

**JOINT PUBLIC HEARING OF THE
BOARD OF FINANCE AND WATER BUREAU
The Metropolitan District
555 Main Street
Hartford, Connecticut 06103
Wednesday, November 16, 2016**

Present: Commissioners Daniel A. Camilliere, Timothy Curtis, Janice Flemming-Bulter, Allen Hoffman, Maureen Magnan, James Needham, Mark A. Pappa, Whit Osgood, Bhupen Patel, J. Lawrence Price, Pasquale J. Salemi, Alvin Taylor; District Chairman William A. DiBella, Citizen Member Angelo, Chief Executive Officer Scott W. Jellison, Deputy Chief Executive Officer of Business Services John M. Zinzarella, District Counsel R. Bartley Halloran; Assistant District Counsel Christopher R. Stone, Director of Finance Rob Constable, Director of Engineering Sue Negrelli, Director of Information Technology Robert Schwarm, Director of Procurement Kelly Shane, Director of Human Resources Robert Zaik, Special Services Administrator Nick Salemi, Executive Assistant Cindy Nadolny and District Clerk John Mirtle

**PUBLIC HEARING ON PROPOSED REVISIONS TO
WATER ORDINANCES AND 2017 PROPOSED BUDGET**

Commissioner Curtis and Commissioner Salemi, acting as Co-Chairs, called the public hearing to order at 5:31 P.M.

Board of Finance Chairman Salemi read the following statement:

“This is a joint public hearing by The Metropolitan District’s Board of Finance and Water Bureau. The Board of Finance will receive public input on the proposed 2017 budget for The Metropolitan District.”

“On November 4, 2016, the 2017 proposed budget was posted on www.themdc.org and distributed to member municipalities’ town clerks offices. At its November 9th meeting, the Board of Finance referred the proposed budget to the District Board. A final decision on the 2017 proposed budget has yet to be made. The District Board will consider and approve a final budget at its December 5, 2016 public meeting, and will take into account what is said at this hearing.”

Water Bureau Chairman Curtis read the following statement:

“This is a public hearing to consider the proposed revision to The Metropolitan District’s Water Supply Ordinances. The proposed revisions include Sections W1a “Water Used Charge (Treated Water), W1b “Customer Service Charge”, W1c “Surcharge Outside The Metropolitan District”, W1d “Charges for Untreated Water”, W6f “Charges for Private Fire Protection Service” and W5a “Charges For Service Pipe”. This Public Hearing is part of the legal procedure that The Metropolitan District is required to follow regarding the revision of any of its

ordinances, as mandated by Special Act 01-3 of the Connecticut General Assembly of 2001.”

“A final decision on the proposed ordinances revision has yet to be made. That decision will ultimately be made by the District Board of The Metropolitan District, and will take into account what is said at this hearing.

“The District Clerk will now read, for the record, the notice of this public hearing.”

At the direction of the Chairmen, Mr. Mirtle read the following:

The following hearing notice was published in the Hartford Courant on November 4, 2016 and again on November 11, 2016; and the notice and the complete text of the proposed ordinance revision was filed, for public inspection, in the office of the town clerk in each municipality that is a member town of The Metropolitan District.

**NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING
BOARD OF FINANCE AND WATER BUREAU JOINT PUBLIC HEARING
2017 PROPOSED BUDGET AND
PROPOSED REVISIONS TO WATER ORDINANCES
The Metropolitan District
555 Main Street
Hartford, Connecticut**

Pursuant to Special Act 01-3, as adopted by the General Assembly of the State of Connecticut, and Section 2-14 of the Charter of The Metropolitan District, the Board of Finance and Water Bureau of The Metropolitan District will hold a joint public hearing on the 2017 proposed budget and proposed revisions to The District’s Water Supply Ordinances as they apply to the water rates for the fiscal year 2017. The hearing will be held in the Board Room at Metropolitan District Headquarters, 555 Main Street, Hartford, Connecticut, on Wednesday, **November 16, 2016 at 5:30p.m.**

Proposed changes to the rates stipulated under the following sections of the Water Supply Ordinances will be considered:

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|--------------------|--|
| Section W1a | Water Used Charge (Treated Water) |
| Section W1b | Customer Service Charge |
| Section W1c | Surcharge Outside The Metropolitan District |
| Section W1d | Charges for Untreated Water |
| Section W6f | Charges for Private Fire Protection Service |

Further proposed ordinance revisions unrelated to water rates:

Section W5a Charges for Service Pipe

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE OF REVISION TO W5a: To update the MDC Water Ordinances in order to implement a Water Service Installation Program.

The proposed ordinance revisions are available for inspection at the Office of the District Clerk of The Metropolitan District, 555 Main Street, Hartford and www.themdc.org/district-board.

All interested parties from The Metropolitan District's member municipalities may appear to be heard.

John S. Mirtle, Esq.
District Clerk

Chairmen Curtis and Salemi opened the floor to any members of the public whom wished to speak relative to the proposed Metropolitan District Water Supply Ordinances and 2017 Proposed Budget.

Judy Allen of 25 Fowler Drive, West Hartford, spoke on behalf of Save our Water Connecticut, regarding Niagara, high volume water discounts, and the special sewer service charge.

Corey Tucker of 310 Cherry Brook Road, Canton, spoke regarding the MDC Reservoirs, natural resources and recycling.

Marie Lorenzo of 97 Hubbard Drive, Glastonbury, spoke regarding water conservation.

Susan Kniep of 50 Old Roberts Street, East Hartford, spoke in opposition of rate increases and in opposition of the Ad Valorem plan.

Shari Cantor, Mayor of West Hartford, spoke regarding the Ad Valorem plan and suggested that the MDC issue a TAN if Hartford is unable to pay their portion of the Ad Valorem.

Peter Privitera, CFO of the Town of West Hartford, spoke regarding the impact of the Ad Valorem Plan on the Town of West Hartford. He urged the MDC to consider other options.

Ron Van Winkle, Town Manager of West Hartford, spoke regarding the impact of the Ad Valorem Plan on the Town of West Hartford. He also suggested that the MDC issue a TAN to offset costs or possible sewer fees for customers.

Dr. JoAnne Bauer, of 25 North Beacon Street, Hartford, Chairperson of Hartford's Advisory Commission on the Environment, and a member of Save Our Water Connecticut, spoke in opposition of the proposed rate increases. She also spoke in opposition of Niagara Bottling.

Tim Wolf of 4 Guernsey Road, Bloomfield, spoke in opposition of the water rate increase and in opposition of the high volume water discount.

Elizabeth Yetman of 82 Robin Road, Windsor, spoke in opposition of the budget increases.

Sara Frey of 34 Walton Drive, West Hartford, spoke in opposition of the high volume water discount.

Sharon Byron of Simsbury, spoke in opposition of Niagara.

Tollie Miller of Bloomfield and on behalf of Save Our Water Connecticut, spoke regarding the high quality and value of water in Connecticut, and spoke in opposition of the high volume water discount.

Gail Budrejko of 21 Isabelle Terrace, Newington, spoke regarding long term budgeting in Hartford and Member Towns.

Thomas Henman of Burlington, spoke regarding long term water conservation and spoke in opposition to the high volume water discounts.

Sue Lavoy of West Hartford spoke on behalf of Sisters of Mercy and Save our Water Connecticut. She explained a corporate stand on water, created by the Sisters of Mercy in 2009, supporting actions to protect water as a resource, and opposing bottling water, except in circumstances where potable water is not available.

Jeff Bridges, Town Manager of Wethersfield, spoke about the balance between responsibilities as a regional body and protecting the interest of local residents. He also spoke about funding local government in the 21st century.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 6:34 P.M.

ATTEST:

John S. Mirtle, Esq.
District Clerk

Date of Approval