

**EAST LYME WATER & SEWER COMMISSION  
PUBLIC HEARING II  
Tuesday, OCTOBER 25th, 2016  
MINUTES**

The East Lyme Water & Sewer Commission held a Public Hearing on October 25, 2016 at Town Hall, 108 Pennsylvania Avenue, Niantic, Connecticut to hear comments regarding proposed revisions to rates and charges for connection to and the use of the East Lyme Water System.

**PRESENT:** Mark Nickerson, Chairman, Steve DiGiovanna, David Jacques, Dave Murphy, Joe Mingo, Carol Russell, Roger Spencer, Dave Zoller,

**ALSO PRESENT:** Joe Bragaw, Public Works Director  
Brad Kargl, Municipal Utility Engineer  
Attorney Edward O'Connell, Attorney Mark Zamarka, Town Counsel  
Anna Johnson, Finance Director

**ABSENT:** Dave Bond

FILED

**Pledge of Allegiance**  
The Pledge was previously observed.

Oct 28 20 16 AT 10:40 AM/PM  
Kevin Yulm, Jr.  
EAST LYME TOWN CLERK

**Public Hearing II**

- ◆ **Proposed Revisions to rates and charges for connection to and the use of the East Lyme Water System**

Chairman Nickerson called this Public Hearing to order at 6:38 PM immediately following the previous Public Hearing on the sewer rates. He noted that the notice had been published in the local newspaper, The Day on October 14, 2016. (Copy Attached)

Mr. Bragaw, Public Works Director noted that the proposed rates represent a 5% increase and explained the rates that had been increased or added. He said that the increases are needed due to a 44% decrease in the prison usage as they have moved the male population out. He noted that there no longer is a free turn on or shut off for the seasonal customers as they can no longer afford to provide this service for free. The revenue is also needed for maintenance to our aging system. (Information Attached)

Mr. Mingo asked about the 2013 water rate survey of Towns by Tighe & Bond and asked if they could have a current one.

Mr. Kargl said that Tighe & Bond does one for the State every three (3) years and that one should be due out later this year or early next year.

Mr. Nickerson asked if there were any members of the public who wished to comment – There were no comments.

Mr. Jacques asked if the top rate is accurate based on their workshop discussions.  
Mr. Bragaw said that it is and that what he is asking about pertains to the water side.

Mr. Nickerson asked if there were any other comments –  
Hearing none –

Mr. Nickerson called for a motion to close this Public Hearing.

**\*\*MOTION (1)**

**Mr. Murphy moved to close this Public Hearing.**

**Mr. DiGiovanna seconded the motion.**

**Vote: 8 – 0 – 0. Motion passed.**

Mr. Seery closed this Public Hearing at 6:45 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Karen Zmitruk,

Recording Secretary

TOWN OF EAST LYME  
WATER AND SEWER COMMISSION  
NOTICE OF ADOPTION OF SEWER RATES

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN of a public hearing to be held by the East Lyme Water and Sewer Commission at the East Lyme Town Hall on Tuesday October 25, 2016 to consider proposed revisions to the rates and charges for connection to and the use of the East Lyme sewerage system. The sewer rate public hearing will commence at 6:30PM. The proposed sewer rates and charges are as follows:

SCHEDULE I - RATES FOR USAGE based on meter readings at six month intervals.

	Rate
Minimum charge per six month period, for usage up to a maximum of 3,500 gallons per six month period	\$36.85
3,501 gallons, to 2,500,000 gallons per six month period	\$7.67/1,000 gallons
3,501 gallons, to over 2,500,000 gallons per six month period	\$7.81/1,000 gallons
Unmetered, per six 6 month period	\$201.70

SCHEDULE II - MISCELLANEOUS SEWER CHARGES

Application for Connection Permit	\$100.00
Class 'A'- Residential	\$200.00
Class 'B'- Multi Family and Commercial	\$500.00
Class 'C'- Industrial	\$50.00
Demolition/Disconnect-Any Class	\$50.00

SALE OF STOCKED MATERIALS	Cost, Incl. shipping, plus 12% admin. fee
---------------------------	---

INSPECTION SERVICES	
During Normal Working Hours	\$70.00/hour
After Normal Working Hours	\$105/hour

These proposed rates and charges would be effective on November 1, 2016. Rates for usage shall be payable at six month intervals. All other rates shall be payable at the time services are rendered.

The owners of properties against which the revised rates and charges are to be levied and other interested persons are invited to attend and be heard.

Dated at East Lyme, Connecticut on this 14th day of October 2016

EAST LYME WATER AND SEWER COMMISSION

Mark Nickerson, W&S Commission Chair

10-14-16

10-14-16  
TOWN OF EAST LYME  
WATER AND SEWER COMMISSION  
NOTICE OF ADOPTION OF WATER RATES

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN of a public hearing to be held by the East Lyme Water and Sewer Commission at the East Lyme Town Hall on Tuesday October 25, 2016 to consider proposed revisions to rates and charges for connection to and the use of the East Lyme water system. The water rate public hearing will commence immediately after the conclusion of a public hearing to be held on said date at said place regarding the sewer rates. The proposed water rates and charges are as follows:

SCHEDULE I - RATES FOR USAGE based on meter readings at six month intervals.

	Rate
Minimum charge per six month period, for usage up to a maximum of 3,500 gallons per six month period	\$57.85
3,501 gallons, to 40,000 gallons per six month period	\$4.26/1,000 gallons
3,501 gallons, to 675,000 gallons per six month period	\$4.70/1,000 gallons
3,501 gallons, to 2,500,000 gallons per six month period	\$5.13/1,000 gallons
3,501 gallons, to over 2,500,000 gallons per six month period	\$5.65/1,000 gallons

SCHEDULE II - MISCELLANEOUS WATER CHARGES

Application for Connection Permit	\$100.00
Class 'A'- Residential	\$200.00
Class 'B'- Multi Family and Commercial	\$500.00
Class 'C'- Industrial	\$50.00
Demolition/Disconnect-Any Class	\$50.00

ANNUAL PRIVATE HYDRANT CHARGE

\$200.00

ANNUAL FIRE SPRINKLER CHARGE

\$200.00

METER CHARGES (FLAT RATE)

Meter Deposits

5/8-3/4"	\$70.00
1"	\$93.00
1 1/2"	\$140.00
2"	\$187.00
3"	\$280.00

Frozen Meter Repair (normal working hours)

\$100.00

Frozen Meter Repair (after normal working hours)

\$150.00

Install/Disconnect Meter (normal working hours)

\$100.00

Install/Disconnect Meter (after normal working hours)

\$150.00

All Meter Tests

\$75.00

SALE OF WATER DEPT. STOCKED MATERIALS

Cost, incl. shipping, plus 12% admin. fee

INSPECTION SERVICES

During Normal Working Hours

\$70.00/hour

After Normal Working Hours

\$105/hour

TURN ON/SHUT OFF (FLAT RATE)

During Normal Dept. Working Hours (includes turn on & off and charged at the time of the turn on)

\$75.00

After Normal Dept. Working Hours

\$120.00

CONNECTION CHARGES

All services

\$2,500.00 min (actual cost)

These proposed rates and charges would be effective on November 1, 2016. Rates for usage shall be payable at six month intervals. All other rates shall be payable at the time services are rendered.

The owners of properties against which the revised rates and charges are to be levied and other interested persons are invited to attend and be heard.

Dated at East Lyme, Connecticut on this 14th day of October, 2016

EAST LYME WATER AND SEWER COMMISSION

Mark Nickerson, W&S Commission Chair

Attachment was put in II 10/25/16



# **PUBLIC HEARING ON WATER RATES**

**October 25, 2016  
6:30PM at the EL Town Hall**

# PUBLIC HEARING ON WATER RATES

October 25, 2016 6:30PM at the EL Town Hall



## What are the proposed changes?

1. We are proposing a 5% rate increase across the board thru all usage categories
2. We are dropping the first category from 50,000 to 40,000 as 81% of our customers fall within 40,000 usage over 6 months
3. We are proposing an additional usage category for over 2,500,000 gallons per six months for our highest users
4. We are proposing a \$5 fee on the minimum charge  
Min charge =  $((\$50.33 * 1.05) + \$5) = \$57.85$
5. Meter repair work is going up from \$75/\$120 (Reg/OT) to \$100/\$150, respectively.
6. Installing/disconnecting meters during normal work hours was at no charge before but is proposed to go up to \$100.
7. Installing/disconnecting meters after normal work hours is proposed to go up from \$120 to \$150.
8. All meter tests are now proposed at \$75.
9. Inspection Services are proposed to go up from \$65/\$97.50/hr (Reg/OT) to \$70/105/hr.
10. Seasonal customers used to be allowed one free turn on-turn off. As proposed, all turn on-turn offs would be \$75

## Why the increases are needed?

1. We are seeing a 44% decrease in usage from the prisons since March of this year causing a reduction in revenue from FY 15-16 and FY 14-15 of \$97k and \$143k, respectively. The prisons are by far our largest customer.
2. Because of this loss of revenue, we can't afford to give away from services that our staff is providing to the customers.
3. The Commission approved a 2.5% operating budget increase in April for this fiscal year. Because of the reduced revenues, we are making mid-year cuts in the amount of \$86k from our current year budget. This will make this year's budget \$18k less than last year's (0.6% reduction)
4. Our payroll will be approx \$33k less than last year as we have not filled the position of Water Supt upon that person's retirement in 1/16.
5. There was no new equipment purchased in this fiscal year.
6. The water system is now over 20 years old and we are seeing more needed repairs and water main breaks. We have had 6 water main breaks in the last 2 weeks alone.
7. We need this rate increase to provide the revenue to maintain our aging system.

**East Lyme Water and Sewer Commission**

**Analysis of Proposed Water Rates (5% increase)  
Six Month Billing Period  
10/20/2016**

Use Category	Gallons	Existing Rates (per 1000 gal)	Charge	Rev. Rates (5% Incr.) <sup>(1)</sup> (per 1000 gal)	Charge	Difference
1 Low User	3,500	\$50.33		\$57.85		
10,000 gal/6 mn	10,000	\$4.06	\$76.72	\$4.26	\$85.54	\$8.82
2 Medium User	3,500	\$50.33		\$57.85		
40,000 gal/6 mn	40,000	\$4.06	\$198.52	\$4.26	\$213.34	\$14.82
3 High User	3,500	\$50.33		\$57.85		
150,000 gal/6 mn	150,000	\$4.48	\$706.65	\$4.70	\$746.40	\$39.75
4 Very High User	3,500	\$50.33		\$57.85		
1,000,000 gal/6 mn	1,000,000	\$4.89	\$4,923.22	\$5.13	\$5,169.90	\$246.68

(1) Includes an additional \$5 fee for the min charge

**TOWN OF EAST LYME  
WATER AND SEWER COMMISSION  
NOTICE OF ADOPTION OF WATER RATES AND CHARGES**

CURRENT RATES

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that on October 27, 2015, the East Lyme Water and Sewer Commission approved the following revised schedule of rates and charges for connection to and use of the East Lyme water system. The revised water rates and charges are as follows:

**SCHEDULE I – RATES FOR USAGE based on meter readings at six month intervals.**

	<u>Rate</u>
<u>Minimum charge</u> per six month period, for usage up to a maximum of 3,500 gallons per six month period	\$50.33
<u>3,501 gallons</u> , to 50,000 gallons per six month period	\$4.06/1,000 gallons
<u>3,501 gallons</u> , to 675,000 gallons per six month period	\$4.48/1,000 gallons
<u>3,501 gallons</u> to over 675,000 gallons per six month period	\$4.89/1,000 gallons

**SCHEDULE II – MISCELLANEOUS WATER CHARGES**

Application for Connection Permit

Class 'A' - Residential	\$100.00
Class 'B' - Multi Family and Commercial	\$200.00
Class 'C' - Industrial	\$500.00
Demolition/Disconnect-Any Class	\$50.00

ANNUAL PRIVATE HYDRANT CHARGE \$200.00

ANNUAL FIRE SPRINKLER CHARGE \$200.00

METER CHARGES (FLAT RATE)

Meter Deposits

5/8-3/4"	\$70.00
1"	\$93.00
1 1/2"	\$140.00
2"	\$187.00
3"	\$280.00

Frozen Meter Repair (normal working hours)	\$75.00
Frozen Meter Repair (after normal working hours)	\$120.00
Install/Disconnect Meter (normal working hours)	No Charge
Install/Disconnect Meter (after normal working hours)	\$120.00
Meter Test (accurate within 2%)	\$75.00
Meter Test (meter error > 2%)	No Charge
SALE OF WATER DEPT. STOCKED MATERIALS	Cost, incl.

shipping, plus  
12% admin. fee

#### INSPECTION SERVICES

During Normal Working Hours	\$65.00/hour
After Normal Working Hours	\$97.50/hour

#### TURN ON/SHUT OFF (FLAT RATE)

During Normal Dept. Working Hours	No Charge
After Normal Dept. Working Hours	\$120.00
Seasonal Customer Turn On/Off > 1 per year	\$100.00
Turn On (after shut off for nonpayment of water bill, during normal working hours)	\$75.00

#### CONNECTION CHARGES

All services	\$2,500.00 min (actual cost)
--------------	---------------------------------

The revised rates and charges shall be effective on November 1, 2015. Rates for usage shall be payable at six months intervals. All other rates shall be payable at the time services are rendered.

Dated at East Lyme, Connecticut on this 27th day of October, 2015

EAST LYME WATER AND SEWER COMMISSION

By \_\_\_\_\_  
Mark Nickerson, W&S Commission Chair



PROPOSED

**TOWN OF EAST LYME  
WATER AND SEWER COMMISSION  
NOTICE OF ADOPTION OF WATER RATES**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN of a public hearing to be held by the East Lyme Water and Sewer Commission at the East Lyme Town Hall on Tuesday October 25, 2016 to consider proposed revisions to rates and charges for connection to and the use of the East Lyme water system. The water rate public hearing will commence immediately after the conclusion of a public hearing to be held on said date at said place regarding the sewer rates. The proposed water rates and charges are as follows:

**SCHEDULE I – RATES FOR USAGE** based on meter readings at six month intervals.

	<u>Rate</u>
<u>Minimum charge</u> per six month period, for usage up to a maximum of 3,500 gallons per six month period	\$57.85
<u>3,501 gallons</u> , to 40,000 gallons per six month period	\$4.26/1,000 gallons
<u>3,501 gallons</u> , to 675,000 gallons per six month period	\$4.70/1,000 gallons
<u>3,501 gallons</u> to 2,500,000 gallons per six month period	\$5.13/1.000 gallons
<u>3,501 gallons</u> to over 2,500,000 gallons per six month period	\$5.65/1.000 gallons

**SCHEDULE II – MISCELLANEOUS WATER CHARGES**

Application for Connection Permit	
Class 'A'- Residential	\$100.00
Class 'B'- Multi Family and Commercial	\$200.00
Class 'C'- Industrial	\$500.00
Demolition/Disconnect-Any Class	\$50.00
 ANNUAL PRIVATE HYDRANT CHARGE	 \$200.00
 ANNUAL FIRE SPRINKLER CHARGE	 \$200.00
 METER CHARGES (FLAT RATE)	
Meter Deposits	
5/8-3/4"	\$70.00
1"	\$93.00
1 1/2"	\$140.00
2"	\$187.00
3"	\$280.00
 Frozen Meter Repair (normal working hours)	 \$100.00
Frozen Meter Repair (after normal working hours)	\$150.00
Install/Disconnect Meter (normal working hours)	\$100.00

Install/Disconnect Meter (after normal working hours)	\$150.00
All Meter Tests	\$75.00
<b>SALE OF WATER DEPT. STOCKED MATERIALS</b>	Cost, incl. shipping, plus 12% admin. fee
<b>INSPECTION SERVICES</b>	
During Normal Working Hours	\$70.00/hour
After Normal Working Hours	\$105.00/hour
<b>TURN ON/SHUT OFF (FLAT RATE)</b>	
During Normal Dept. Working Hours (includes turn on & off and Charged at the time of the turn on)	\$75.00
After Normal Dept. Working Hours	\$120.00
<b>CONNECTION CHARGES</b>	
All services	\$2,500.00 min (actual cost)

These proposed rates and charges would be effective on November 1, 2016. Rates for usage shall be payable at six months intervals. All other rates shall be payable at the time services are rendered.

The owners of properties against which the revised rates and charges are to be levied and other interested persons are invited to attend and be heard.

Dated at East Lyme, Connecticut on this 14th day of October, 2016

EAST LYME WATER AND SEWER COMMISSION

Mark Nickerson, W&S Commission Chair

## Water Rate Survey - 2013

By Tighe & Bond

No.	Supplier	Annual Cost	No. of Accounts
1	Aquarion Water Company of CT - Eastern Division (Topstone)	814.20	355
2	Putnam, Town of	740.00	NA
3	Connecticut Water Company - South Coventry Division	729.00	90,000
4	Jewett City Water Company	672.00	1,868
5	Winsted Water Works	664.00	2,539
6	Connecticut Water Company - Mansfield Division	661.22	90,000
7	Connecticut Water Company - CT Water Division	643.80	90,000
8	Metropolitan District - Farmington	642.12	90,000
9	Southeastern CT Water Authority	639.00	2,990
10	Metropolitan District - Glastonbury	628.92	90,000
11	Metropolitan District - South Windsor	612.00	90,000
12	Aquarion Water Company of CT - Eastern Division (Area 2-United)	604.44	7,332
13	Metropolitan District - Nonmember	603.60	90,000
14	Connecticut Water Company - Gallup and Brookside Divisions	589.66	90,000
15	Colchester, Town of	566.00	4,500
16	Aquarion Water Company of CT - Eastern Division	561.14	128,640
17	Aquarion Water Company of CT - Southern Division	561.14	24,820
18	Norwalk First District Water Department (outside District)	547.64	11,000
19	Ledyard, Town of	541.00	1,600
20	East Hampton, Town of (WPCA)	531.48	125
21	South Central CT Regional Water Authority	527.09	
22	Groton Utilities	523.00	46,917
23	Norwich Public Utilities	517.00	10,497
24	South Norwalk Electric and Water (outside 2nd Taxing District)	515.04	9,000
25	Aquarion Water Company of CT - Eastern Division (Area 1-Variou)	513.37	285
26	Connecticut Water Company - Crystal Division	500.08	90,000
27	Tolland, Town of	486.40	529
28	Aquarion Water Company of CT - Western Division	477.34	25,951
29	Torrington Water Company	465.42	9,665
30	Connecticut Water Company - Middlebury Division	458.00	90,000
31	Avon Water Company	454.00	4,771
32	Portland, Town of	432.48	2,500
33	Salmon Brook District, Granby, CT	416.90	450
34	Metropolitan District - Member	404.64	90,000
35	Wallingford, Town of	402.20	14,172
36	Connecticut Water Company - Unionville Division	397.99	90,000
37	Connecticut Water Company - Ellington Acres Division	393.00	90,000
38	Aquarion Water Company of CT - Northern Division	390.00	5,453
39	Valley Water Systems, Inc. - Plainville	389.93	18,000
40	Sprague, Town of	388.80	327
41	Meriden Water Division	383.20	59,500
42	Windham, Town of (outside town)	370.16	1,900

43	Bethel, Town of	368.96	9,500
44	Hazardville Water Company	364.35	7,298
45	Watertown Fire District	349.00	NR
46	Cromwell Fire District	345.80	3,902
47	South Norwalk Electric and Water (within 2nd Taxing District)	343.32	9,000
<b>48</b>	<b>East Lyme Water and Sewer</b>	<b>342.00</b>	<b>6,545</b>
49	Bristol, City of	321.76	<del>18,500</del>
50	Southington Water Department	317.84	42,410
51	New Britain, City of	315.07	85,000
52	Middletown, City of	308.09	43,400
53	Manchester, Town of	307.80	15,851
54	Berlin Water Control	299.52	2516
55	Windham, Town of (inside town)	296.16	23,100
56	Norwalk First District Water Department (inside District)	295.00	11,000
57	Waterbury, City of	242.00	27,178
58	New London, City of	237.28	14,000
59	Danbury Public Utilities	161.36	11,254

Based on "typical" annual residential cost assuming consumption of 72,000 gal/year