

**WATER BUREAU
REGULAR MEETING**
555 Main Street, Hartford
Monday, November 17, 2025

Present: Commissioners Andrew Adil, Peter Gardow, Diane Lewis, Alvin Taylor, Chris Tierinni and District Chairman Donald M. Currey (6)

Remote

Attendance: Commissioners C. Avery Buell, Dimple Desai, John Gale, and Pasquale J. Salemi (4)

Absent: Commissioners Kyle Anderson, Jackie Mandyck and New Britain Representative Michael Carrier (3)

Also

Present: Commissioner John Bazzano
Commissioner William A. DiBella
Scott W. Jellison, Chief Executive Officer
Christopher Stone, District Counsel
John S. Mirtle, District Clerk
Kelly Shane, Chief Administrative Officer
Susan Negrelli, Director of Engineering
Robert Schwarm, Director of Information Systems (Remote Attendance)
Thomas Tyler, Director of Facilities
Dave Rutty, Director of Operations
Lisa Madison, Manager of Procurement
Jason Waterbury, Assistant Manager of Engineering
David Banker, Assistant Manager of Engineering Services (Remote Attendance)
Shereese Rodgers, Assistant Manager of Budget and Analysis (Remote Attendance)
Nick Salemi, Communications Administrator
Julie McLaughlin, Communications Administrator
Carrie Blardo, Assistant to the Chief Executive Officer
Victoria Escoriza, Assistant Administrative Officer and Special Assistant
Kevin Sullivan, IT Consultant (Remote Attendance)
Matt McAuliffe, IT Consultant (Remote Attendance)
Elizabeth Tavelli, Independent Consumer Advocate

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Adil at 4:03 PM

PUBLIC COMMENT RELATIVE TO AGENDA ITEMS

No one from the public appeared to be heard.

INDEPENDENT CONSUMER ADVOCATE COMMENTS & QUESTIONS RELATIVE TO AGENDA ITEMS

The Independent Consumer Advocate did not have any comments or questions.

APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES

Commissioner Gardow requested the September 29, 2025 minutes be updated to include his request for a future item regarding the Coppermill Road and Garden Street public outreach meetings. On motion made by Commissioner Tierinni and duly seconded, the meeting minutes of September 29, 2025 were approved.

REVISIONS TO DISTRICT WATER RATES

To: Water Bureau for consideration on November 17, 2025

The 2026 budget in support of Water Operations calls for unchanged water use charge; however, the customer service charge, fixed surcharge, fire protection rates, and the surcharge outside the Metropolitan District for capital improvements will change. These rates will become effective January 1, 2026. A discussion of several rates that comprise the proposed schedule for 2026 and the recommendations pertaining to each follows:

Water Used Charge – Treated Water

Staff recommends that the rate charged for the use of treated water based on actual metered consumption ***remain unchanged at \$3.91 per CCF.***

Water Used Charge – Untreated Water

The District provides untreated water to other agencies and water companies for a fixed rate based on actual consumption. The current rate for this untreated or “raw” water is \$1.50 per hundred cubic feet of consumption. Staff recommends that the rate charged for the use of untreated water based on actual consumption ***remain unchanged at \$1.50 per CCF.***

Customer Service Charge

Revenues from this customer service charge are intended to support a portion of the fixed operating, maintenance and debt costs associated with water operations. Staff recommends that the following Customer Service Charges by meter size change as follows:

<u>SIZE OF METER</u>	<u>MONTHLY BILLING</u>
5/8"	\$14.98 \$15.73
3/4"	\$14.98 \$15.73
1"	\$14.98 \$15.73
1 1/2"	\$48.60 \$49.35
2"	\$77.80 \$78.55
3"	\$145.89 \$146.64
4"	\$243.55 \$244.30
6"	\$486.07 \$486.82
8"	\$771.16 \$771.91
10"	\$1,777.77 \$1,778.52
12"	\$1,896.38 \$1,897.13

Surcharge Outside the Metropolitan District

A fixed "surcharge" rate is currently added to all accounts for service outside the boundaries of the District. The surcharge is based on the size of the meter that serves each delivery point. There is currently a draft ordinance revision before the Committee on MDC Government to exclude meters installed on dedicated fire services from the surcharge. Revenues from this charge are for the reimbursement of assets deployed. The surcharge rates have been set at the same rates as the Customer Service Charges. Staff recommends that the following fixed Surcharge Outside the Metropolitan District by meter size change as follows:

<u>SIZE OF METER</u>	<u>MONTHLY BILLING</u>
5/8"	\$14.98 \$15.73
3/4"	\$14.98 \$15.73
1"	\$14.98 \$15.73
1 1/2"	\$48.60 \$49.35
2"	\$77.80 \$78.55
3"	\$145.89 \$146.64
4"	\$243.55 \$244.30
6"	\$486.07 \$486.82
8"	\$771.16 \$771.91
10"	\$1,777.77 \$1,778.52
12"	\$1,896.38 \$1,897.13

Surcharge Outside The Metropolitan District for Capital Improvements

A fixed "surcharge" rate is currently added to all accounts for service outside the boundaries of the District. The surcharge is based on the size of the meter that serves each delivery point. There is currently a draft ordinance revision before the Committee on MDC Government to exclude meters installed on dedicated fire services from the surcharge. Revenues from this charge are for the reimbursement of capital improvement projects outside the District. Staff recommends that the following fixed Surcharge Outside the Metropolitan District by meter size change as follows:

MONTHLY BILLING

METER SIZE	Farmington		Glastonbury		South Windsor		Manchester	
	<u>2025</u>	<u>2026</u>	<u>2025</u>	<u>2026</u>	<u>2025</u>	<u>2026</u>	<u>2025</u>	<u>2026</u>
5/8"	\$1.88	\$1.78	\$1.50	\$1.75	\$1.18	\$1.35	\$2.68	\$2.63
3/4"	-	-	\$2.25	\$2.63	\$1.78	\$2.03	-	-
1"	\$3.76	\$3.57	\$3.00	\$3.51	\$2.37	\$2.71	\$5.36	\$5.25
1 1/2"	\$7.53	\$7.13	\$6.00	\$7.02	\$4.74	\$5.41	-	-
2"	\$141.13	\$133.73	\$112.50	\$131.58	\$88.86	\$101.47	-	-
3"	\$329.29	\$312.04	\$262.49	\$307.02	\$207.34	\$236.76	\$469.05	\$459.80
4"	\$564.51	\$534.92	\$449.99	\$526.32	\$355.44	\$405.88	-	-
6"	\$752.67	\$713.23	\$599.98	\$701.76	\$473.92	-	\$1,072.10	\$1,050.96
8"	\$1,881.68	\$1,783.06	-	-	-	-	-	-

Private Fire Protection Charge

Rates for private fire protection are charged to all fire service accounts, including combination services, based on the size of the service connection. Staff recommends monthly that the monthly Private Fire Protection charges change as follows:

<u>SIZE OF CONNECTION</u>	<u>MONTHLY CHARGE</u>
1"	\$5.00 \$5.50
2"	\$22.85 \$23.35
3"	\$33.75 \$49.50
4"	\$60.00 \$88.00
6"	\$135.00 \$198.00
8"	\$240.00 \$352.00
10"	\$375.00 \$550.00
12"	\$540.00 \$792.00
16"	\$960.00 \$1,408.00
20"	\$1,500.00 \$2,200.00
24"	\$2,160.00 \$3,168.00

Conclusion

Staff believes that the foregoing rate recommendations are justified, reflect the sound financial administration that has earned the District support among credit rating agencies and financial advisors, and are consistent with the policy direction of the Commission.

It is **RECOMMENDED** that it be:

Voted: That the Water Bureau, acting under Section 5-4 of the District Charter, approves the following 2026 water rates:

Further Voted: That the Water Bureau, acting under Section 5-4 of the District Charter, establishes revised water rates effective with the meter readings rendered on and after January 1, 2026, as set forth in the following **"REVISIONS TO WATER SUPPLY RATES & ORDINANCES."**

**Further
Voted:**

That following the public hearing held on November 12, 2025, as required by Special Act 01-3 adopted by the General Assembly of the State of Connecticut, and Section 2-14 of the Compiled Charter of The Metropolitan District, the Water Bureau recommends to the District Board, through the Committee on MDC Government, approval of the following **“REVISIONS TO WATER SUPPLY RATES & ORDINANCES”** by the enactment of said proposed ordinances. (Additions or revisions are indicated in red and deletions by strikethrough).

REVISIONS TO WATER SUPPLY RATES & ORDINANCES

SEC. W1a WATER USED CHARGE (TREATED WATER)

For customers which do not resell treated water, the WATER USED CHARGE is the quantity of water used as read at the meter, as follows:

<u>BILLS RENDERED MONTHLY</u>	<u>RATE</u>
	\$3.91 per 100 Cubic Feet

The WATER USED CHARGE for such customers subject to § S12x of The Metropolitan District Sewer Ordinances who purchase more than 802 CCF of water per day, as averaged over a monthly billing period, as follows:

For each of the first 802 CCF of water used per day:

<u>BILLS RENDERED MONTHLY</u>	<u>RATE</u>
	\$3.91 per 100 Cubic Feet

For each CCF of water used per day in excess of 802 CCF:

<u>BILLS RENDERED MONTHLY</u>	<u>RATE</u>
	\$3.16 per 100 Cubic Feet

For customers which, by agreement with the District or otherwise, resell treated water, the WATER USED CHARGE is the quantity of water used as read at the meter, as follows:

<u>BILLS RENDERED MONTHLY</u>	<u>RATE</u>
	\$3.91 per 100 Cubic Feet

SEC. W1b CUSTOMER SERVICE CHARGE

The CUSTOMER SERVICE CHARGE is a service charge applicable to all metered services and services to be metered. The charge shall be determined from the size of each meter installed or to be installed on the premises, as follows:

<u>SIZE OF METER</u>	<u>MONTHLY BILLING</u>
5/8"	\$14.98 \$15.73
3/4"	\$14.98 \$15.73
1"	\$14.98 \$15.73
1 1/2"	\$48.60 \$49.35
2"	\$77.80 \$78.55
3"	\$145.89 \$146.64

4"	\$243.55 \$244.30
6"	\$486.07 \$486.82
8"	\$771.16 \$771.91
10"	\$1,777.77 \$1,778.52
12"	\$1,896.38 \$1,897.13

SEC. W1c SURCHARGE OUTSIDE THE METROPOLITAN DISTRICT

In towns outside the limits of The Metropolitan District, in addition to charges under SEC. W1a and W1b, there shall be a surcharge determined from the size of the meter installed on the premises, excluding meters installed on dedicated fire services, as follows:

<u>SIZE OF METER</u>	<u>MONTHLY BILLING</u>
5/8"	\$14.98 \$15.73
3/4"	\$14.98 \$15.73
1"	\$14.98 \$15.73
1 1/2"	\$48.60 \$49.35
2"	\$77.80 \$78.55
3"	\$145.89 \$146.64
4"	\$243.55 \$244.30
6"	\$486.07 \$486.82
8"	\$771.16 \$771.91
10"	\$1,777.77 \$1,778.52
12"	\$1,896.38 \$1,897.13

SEC. W1d CHARGES FOR UNTREATED WATER

Charges for untreated water sold to water companies and agencies under agreement between The Metropolitan District and such companies or agencies, or by other arrangement, shall be a rate of \$1.50 per hundred cubic feet.

SEC. W1f SURCHARGE OUTSIDE THE METROPOLITAN DISTRICT FOR CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS

In towns outside the limits of The Metropolitan District for which capital improvements or layout and assessment projects are constructed, in addition to the charges set forth in SEC. W1a, W1b and W1c, there shall be a surcharge on the water rates determined from the size of the meter installed on the premises, excluding meters installed on dedicated fire services, as follows:

1. On or before the end of each fiscal year, The Metropolitan District shall determine the actual cost of each capital improvement constructed for each non-member town and the net cost (cost less assessments) of layout and assessment projects constructed for each non-member town. The costs and/or net costs, as applicable, shall be allocated to the towns for which the work was performed and shall be a surcharge on the water rates of the users located in such towns.
2. The annual surcharge to be added to each user's water rate shall equal the total amount of the costs and/or net costs, as applicable, allocated to the town in which such user is located [excluding costs which the town has paid as set forth in Section W1f(3)] amortized over a twenty year period using an interest rate computed by the District which approximates the District's long-term cost of funds for its General Obligation Bond portfolio-multiplied by the percentage of

hydraulic capacity of each user's meter size (based on the American Water Works Association meter size capacity) of the aggregate hydraulic capacity of all meters in such town excluding meters installed on dedicated fire services. The surcharge shall be billed in ~~either quarterly or~~ monthly installments, ~~as applicable~~, commencing with the first bill sent out in the fiscal year succeeding the fiscal year in which the work was performed and continuing over the twenty year period.

3. The District shall, as soon as possible after the completion of each capital improvement project or separate phase thereof, provide to the non-member towns for which a capital improvement was constructed a compilation of the costs associated with the construction of such project(s). If, on or before the end of the District's fiscal year in which such construction was completed, a non-member town agrees to pay and does in fact pay all or a portion of the cost of a capital improvement constructed for such town, then the amount paid by such town shall be deducted from the total amount of costs and/or net costs allocated to such town as described in Section W1f(1) and used to calculate the individual surcharges as set forth in Section W1f(2).

MONTHLY BILLING

METER SIZE	Farmington		Glastonbury		South Windsor		Manchester	
	<u>2025</u>	<u>2026</u>	<u>2025</u>	<u>2026</u>	<u>2025</u>	<u>2026</u>	<u>2025</u>	<u>2026</u>
5/8"	\$1.88	\$1.78	\$1.50	\$1.75	\$1.18	\$1.35	\$2.68	\$2.63
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1"	\$3.76	\$3.57	\$3.00	\$3.51	\$2.37	\$2.71	\$5.36	\$5.25
1 1/2"	\$7.53	\$7.13	\$6.00	\$7.02	\$4.74	\$5.41	-	-
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4"	\$564.51	\$534.92	\$449.99	\$526.32	\$355.44	\$405.88	-	-
6"	\$752.67	\$713.23	\$599.98	\$701.76	\$473.92	-	\$1,072.10	\$1,050.96
8"	\$1,881.68	\$1,783.06	-	-	-	-	-	-

SEC. W6f CHARGES FOR PRIVATE FIRE PROTECTION SERVICE

Rates for private fire protection are charged to all fire service accounts, including combination services, based on the size of the service connection.

<u>SIZE OF CONNECTION</u>	<u>MONTHLY CHARGE</u>
1"	\$5.00 \$5.50
2"	\$22.85 \$23.35
3"	\$33.75 \$49.50
4"	\$60.00 \$88.00
6"	\$135.00 \$198.00
8"	\$240.00 \$352.00
10"	\$375.00 \$550.00
12"	\$540.00 \$792.00
16"	\$960.00 \$1,408.00
20"	\$1,500.00 \$2,200.00
24"	\$2,160.00 \$3,168.00

Respectfully submitted,


John S. Mirtle
District Clerk

On motion made by Commissioner Gardow and duly seconded, the report was received and resolution passed by unanimous vote of those present.

REVISIONS TO WATER ASSESSMENT RATES AND MISCELLANEOUS WATER CHARGES

To: Water Bureau for consideration on November 17, 2025

In support of the annual water operating budget, staff is submitting these rates in conjunction with the revisions to the proposed Fiscal Year 2026 water rates and other peripheral charges associated with the delivery and sale of water as part of the annual budget adoption process.

Staff has reviewed these rates in light of the costs associated with them on a 'typical' model basis and makes the following recommendations:

It is **RECOMMENDED** that it be:

Voted: That the Water Bureau hereby adopts the following schedule of fees effective January 1, 2026:

Water Assessment Rates and Miscellaneous Water Charges

	<u>CURRENT</u>	<u>PROPOSED</u>
<u>Main Pipe Assessment</u>	\$95/ft	\$95/ft
<u>Service Pipe Taps Domestic & Fire Meter Cost</u>		
<u>Domestic</u> (includes spacer and meter costs):		
1" Service Tap with 5/8" Meter	\$910	\$360
1" Service Tap with 3/4" Meter	\$945	\$395
1-1/2" Service Tap with 1" Meter	\$1,100	\$675
2" Service Tap with 1-1/2" Meter	\$2,130	\$725
4" Service Tap with 2" Meter	\$2,335	\$910
4" Service Tap with 3" Meter	\$3,640	\$2,215
6" Service Tap with 4" Meter	\$4,190	\$2,765
8" Service Tap with 6" Meter	\$5,970	\$4,545
10" Service Tap with 8" Meter	\$15,850	\$14,425
12" Service Tap with 10" Meter	\$18,120	\$16,695
12" Service Tap with 12" Meter	\$18,810	\$17,385
<u>Fire Service Taps</u>		
1" Service Tap	N/A	\$550
1-1/2" & 2" Fire Service Tap	\$1,590	\$1,750
4" and Larger Fire Service Tap	\$1,370	\$1,425

	<u>CURRENT</u>	<u>PROPOSED</u>
Hydrants		
Installed after the main	\$15,000	\$15,000
Hydrant Maintenance	\$165	\$170
Hydrant Relocation	\$15,000 deposit +/- actual cost + overhead	\$15,000 deposit +/- actual cost + overhead
Fire Flow Testing	\$480	\$480
<u>Special Meter Charges and Deposits:</u>		
Hydrant Meters		
Administrative and meter reading fee, including connection and inspection fees + actual water use to be billed	\$1,500	\$1,500
Hydrant Meter Deposit	\$2,000	\$3,250
Replacement of Damaged District Meters		
5/8" meter	\$360	\$500
3/4" meter	\$375	\$550
1" meter	\$445	\$575
1-1/2" meter	\$1,140	\$1,140
2" meter	\$1,250	\$1,250
3" meter	\$2,630	\$2,775
4" meter	\$3,180	\$3,550
6" meter	\$5,090	\$7,150
8" meter	\$14,840	\$14,840
10" meter	\$17,110	\$17,110
12" meter	\$17,800	\$17,800
Hydrant meter assembly	\$2,000	\$3,250
Meter box pit (5/8"- 1")	\$1,750	\$1,750
Meter pit (1 ½ " and 2" without bypass)	\$5,500	\$5,500
Meter pit (1 ½ " and 2" with bypass)	\$6,000	\$6,000
Meter pit (3 ½" and Larger)	Actual Cost* + Overhead	Actual Cost* + Overhead
Radio transmitter unit	\$212	\$225
Spacer Charges		
5/8", 3/4"	\$160	\$160
1"	\$181	\$181
1-1/2"	\$225	\$250
2" & larger	\$250	\$300
3rd Party Damage to District Infrastructure	Actual Cost* +	Actual Cost* +
Repair or Replacement (e.g. public hydrants)	Overhead	Overhead

* The charge will be the District's cost of material, labor and equipment used, plus overhead at prevailing rates. In circumstances where this procedure for charging a customer would significantly delay the final billing, the District will use an appropriate estimate of its cost.

	<u>CURRENT</u>	<u>PROPOSED</u>
Lien Release Fee per Lien <i>(includes delinquent account review)</i>	\$90	\$100
Customer Check Returned for Insufficient Funds	\$60	\$60
Water Turn-on after Shut-off for Non-Payment or Ordinance Violation	\$170	\$225
Water Turn-on after Shut-off for Non-Payment or Ordinance Violation (subsequent event in same year)	\$225	\$275
Customer Private Property Service Call* <i>e.g. lack of water pressure, leak investigation, customer requested water service off/on, etc.</i> <i>*First customer service call is free of charge.</i> <i>The \$125 \$200 fee will be charged for subsequent calls within a rolling 12-month time period.</i>	\$125	\$200
Inspection Service Calls – After Normal Work Hours and Scheduled Overtime/Emergency Inspections <i>After Normal Work Hours are Monday to Friday 4pm to 8am or holidays/weekends.</i>	\$415	\$550
Cross Connection Inspection Fee per building <i>Required by CT Dept. of Public Health. Per DPH regulation, this inspection is required either annually or every five years. The fee will be billed monthly in advance in the amount of either \$2.50 per month (5-year inspection required) or \$12.50 per month (annual inspection required).</i>	\$150	\$150
Backflow Device Testing per device <i>Required by CT Dept. of Public Health but customer may hire private contractor to perform test</i>	\$115	\$115
Property Change of Ownership Administrative Fee <i>Administrative support of customer property sales including coordination with closing attorneys, midcycle meter readings & bill issuance for closing, closeout of customer accounts & opening new customer account.</i>	\$110	\$110
Failure to Properly Test/Maintain Backflow Device or Allow Access for Cross Connection Inspection Resulting in CT DPH Violation	\$225	\$225

	<u>CURRENT</u>	<u>PROPOSED</u>
Administrative Review for Water Services <i>Includes but not limited to the following individual services; availability and capacity analysis, assessment/connection charge calculations, encroachment permits, abandonment of infrastructure, Engineering/Environmental survey and documentation request, new hydrant installation fee by developer or other (per hydrant). The Administrative Review fee shall be paid for each individual service item.</i>	\$670	\$670
Bulk Water Truck Convenience Fee <i>Per load fixed fee including administrative, water, equipment maintenance, and inspection.</i>	\$75 per load	\$100 per load
Tampering with meter, hydrant or water supply First offense Subsequent offenses	\$500 \$1,000	\$500 \$1,000
Water Service Installation Charge <i>MDC will install the customer's water service from the public water main to the property line.</i>	\$150 per foot	\$180 per foot

Respectfully submitted,



John S. Mirtle
District Clerk

On motion made by Commissioner Gardow and duly seconded, the report was received and resolution passed by unanimous vote of those present.

TUNXIS CLUB LEASE

District Counsel Christopher Stone provided a briefing regarding the expired lease with the Tunxis Club in Granville, Massachusetts.

TOWN OF PORTLAND WATER AGREEMENT

At 4:47 PM, District Chairman Currey requested an executive session to discuss Agenda Item #8 "Town of Portland Water Agreement", based upon a pending claim.

On a motion made by District Chairman Currey and duly seconded, the District Board entered into executive session.

Those in attendance during the executive session:

Commissioners Andrew Adil, Avery Buell (Remote), John Gale (Remote), Peter Gardow, Diane Lewis, Pasquale J. Salemi (Remote), Alvin Taylor, Chris Tierinni and District Chairman Donald M. Currey; Chief Executive Officer Scott W. Jellison; Chief Administrative Officer Kelly Shane; Director of Operations Dave Rutty, Director of Engineering Susan Negrelli, District Counsel Christopher Stone; and Assistant District Counsel/District Clerk John Mirtle.

RECONVENE

At 5:48 P.M., Chairman Adil requested to come out of Executive Session and on motion made by Commissioner Taylor and duly seconded, the District Board came out of executive session and reconvened.

Commissioner Gale made a motion to extend the current agreement with the Town of Portland until June 30, 2026, after which, as of July 1, 2026, Option 1, as set forth by the Chief Executive Officer for any additional water shall be in effect. The motion was duly seconded and resolution passed by unanimous vote of those present.

Option 1:

- 600,000 GPD- Take or Pay
- 1.1MGD Safe Yield
- \$381k increase

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 5:49 PM

ATTEST:



John S. Mirtle
District Clerk

Date of Approval

**Video of the full November 17, 2025 Water Bureau meeting is available at
<https://www.youtube.com/@MetropolitanDistrictCommission> **