

2024 WATER WORKSHOP #2
February 1st, 2024 at 10am
Keene Town Hall Workshop

minutes

Present: Savana Li, Water Super; Teresa Cheetham-Palen, Deputy Supervisor; Ann Hough; Bob Biesemeyer; Chris Daly

Call to order at: 10:01

Adjourn at 10:51

Topics of Discussion

3 item discuss

1. BackFlow Preventer Testing Certification

Savana explained that we could purchase a backflow tester for our system and also test for other towns and commercial operations. Commercial operations need to hire a private engineer to do the testing the Dept. of Health requires. The town could charge for the testing to recoup some of the costs of purchase and training.

Board members like the plan & it will come to regular board

5. 2. Out of District Customers In Keene

There are a number of properties in WD#1 that are outside the district boundary but connected to the water system. There are no records we can find that explain why these properties pay a different rate for the debt service. The town attorney recommends that we pass a local law separating the two district so that each district has its own water law. We should revise WD#1 law to state that out of district users pay debt and rent using the same formulas as those inside the district.

at Feb 13~~th~~ board Feb 13 board meeting add resolution to rates that out of district properties connected to the system should follow in district calculations

2nd item discussed

3. Generator Issues

Savana explained that the generator needs emergency repairs and preventive repairs that will get serious soon. An estimate is on the way; the cost will be approximately \$

pump house hoses rotted
Battery charger
Block heater

storage tank
Generator needs work as well

1. First item discussed

Category Definitions (refer to handout attached)

Briefly reviewed
shop. No questions

changes from last work

6

Water Rates (refer to handout attached)

- we discussed Debt Service ~~\$\$\$~~
- Discussion of Commercial & Residential for Duplex or 3 houses
Keep Keene Commercial rate at ~~\$\$\$~~ ~~\$\$\$~~
Savannah will calculate new rates \$1,300
that reduce rate on residential & keep Commercial at a fair increase

4 Timeline

Feb. 13 board meeting to
adopt rates

7. Summer repair work to meet DOH requirements

yearly inspection yielded a list of repairs & maintenance we need to do.

- Clean out main valve boxes & exercise valves
 - Both Storage tanks cleaned (outside of tank)
 - Crushed Stone around tanks replaced
 - Fences repaired
- We need a contractor for some of these & Savannah needs an assistant for the rest

Agenda

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Workshop Topics of Discussion

1. BackFlow Preventer Testing Certification
2. Out of District Customers In Keene
3. Generator Issues
4. Category Definitions
5. Water Rates
6. Timeline
7. Summer Work to meet Department of Health Requirements

Please note that workshops are open to the public but only to observe.

2024 Categories & Definitions Draft #2

Residential/Rental

Commercial

High Traffic Commercial

Extension

First item discussed;
reviewed changes from last
workshop

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.

Commercial – A business operation providing a service or produces, manufactures or distributes a product. This includes a structure that can rent lodging to 3 or more parties at one given time. And restrooms are limited to clients and employees.

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

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.

Proposed Water Rates 1st Draft for 2024

Keene

Residential/Rental - \$695

Commerical - \$1245

High Traffic - \$1500

Extention - \$500

Fire Hydrants - \$79

Keene Valley

Residential/Rental - \$720

Commercial – \$1395

High Traffic - \$1685

Extension - \$555

Fire Hydrants - \$119

Debit Service - \$236

Revised Rates

(Rounded up to the nearest dollar)

Current rates for 2023

Keene Water District 1

Residential/Rental: \$600

Commercial: \$1285

Extension: \$430

Fire Hydrants: \$78

Keene Valley Water District 2

Residential/Rental: \$610

Commercial: \$1195

Extension: \$370

Fire Hydrants: \$119

Debit Service: \$314