

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING  
PINELANDS WATER COMPANY

NOTICE OF FILING OF PETITION FOR APPROVAL OF  
INCREASE IN RATES FOR WATER SERVICE  
AND OTHER TARIFF CHANGES  
OAL Docket No. PUC 08466-2022S  
BPU Docket No. WR22090555

(Serving Customers in the communities of Hampton Lakes and Leisuretowne located in Southampton Township, Burlington County, New Jersey)

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that on September 7, 2022, Pinelands Water Company (the “Company”), pursuant to N.J.S.A. 48:2-21, filed a Petition with the Board of Public Utilities (the “Board”) of the State of New Jersey for approval of revised tariff sheets which provide for an increase in its charges for water service. The Company believes that this increase is necessary in order for it to be able to continue to provide safe, adequate and proper service to its customers and to prevent the impairment of its financial integrity.

The Company is requesting an overall increase in water revenues of \$609,576 or approximately 64.22% above the adjusted annual pro forma revenues for the twelve months ending December 31, 2022 and to make other revisions of the Company’s tariff.

The proposed rates provide for increases to all classes of customers including General Water Service, Public Fire Protection Service and Private Fire Service. The proposed rates for all customers are contained in the tariff sheets and Petition filed with the Board of Public Utilities. The present and proposed rates are as follows:

COMPARISON OF PRESENT AND PROPOSED RATES

GENERAL WATER SERVICE

Consumption and quarterly facilities charges have been revised as follows:

Quarterly General Metered Service:

<u>All Consumption</u>	<u>Present Rates</u>	<u>Proposed Rates</u>	<u>Dollar Increase</u>
	\$3.2470/per	\$5.3340/per	\$2.0870/per
	Thous. Gals.	Thous. Gals.	Thous. Gals.

Facilities Charge

Service Charge/ Size of Meter	Present Rates	Proposed Rates Per Quarter	Dollar Increase
5/8”	\$39.39	\$64.71	\$25.32
¾”	\$59.01	\$96.93	\$37.92
1”	\$98.31	\$161.49	\$63.18
1 ½”	\$196.56	\$322.89	\$126.33
2”	\$314.52	\$516.66	\$202.14

Billing shall be based on the facilities charge plus consumption charges for each period.

**A RESIDENTIAL CUSTOMER WITH A 5/8" METER USING 11,900 GALLONS OF WATER PER QUARTER WILL SEE HIS/HER BILL INCREASE FROM \$78.03 TO \$128.18 PER QUARTER.**

PRIVATE FIRE SERVICE

Service Charge/ Size of Meter	Present Rates	Proposed Rates Per Quarter	Dollar Increase
<u>5/8"</u>	\$39.39	\$64.71	\$25.32
<u>3/4"</u>	\$59.01	\$96.93	\$37.92
<u>1"</u>	\$98.31	\$161.49	\$63.18
<u>1 1/2"</u>	\$196.56	\$322.89	\$126.33
<u>2"</u>	\$314.52	\$516.66	\$202.14

PUBLIC FIRE SERVICE

Present Rate	Proposed Rate	Dollar Increase
\$469.72 per hydrant, per year	\$771.61 per hydrant, per year	\$301.89

Any relief determined by the Board to be just and reasonable may be allocated by the Board to any class or classes of customers of the Company in such manner and, in such amounts or percentages, as the Board may deem appropriate. The Board may choose to impose a greater portion of the increase on any present or future class or classes, group or groups of customers, may exclude from any increase any of the foregoing, or may vary the amount of percentage increase applicable to any of the foregoing.

PLEASE TAKE FURTHER NOTICE that Pinelands Water Company intends to implement, on June 7, 2023, subject to any refunds that may be ordered by the Board, on an interim basis, pursuant to law, the proposed tariff for service, if the Board has suspended the effective date of the new rates pursuant to N.J.S.A. 48:2-21, but has not made a final determination as to new just and reasonable tariff prior to that date.

PLEASE TAKE FURTHER NOTICE that a virtual public hearing on the Company's Petition has been scheduled for January 12, 2023 beginning at 4:30 pm and 5:30 pm on the following Zoom platform: <https://oal-nj-gov.zoomgov.com/j/1619583577?pwd=bUtHWE9jbmhVY1pmSUJSM0h5Y2xCQT09>,

Meeting ID: 161 958 3577

Passcode: 693748

One tap mobile

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+1 669 216 1590 US (San Jose)

+1 551 285 1373 US

Meeting ID: 161 958 3577

Passcode: 693748.

Find your local number: <https://oal-nj-gov.zoomgov.com/u/ac1LljVdhr>

Join by SIP

[1619583577@sip.zoomgov.com](mailto:1619583577@sip.zoomgov.com)

Join by H.323

[161.199.138.10](tel:161.199.138.10) (US West)

[161.199.136.10](tel:161.199.136.10) (US East)

Meeting ID: 161 958 3577

Passcode: 693748

An Administrative Law Judge from the Office of Administrative Law will preside over the public hearing. Members of the public are invited to attend and express their views on the proposed rate increase. Such comments will be made a part of the final record in the proceeding. Whether or not you attend the public hearing, written comments may be submitted to Hon. Jacob S. Gertsman, ALJ, Office of Administrative Law, P.O. Box 049, Trenton, NJ 08625-0049 and/or Hon. Carmen Diaz, Acting Secretary, Board of Public Utilities, 44 South Clinton Avenue, 9<sup>th</sup> Floor, Trenton, NJ 08625-0350. Please include OAL Docket No. PUC 08466-2022S and BPU Docket No. WR22090555 in your comment letter.

The complete schedules for the proposed rates are part of the Petition filed with the Board, which was served upon the Director of the Division of Rate Counsel. The Petition was also served on the Clerks of Municipalities in the service area of the Company. Further information and copies of the Petition may be obtained at the Board's offices located at 44 South Clinton Avenue, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor, Suite 314, PO Box 350, Trenton, NJ 08625-0350 or at the Company's offices located at 485C Route One South, Suite 400, Iselin, New Jersey 08830. The Petition, testimony, and all attachments are also available for public inspection on the Company's website at <http://www.middlesexwater.com/customer-care/regulatory>.

In order to encourage full participation in this opportunity for public comment, please submit any requests for needed accommodations, including interpreters or mobility assistance, at least 48 hours prior to this hearing to the Company's Counsel, Jay L. Kooper, Esq., at 485C Route 1 South, Suite 400, Iselin, NJ 08830, phone 732-634-1500.

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