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/my/pschearings>

To join Zoom telephone:

1. Dial: +1 312 626 6799
2. Enter: 809 513 2930 # (Meeting ID)

The Commission intends to livestream and record this hearing on YouTube. To access the livestream, go to the Commission’s website at <http://psc.wi.gov>, click the dropdown menu labeled “News & Events”, and select item labeled “Broadcasts”.

A person may testify in this proceeding without becoming a party and without attorney representation. A person may submit this testimony in only one of the following ways:

- **Web Comment.** File a comment on the internet. Go to the Commission’s web site at <http://psc.wi.gov>, click the dropdown menu labeled “Commission Action”. Select the item labeled “File a Public Comment”. On the next page select the “File a comment” link that appears for docket number 4800-WR-102. Web comments shall be received no later than the Thursday, March 21, 2024.
- **Live Comment.** Make a live comment at the hearing. The ALJ may receive live comments from any member of the public in attendance after the close of any party and Commission staff testimony. The ALJ will receive such comments by stating the name of each member of the public connected to the hearing one at a time and asking if they would like to comment.
- **Mail Comment.** Send a comment by U.S. Mail. All comments submitted by U.S. Mail shall be received no later than Thursday, March 21, 2024, and shall be addressed to: Attn: Docket 4800-WR-102 Comments, Public Service Commission, P.O. Box 7854, Madison, WI 53707-7854.

To access the documents, schedule, and other information about this docket, go to the Commission’s web site at <http://psc.wi.gov>, select the dropdown menu labeled ‘eServices’. Select the item labeled “Docket Search (CMS)”. On the next page enter 4800-WR-102 in the spaces labeled “Case #” and select “Search”.

If you have any questions, please contact the Village of Pound Water and Sewer Utility at (920) 897-4307.

Posting Places: Village Hall – 2002 County Rd. Q / Community Center 1013 County Rd. Q / US Post Office – 1018 County Rd. Q

Posted By: *Diane Patz*
Clerk/Treasurer

2.27.2024 @ 8:00am
Date and Time of Posting