

**PUBLIC HEARING**

**WATERTOWN FIRE DISTRICT  
DISTRICT COMMISSION**

**DATE:** October 14, 2025  
**TIME:** 7:02 P.M.  
**PLACE:** District Office  
24 DeForest Street  
Watertown, CT 06795

**BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**

Steve Ouellette, Chairman	Present
James Lehner	Present
Robert Yerger	Present
Pedro Soares	Present
Anthony Martone	Absent
Carl Minicucci, Alternate	Absent
Mark Crane, Alternate	Absent
Nicolas Perugini, Alternate	Present

**1. Call hearing to order**

Hearing was called to order at 7:02 p.m.

**2. Roll Call**

Present were Commissioners Ouellette, Lehner, Yerger, and Soares and Alternate Commissioner Perugini. Commissioner Martone and Alternate Commissioners Minicucci and Crane were absent.

**ALSO PRESENT:**

Watertown Fire District Superintendent Michael Tanuis, Watertown Fire District Employees Vincent Tanuis, Heather Edwards, and Leah Perugini, and Watertown Fire District Treasurer Barbara Zulkeski, and 5 members of the public.

### **3. Public Hearing – Sewer Rates**

Residents asked if rates were going to increase and by how much. The Watertown Fire District is proposing a 50% sewer rate increase to pay the higher rates being charged for the treatment of sewer. This 50% rate increase does not cover any portion of the settlement between Watertown and Waterbury for sewer charges.

A resident asked about several manholes that are under water when it rains and questioned the excess gallons that may be entering the sewer system. The manholes are sealed. The Fire District will have an operator check the manholes in question. The Fire District is also conducting a study to identify areas where we can shore up the sewer system to cut down on groundwater entering the sewer system.

A resident also asked if they would still be billed for sewer based on the winter quarter water consumption; it was confirmed that the Fire District intends to continue billing in this manner.

Questions arose regarding a hydrant that was running all summer near Lovely Drive and Middlebury Road, as well as sewer billing on Middlebury Road. The questions should be addressed to Watertown WSA.

### **4. Adjournment**

**MOTION:** By Mr. James Lehner and seconded by Mr. Pedro Soares to close the Public Hearing.

Motion passed unanimously and the Public Hearing was closed at 7:16 p.m.

---

Steve Ouellette, Chairman