

Town of Westport Public Hearing on Water/Sewer Rates on March 8, 2016

The meeting was called to order by Supervisor Tyler at 6:30p.m.

Members present:

Councilperson Page
Councilperson Paquette
Councilperson Viens
Councilperson Morrison
Supervisor Tyler

Others present:

George Hainer, Zoning & Codes Officer
Julie Schreiber, Town Clerk
Laura McDaniel, Gladys Siarkowski, Philip Siarkowski, James Herrmann,
Bill LaHendro

The clerk read the notice as published in the newspaper.

DISCUSSION – Supervisor Tyler stated that the yearly Operation & Maintenance charge on Westport water accounts is \$58. He suggested that the amount be lowered to \$28/year and that a \$30 Operation & Maintenance charge be added to Westport sewer accounts. Those that pay both water and sewer would not see a change in their overall bill amount, while those that only pay water would see a decrease. This change would add funds to the sewer reserve, which is significantly lower than the water reserve fund.

PUBLIC COMMENT -

Laura McDaniel – Where has the sewer been getting funds from up until now?

Supervisor Tyler – The sewer fund does take in money, but not in excess. The water fund gets additional revenue from timber sales.

Councilperson Page – Money from one fund cannot be used by another. For example, expenditures for Water District One must be funded by the Water One account.

George Hainer – This change will start putting funds away for necessary plant upgrades.

Phil Siarkowski – Since the water fund received funds from timber sales, can that be changed so that part of the sales go into the sewer account?

George – This has been tried in the past and many people were against it, believing that money earned in a district should stay within that district.

ADJOURNMENT – As there were no further questions or comments, Supervisor Tyler adjourned the meeting at 6:37 p.m.

Minutes respectfully submitted,

Julie Schreiber, Town Clerk