



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**THE MVWA WILL HOLD A PUBLIC RATE HEARING ON WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 14 AT 4:30 P.M.**

The Mohawk Valley Water Authority (MVWA) will hold a public rate hearing at 4:30 p.m. on Wednesday, October 14, 2026. **The rate hearing will be held in the Common Council Chambers on the first floor of Utica City Hall.** The Board of the MVWA is considering a rate increase of 5.0% to take effect on January 1, 2027.

If approved, the rate change will equate to approximately \$23.00 per year in higher water costs for the average household, or about \$1.92 per month. The total proposed budget for the coming fiscal year is approximately \$32.6 million.

Some factors considered in the proposed budget include:

1. For 2027, budgeted consumption to remain unchanged compared to 2026
2. Increased costs for water treatment of 4.5%
3. Additional debt service related to lead service line replacements and updating metering infrastructure is 2.5% of the proposed increase.
4. Pilot payments increase by \$100,000, totaling \$1.45 million
5. Increases of 4.5% for operating costs, health insurance, and NYS Retirement system payments.
6. The rate increase has been partially offset by a cash carry-forward from accumulated surplus of \$1.5 million.

The MVWA Board of Directors will be considering the proposed rate structure at its regular monthly meeting to be held at 5:00pm on October 19, 2026. The board meeting is open to the public and will take place at the MVWA Board room on the third floor of Utica City Hall.

**The Mohawk Valley Water Authority is a regional agency that provides drinking water to approximately 128,000 customers throughout 18 municipalities in Oneida and Herkimer Counties. Contact the MVWA at 792-0301 or on the web at [www.mvwva.us](http://www.mvwva.us)**

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