

2024 WATER WORKSHOP #1

January 18th, 2024 at 10am

Keene Town Hall

Present: Joe Pete Wilson, Teresa Palen, Chris Daly, Ann Hough
Savana Li, Tina Preston

Call to order at: 10:03

Workshop Topics of Discussion

1. Billing Cycle

See handout #1
Savana presented options for billing 2 times/year. Bill will be for the whole year, but you can pay half or entire bill. Discussion of sending out bill & then a reminder. Savana will provide the details of the new billing cycle for Board to vote on at ~~next~~ Jan. 30 Bi-monthly meeting.

2. Billing Categories

Savana presented the new categories of Board members discussed.

3. Category Definitions

See handout #3
Savana answered questions about each category and board members discussed possible variations on each category. Savana will make changes to low traffic commercial definition & send out to board members.

4. Set Date for Next Workshop

Adjourn: 11:10 AM

Handout #1

Water Department

Discussed these items under Agenda Item #1

BILLING CYCLE PROPOSAL:

The water superintendent would like to propose that we change our current billing practice of billing once a year to twice a year. She has confirmed with the county that the billing program is capable of billing twice a year. In hopes that this will bring some sense of relief to the residences paying for water.

How this would work:

1. The yearly bill would be split in half and billed out separately
2. The rears from the first bill will be carried over to the second cycle with no penalty applied
3. No penalties would be applied until after the second bill became past due.
4. The penalty will be 10% of the amount that is due the day after the second billing cycle due date.
5. The board would vote on one anticipated water list for both cycles
6. Residents must come to the water superintendent within 7 days of receiving their first bill with any disputes

Updates, Announcements & Requests

Did not discuss this.

1. The first water workshop will be January 18th, 2024 at 10am in the Town Hall, we will be discussing new potential categories and the criteria for them. The public is welcome to attend but only to observe.
2. No new updates in water district 1
3. In water district 2 the ups back up system (memory bank) has been replaced at the booster station.
4. Spoke with Marlene from Department of Health she stated that we did everything correctly when applying for WIIA and that we did score well. There were just so many other systems in crisis that we did not get the funding. That we should apply for the next round
5. The Water Superintendent would like to request permission to spend up to \$1,000.00 on tools and hardware to set up the new work trailer.

~~Handout~~
Sawana presented the time line to make all these
Changes in time to implement in
2024
Proposed Water Schedule

Water Rate Workshop: February 1st @ 10am

Adopt New Categories, Definitions & Rates: February 13th @ 530pm (board meeting)

Adopt Anticipated Water List: February 27th @ 530pm (board meeting)

First Bill Distributed: April 1st

Handle Disputes: April 9th @ 530pm (board meeting)

First Bill Due: May 1st

Second Bill Distributed: September 2nd

Second Bill Due: October 2nd

Relevy To County: November (usually second week)

Agenda Item # 2 @ #3

2024 Proposed Billing Categories & Definitions 1st Draft

OPTION ONE:

Residential/Rental

Retail Commercial

Food Service/Hospitality Commercial

Commercial

Extension

Residential/Rental – The primary structure of full time residency and/or seasonally occupied for dwelling purposes and can only be occupied by one family at a time. A separate charge will be made for each type of use on the property.

Retail Commercial – A business operation selling a service and/or merchandise but does not provide public restrooms, lodging or food service. And does create a profit.

Food Service/Hospitality Commercial – A business operation providing food, drink, lodging and accommodations for individuals. This includes a structure that can house 3 or more parties at one given time.

Commercial – A business operation that may contain public restrooms while providing a service but is not creating a profit.

Extension – Water use that is not part of the residential or commercial use. Such as but not limited pools, fountains, decorative landscaping, recreational use. This includes accessory dwelling units that are not being used for rental or commercial purposes.

Handout #3

OPTION TWO:

Residential/Rental

Low Traffic Commercial

High Traffic Commercial

Extension

Agenda items # 2 & 3 DISCUSSION

Residential/Rental – The primary structure of full time residency and/or seasonally occupied for dwelling purposes and can only be occupied by one family at a time. A separate charge will be made for each type of use on the property.

High Traffic Commercial – A business operation that meets 1 or more of the following criteria:

1. Department of Health regulated food service and/or lodging
2. Irrigation
3. Commercial Kitchen
4. Commercial Laundry
5. Lodging
6. Food Service
7. Public Restrooms
8. Public Pool

Low Traffic Commercial – A business operation that meets 1 or more of the following criteria:

1. Restrooms Limited to clients and employees
2. No Commercial Kitchen
3. No Lodging
4. No Commercial Laundry

} eliminate these & replace with dd commercial definition

Extension – Water use that is not part of the residential or commercial use. Such as but not limited to pools, fountains, decorative landscaping, or recreational use. This includes accessory dwelling units that are not being used for rental or commercial purposes.