

PUBLIC NOTICE TO ALL CUSTOMERS OF THE PORTAGE WATER UTILITY

The Portage Water Utility has filed an application with the Public Service Commission of Wisconsin (PSCW) to increase water rates. The increase is necessary due to a 23.67 percent increase in gross plant investment and a 17.85 percent increase in operating expenses since the last water rate case was completed in 2010.

The total increase in water revenues requested is \$314,953 which will result in an estimated overall rate increase of 16.88 percent over the water utility's present revenues. If the request is granted, the water bill for an average residential customer with a 5/8-inch or 3/4-inch meter who uses 4,000 gallons of water per month will increase from \$19.07 to \$23.16, or 21.45% (not including the public fire protection (PFP) charge), and will increase from \$19.07 to \$28.61, or 50.03% (including the PFP charge).

Currently, the City of Portage collects a municipal PFP charge (100 percent of the total PFP cost) from property taxes and pays this charge to the water utility. The City of Portage recently approved changing the method of recovering the PFP charge from the municipal PFP charge to a direct PFP charge that collects 100 percent of the PFP charge directly from Utility customers.

A public information meeting will be held on Monday, May 6, 2019 at 6:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers at the Portage City Hall, 115 W. Pleasant Street, Portage, WI on the proposed water rate increase and answer any questions. This meeting is being held separate from and in addition to the public hearing on Tuesday, 5/7/2019. The purpose of this informal meeting is to provide an opportunity to answer questions about the proposed rates. The Portage Water Utility is regulated by the Public Service Commission of Wisconsin (PSCW), whom the Utility shall seek authorization to increase the water rates. If you want to provide comment to the PSCW, please see below.

A telephonic public hearing on the application has been scheduled for Tuesday, May 7, 2019, at 11:00 a.m. in the Portage City Hall, Conference Room #1, 115 West Pleasant Street, Portage, Wisconsin. Scheduling questions regarding this hearing may be directed to the PSCW at (608) 266-3766.

A person may testify in this proceeding without becoming a party and without attorney representation. A person may submit this testimony in only one of the following ways:

- **Web Comment.** Go to the Commission's web site at <http://psc.wi.gov>, click on "File a Comment". On the next page select the "File a comment" link that appears for docket number 4760-WR-104. Web comments shall be received no later than the day before the hearing.
- **Oral Comment.** Spoken testimony at the public session.
- **Written Comment.** Instead of speaking at the hearing, write out a comment and submit it at the public session.
- **Mail Comment.** All comments submitted by U.S. Mail shall be received no later than the day before the hearing and shall be addressed to: Attn: Docket 4760-WR-104 Comments, Public Service Commission, P.O. Box 7854, Madison, WI 53707-7854.

The PSCW intends to webcast this hearing live on the PSCW's web site at <http://psc.wi.gov> under the "PSC Live Broadcast" button.

All documents in this docket are filed on the Commission's Electronic Records Filing (ERF) system. To view these documents: (1) go to the Commission's E-Services Portal at <http://apps.psc.wi.gov>, (2) enter "4760-WR-104" in the box labeled "Quick Single Docket Search," and (3) select "Documents".

If you have any questions, please contact the Portage City Hall at (608) 742-2176.