



NOVA SCOTIA UTILITY AND REVIEW BOARD

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

THE TOWN OF STELLARTON, on behalf of its **WATER UTILITY** has applied for approval of amendments to its Schedule of Rates and Charges for Water and Water Services and amendments to its Schedule of Rules and Regulations

This matter will be considered in a public hearing as follows:

Hearing starts: **Thursday, June 1, 2023**
11:00 a.m.

Stellarton Fire Hall
8 Jubilee Ave.
Stellarton, Nova Scotia

Depending on the circumstances related to COVID-19, this public hearing may be held by GoToWebinar video conferencing.

Board Hearings are open to the public, and you may participate as follows:

- You may speak at the hearing. You must notify the Board by **Friday, May 26, 2023**.
- You may make written comments by sending a letter to the Clerk of the Board at P.O. Box 1692, Unit "M", Halifax, NS B3J 3S3, or by email at: board@novascotia.ca, or by fax at (902) 424-3919 by **Friday, May 26, 2023**.
- You may request formal standing as an Intervener, subject to Board approval. This will allow you to present evidence or cross-examine witnesses. Your request must be received by the Board by **Friday, March 17, 2023**, and a copy of your written evidence by **Friday, April 21, 2023**.

Additional information about the matter is as follows:

- For unmetered customers, the quarterly water bill is proposed to increase from \$107.39 in 2022/23 to \$121.93 (a 13.5% increase) in 2023/24; \$138.22 (a 13.4% increase) in 2024/25; and \$160.06 (a 15.8% increase) in 2025/26.

- For a 5/8" meter, residential customer, the average current quarterly water bill is \$80.51, and it is proposed to increase to \$97.42 (a 21.0% increase) in 2023/24; \$111.14 (a 14.4% increase) in 2024/25; and \$130.37 (a 17.0% increase) in 2025/26.
- The Utility is also requesting increases to rates for other metered customers, those with quarterly bills (meter sizes of 3/4", 1", 2", 3" and 4") are proposed to change between 14.4% to 39.6% in 2023/24; 10.9% to 15.8% in 2024/25; and 12.6% to 18.8% in 2025/26. The base charge for 6" customers is proposed to change -5.1% in 2023/24; 21.2% in 2024/25; and 24.9% in 2025/26.
- The wholesale rate charged to the Municipality of Pictou County will increase from \$10,821.49 in 2022/23 to \$18,610.36 (a 72.0% increase) in 2023/24; \$20,551.14 (a 10.4% increase) in 2024/25; and \$23,126.62 (a 12.5% increase) in 2025/26.
- The annual public fire protection charge, currently \$695,764, is proposed to increase to \$718,370 (a 3.2% increase) in 2025/26.

Upon reviewing the Application, the Board, in its Decision, may determine that the proposed amendments should be as requested, higher, or lower.

A copy of the Application and any timetable applying to this matter may be viewed on the Board's website at <https://nsuarb.novascotia.ca/>, by clicking on "Matters & Evidence", and in the "Go To Files and Documents", enter Matter No. **M10997**.