



Dan Van Schalkwyk, P.E., Director
Kimberly Abraham, Water and Sewer Superintendent
Matt Herson, P.E., Town Engineer
Lora Prescott, Business Manager

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Memorandum

Date: January 22, 2026
To: Robert Pontbriand, Town Manager
Barbara Tierney, Finance Manager
From: Dan Van Schalkwyk, P.E., DPW Director
Kimberly Abraham, Water and Sewer Superintendent
RE: FY 2027 Rate Schedule and Fees Review and Recommendations

Dear Robert and Barbara,

We have reviewed the Water and Sewer Rate Schedule and Fees and recommend the following adjustments.

Backflow Fees

With regards to fees for Backflow Tests (\$100) and Retests (\$75). A regular test is conducted either once or twice a year, based on the type of device and the hazard that is being protected against. A retest is conducted when a device fails, must be repaired or replaced, and then retested. It costs the Department the same amount of money to test a device whether it is a regular test or a retest. In addition, having the two different fees causes confusion when it is time to invoice a customer. **Therefore, we recommend the cost should be standardized to \$100 per test.**

Fire Service Connection Fees

With regards to the fees for new Fire Services. Our current Rate Schedule has fees established for 4"-12". Those rates are as follows:

Fire Service 4"	\$4,000.00
Fire Service 6"	\$6,000.00
Fire Service 8"	\$8,000.00
Fire Service 10"	\$10,000.00
Fire Service 12"	\$12,000.00

There is no rate for a 2" Fire Service for which we have had a few requests. **We recommend that a new rate be established for a 2" Fire Service at \$2,000.00.**

Water and Sewer Connection Fees

In addition to the water and sewer usage rates, there are several additional fees charged for specific water and sewer related activities. The primary fees are the Water and Sewer Connection Fees, which cover the past and future costs of providing the capacity in the water supply and wastewater collection and treatment system required for a new connection.

The connection fees are calculated on the estimated water usage and wastewater volume generated. The fees are based on the Equivalent Residential Unit (ERU) for the estimated cost to provide water and sewer service for a single family, 3-bedroom house (365 gpd water and 330 gpd wastewater).

The proposed fees have been calculated to include upcoming capital costs such as treatment media replacements, new well source construction, water storage maintenance at the water supplies, and Inflow / Infiltration removal in the sewer collection system.

The current and proposed Water and Sewer Connection fees are as follows:

<u>WATER</u>	<u>Current</u>	<u>Proposed</u>
Connection Fee* - 1" Service	\$4,800	\$5,100 (\$1,700 per bedroom)
Connection Fee* - 1 -1/2" Service	\$4,800	\$5,100 (\$1,700 per bedroom)
Connection Fee* - 2" Service	\$4,800	\$5,100 (\$1,700 per bedroom)

<u>SEWER</u>	<u>Current</u>	<u>Proposed</u>
Connection Fee*	\$6,000	\$6,375 (\$2,125 per bedroom)

The fees were calculated based on the cost of construction:

- Filter Media Replacements (Greensand)
- Estimated cost of the well number 3 and additional PFAS treatment for Spectacle Pond Wellfield
- Cost of 1-million-gallon storage tank
- Wastewater I/I removal

The connection fees do not include the costs of operating and maintaining the water and sewer systems as that is included in the rates, based on actual usage.

