

A public hearing was held by the Town Board of the Town of Ballston on Tuesday, December 13, 2016 at 6:00 p.m. at the Town Hall, 323 Charlton Road, Ballston Spa.

PRESENT:	Tim Szczepaniak	Supervisor
	John Antoski	Councilman
	Chuck Curtiss	Councilman
	Bill Goslin	Councilman
	Kelly Stewart	Councilwoman
	Carol Gumienny	Town Clerk
ABSENT:	James Walsh	Counsel

Supervisor Szczepaniak opened the public hearing at 6:00 p.m.

The Town Clerk read the following legal ad for the public hearing:

TOWN OF BALLSTON NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING
RELATING TO PROPOSED CHANGES TO WATER RATES
IN THE TOWN OF BALLSTON

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that a public hearing will be held by the Town Board of the Town of Ballston on December 13, 2016 at 6:00 p.m. at Town Hall, 323 Charlton Road, Ballston Spa, New York regarding the adoption of proposed changes to the water rates for the Town of Ballston.

The changes affect the rates charged by the Town representing an increase of \$ 0.20 / 1,000 gallons of water in District 2 including #24 Morningdale Court and 0.18 / 1,000 gallons of water for Water District # 5, Water District #6 and Water District #6 Extension 1.

The new proposed water rates are: Water District #2 including Morningdale Court Ext. 24: \$4.25 / 1,000 gallons of water. Water District #5, Water District #6 and Water District #6 Extension 1: \$3.68 / 1,000 gallons of water.

PLEASE TAKE FURTHER NOTICE that the environmental significance of said proposed shall be reviewed by the Town Board, as Commissioners of the Water Districts of the Town of Ballston incident to and as a part of said public hearing. Copies of said proposed amendments to the water rates are available for review at the Town Clerk's Office, located at 323 Charlton Road during regular business hours and on the Town web site, www.townofballstonny.org

By Order of the Town Board
of the Town of Ballston,
dated November 10, 2016.

Carol Gumienny, Town Clerk
Town of Ballston
P.O. Box 67, Burnt Hills, NY 12027

Our Budget Officer, Jeanette Borthwick, stated the water rate increase is 5%. When putting the budget together for 2017, there is a 1.5% water rate increase with Saratoga County and a \$31,000 ad valorem increase with the Town of Glenville. The Town has been growing consistently and costs associated with water maintenance have increased. More water services mean more mandates from DOH which are an added expense as well as personnel. She wanted to clarify a statement and answer some questions that were emailed by a Town resident. This is the second water rate increase since 2014, not the third. Districts 3 and 4 do not have an increase because they are serviced by the Village of Ballston Spa. We could look at balancing in 2017 water rates for all districts. Water rates are based on usage. Water is purchased from the Saratoga County Water Authority and the Town of Glenville.

Ms. Morency, of 20 Stonebridge Drive, stated she is against the water rate increase. This is the second hike in two years. We are a community of working families and pay enough in taxes. You may drive working families out of the community.

Ms. Brandt, of 15 Stonebridge Drive, a new resident to the Town, is against the increase. Our

water rates are high in comparison with surrounding areas.

Councilwoman Stewart states the rates were raised for the first time in 12 years in 2014. The Board could have raised the rates higher at that time but decided against it.

Councilman Goslin agrees with the residents that there should not be a water rate increase. The water budget is up 20% year to year. He does not believe we should pass on an increase until it is absolutely necessary.

Mr. Jeram of 11 Conifer Drive is against a water rate increase. After reading his water rate charges since 2000, he wanted to know why the rate keeps going up.

Councilman Goslin asked when this rate increase will go into effect. Spring billing is for water usage six months prior and we should charge the current rate not the increased rate. Supervisor Szczepaniak stated that this is a fair statement and this will be reviewed.

The public hearing was closed at 6:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Carol A. Gumienny
Town Clerk