

Tariff Form No. 12
(Tariff Rule 44)

PUBLIC NOTICE OF CHANGE IN RATES BY MUNICIPALITIES

NOTICE is hereby given that the Town of Romney public utility, has adopted by ordinance on June 4, 2018 a tariff containing increased rates, tolls and charges for furnishing water service to 878 customers in the Town of Romney in the County of Hampshire in the state of West Virginia.

The proposed increased rates and charges will become effective July 20, 2018 unless otherwise ordered by the Public Service Commission and will produce approximately \$166,000.00 annually in additional revenue, an increase of approximately 19.21%. The average monthly bill for the various classes of customers will be changed as follows:

	Phase 1 (\$ Increase	Phase 1 Increase (%)	Phase 2 (\$ Increase	Phase 2 Increase (%)
Residential	\$2.40	9.59%	\$2.40	9.59%
Commercial	\$7.57	9.59%	\$7.57	9.59%
Industrial	\$4.80	9.58%	\$4.81	9.60%
Resale	\$3,368.45	9.50%	\$3,368.45	9.50%

Resale customers of the Town of Romney water system include Central Hampshire Public Service District.

The increases shown are based on averages of all customers in the indicated class. Individual customers may receive increases that are greater or less than average. Furthermore, the requested rates and charges are only a proposal and are subject to change (increases or decreases) by the Public Service Commission in its review of this filing. The Commission shall review and approve or modify the increased rates only upon the filing of a petition within thirty (30) days of the adoption of the ordinance changing said rates or charges, by:

(1) Any customer aggrieved by the changed rates or charges who presents to the Commission a petition signed by not less than twenty-five percent of the customers served by such municipally operated public utility; or

(2) Any customer who is served by a municipally operated public utility and who resides outside the corporate limits and who is affected by the change in said rate or chargers and who presents to the Commission a petition alleging discrimination between customers within and without the municipal boundaries. Said petition shall be accompanied by evidence of discrimination; or

(3) Any customer or group of customers who are affected by said change in rates who reside within said municipal boundaries and who present a petition to the Commission alleging discrimination between said customer or group of customers and other customers of the municipal utility. Said petition shall be accompanied by evidence of discrimination.

All petitions should be addressed to the Executive Secretary, Public Service Commission of West Virginia, 201 Brooks Street, P.O. Box 812, Charleston, West Virginia 25323.

A complete copy of the proposed rates, as well as a representative of the utility to provide any information requested concerning it, is available to all customers, prospective customers, or agents at the following office of the utility.

Town of Romney
340 E. Main Street
Romney, WV 26757

A copy of the proposed rates is available for public inspection at the office of the Executive Secretary of the Public Service Commission, 201 Brooks Street, P.O. Box 812, Charleston, West Virginia, 25323.

Town of Romney
Ordinance to Increase Water Rates

The adoption of the foregoing ordinance having been moved by: Councilman Darcen

And duly seconded by: Councilman McKenney

The vote thereon was as follows:

SIGNATURE	VOTE (YES OR NO)
<u>Adam T. McKenney</u>	<u>yes</u>
<u>Ronald D. Holt</u>	<u>yes</u>
<u>Jul Durca</u>	<u>Yes</u>
<u>Don All</u>	<u>Yes</u>
<u>Carl Faltensberger</u>	<u>yes</u>
<u>Greg Smith</u>	<u>yes</u>

TOWN OF ROMNEY

AN ORDINANCE SETTING FORTH THE RATES, FEES AND CHARGES FOR SERVICE TO CUSTOMERS OF THE WATERWORKS SYSTEM OF THE TOWN OF ROMNEY.

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF ROMNEY: The following rules, rates and charges are hereby fixed, determined and first established for municipal water services provided to all residential, commercial, industrial and resale customers of the Town of Romney's Waterworks System, commencing upon the effective dates as hereinafter provided, and in accordance with the following Rates and Schedules:

RULES AND REGULATIONS

- I. *Rules and Regulations for the Government of Water Utilities*, adopted by the Public Service Commission of West Virginia, and now in effect, and all amendments thereto and modifications thereof hereafter made by said Commission.

SECTION 1 – TARIFF

PHASE I

(Effective 45 Days after Enactment)

APPLICABILITY

Applicable in the entire territory or area served.

AVAILABILITY OF SERVICE

Available for residential, commercial, industrial and sale for resale.

RATES

Non-Resale Customers	\$	9.26	@ 1,000 gallons, used per month
Sale for Resale Customers	\$	5.30	@ 1,000 gallons, used per month

MINIMUM BILL

No bill will be rendered for less than the following amounts according to the size of the meter installed and said minimum charge to also apply to multiple occupancy, to wit:

5/8	inch meter	\$	18.52	per month
3/4	inch meter	\$	27.78	per month
1.0	inch meter	\$	46.30	per month
1.5	inch meter	\$	92.60	per month
2.0	inch meter	\$	148.16	per month
3.0	inch meter	\$	277.80	per month
6.0	inch meter	\$	926.00	per month
8.0	inch meter	\$	1,481.60	per month

MULTIPLE OCCUPANCY

For a multiple occupancy building, the Town shall charge a minimum monthly charge for each unit at the multiple occupancy building. The minimum monthly charge for each unit shall apply notwithstanding the fact the unit be unoccupied.

DELAYED PAYMENT PENALTY

The above tariff is net. On all accounts not paid in full within 20 days, a 10% charge will be added to the net current amount unpaid. The delayed payment penalty is not interest and is only to be collected once for each bill where it is appropriate.

TAP FEES

- (1) Typical 5/8-inch tap = \$1,000, inclusive of installation and materials.
- (2) To determine charges for any non-typical or larger than 4-inch tap, the cost/plus method will be used to determine an appropriate charge. The Tap Fee will be determined by the Town and the requesting party.
- (3) Non-essential modifications as requested by property owner and as approved by utility will be made at the sole expense of the property owner.

2% EXCISE TAX

An excise tax in the amount of 2% is imposed on the consumer, user, or purchaser within the corporate limits of the Town of Romney, of public utility services. Such tax shall be computed on the basis of 2% of the gross amount of each periodic statement rendered and shall be included as part of the monthly bill to the consumer.

APPLICATION FOR WATER SERVICE

In accordance with Public Service Commission of West Virginia's rules and regulations, all applicants desiring water service will be required to make written application and pay a security deposit at the Town of Romney Municipal Office.

CUSTOMER DEPOSITS

Not to exceed two-twelfths (2/12) of the average annual usage of the customer's specific customer class for water service, or \$50.00, whichever is greater.

PROPERTY OWNER/TENANT

When applying for service, a tenant must provide the property owner's name and address of the premises to be served.

TERMINATION OF WATER SERVICE POLICY

Whenever any water rates, fees or charges for services or facilities furnished remain unpaid past the latest pay date, the user of such services and facilities provided shall be delinquent. If any bill is determined to be delinquent, water service to the customer may be disconnected. Water service is to be disconnected in accordance with the Public Service Commission of West Virginia's rules and regulations. Water service will not be restored

Town of Romney
Ordinance to Increase Water Rates

until all delinquent amounts and service fees have been paid in full in accordance with the applicable rules and regulations of the Public Service Commission of West Virginia.

COLLECTION PROCEDURES

Customers may pay their bill using check, money order, cash, certified check, and credit card. Customers may pay by mail, pay in person at the FNB Bank, Bank of Romney, or at the municipal office, or through the use of the deposit/drop-box at the municipal office.

EFT, CREDIT CARD AND DROP BOX PAYMENTS

A service charge will be imposed on electronic funds transfer, credit card or drop box payments equal to the actual charges from the financial institution.

RECONNECTION FEE

Whenever water service which has been previously disconnected or otherwise withheld for non-payment is reconnected, a fee of \$35.00 shall be charged.

VOLUNTARY DISCONNECT/CONNECT FEES

A voluntary disconnect/connection fee of \$35.00 will be charged for all non-emergency requests.

RETURNED CHECK FEE

A service charge equal to the actual bank fee assessed to the utility up to a maximum of \$30.00 will be imposed upon any customer whose check for payment of charges is returned by their bank due to insufficient funds.

METER TESTING FEE

A charge of \$35.00 will be applied for any meter test requested by the customer.

PRIVATE FIRE PROTECTION

\$900.00 per year.

PUBLIC FIRE PROTECTION

\$900.00 per year.

LEAK ADJUSTMENTS

Should a leak be deemed eligible, the customer is due an adjustment to the customer's bill. The adjusted bill shall be calculated as follows: the charge for average usage plus the charge for usage in excess of the average usage at the applicable incremental costs set by the Public Service Commission of West Virginia.

EQUIPMENT TAMPERING

Damaging or otherwise tampering with the Town of Romney's waterworks system, which includes, but is not limited to, all piping and meters used and useful in providing water service and all appurtenances thereof, is prohibited under the West Virginia Code. Violators shall be subject to potential termination of service, fines and penalties not to

Town of Romney
Ordinance to Increase Water Rates

exceed \$2,000.00, in addition to the replacement cost, inclusive of material and labor, for damaged equipment.

METER ACCESSIBILITY

The utility shall at all reasonable times have access to meters, service connections and other property owned by the utility. Neglect or refusal on the part of the customer to provide reasonable access to meters, service connections and other property owned by the utility shall be deemed to be sufficient cause for discontinuance of service.

PHASE II

(Twelve months after effective date)

APPLICABILITY

Applicable in the entire territory or area served.

AVAILABILITY OF SERVICE

Available for residential, commercial, industrial and sale for resale.

RATES

Non-Resale Customers	\$	10.07 @ 1,000 gallons, used per month
Sale for Resale Customers	\$	5.76 @ 1,000 gallons, used per month

MINIMUM BILL

No bill will be rendered for less than the following amounts according to the size of the meter installed and said minimum charge to also apply to multiple occupancy, to wit:

5/8	inch meter	\$	20.14	per month
3/4	inch meter	\$	30.21	per month
1.0	inch meter	\$	50.35	per month
1.5	inch meter	\$	100.70	per month
2.0	inch meter	\$	161.12	per month
3.0	inch meter	\$	302.10	per month
6.0	inch meter	\$	1,007.00	per month
8.0	inch meter	\$	1,611.20	per month

MULTIPLE OCCUPANCY

For a multiple occupancy building, the Town shall charge a minimum monthly charge for each unit at the multiple occupancy building. The minimum monthly charge for each unit shall apply notwithstanding the fact the unit be unoccupied.

DELAYED PAYMENT PENALTY

The above tariff is net. On all accounts not paid in full within twenty (20) days, a ten percent (10%) charge will be added to the net current amount unpaid. The delayed payment penalty is not interest and is only to be collected once for each bill where it is appropriate.

Town of Romney
Ordinance to Increase Water Rates

TAP FEES

- (1) Typical 5/8-inch tap = \$1,000, inclusive of installation and materials.
- (2) To determine charges for any non-typical or larger than 4-inch tap, the cost/plus method will be used to determine an appropriate charge. The Tap Fee will be determined by the Town and the requesting party.
- (3) Non-essential modifications as requested by property owner and as approved by utility will be made at the sole expense of the property owner.

2% EXCISE TAX

An excise tax in the amount of 2% is imposed on the consumer, user, or purchaser within the corporate limits of the Town of Romney, of public utility services. Such tax shall be computed on the basis of 2% of the gross amount of each periodic statement rendered and shall be included as part of the monthly bill to the consumer.

APPLICATION FOR WATER SERVICE

In accordance with Public Service Commission of West Virginia's rules and regulations, all applicants desiring water service will be required to make written application and pay a security deposit at the Town of Romney Municipal Office.

CUSTOMER DEPOSITS

Not to exceed two-twelfths (2/12) of the average annual usage of the customer's specific customer class for water service, or \$50.00, whichever is greater.

PROPERTY OWNER/TENANT

When applying for service, a tenant must provide the property owner's name and address of the premises to be served.

TERMINATION OF WATER SERVICE POLICY

Whenever any water rates, fees or charges for services or facilities furnished remain unpaid past the latest pay date, the user of such services and facilities provided shall be delinquent. If any bill is determined to be delinquent, water service to the customer may be disconnected. Water service is to be disconnected in accordance with the Public Service Commission of West Virginia's rules and regulations. Water service will not be restored until all delinquent amounts and service fees have been paid in full in accordance with the applicable rules and regulations of the Public Service Commission of West Virginia.

COLLECTION PROCEDURES

Customers may pay their bill using check, money order, cash, certified check, and credit card. Customers may pay by mail, pay in person at the FNB Bank, Bank of Romney, or at the municipal office, or through the use of the deposit/drop-box at the municipal office.

EFT, CREDIT CARD AND DROP BOX PAYMENTS

A service charge will be imposed on electronic funds transfer, credit card or drop box payments equal to the actual charges from the financial institution.

Town of Romney
Ordinance to Increase Water Rates

RECONNECTION FEE

Whenever water service which has been previously disconnected or otherwise withheld for non-payment is reconnected, a fee of \$35.00 shall be charged.

VOLUNTARY DISCONNECT/CONNECT FEES

A voluntary disconnect/connection fee of \$35.00 will be charged for all non-emergency requests.

RETURNED CHECK FEE

A service charge equal to the actual bank fee assessed to the utility up to a maximum of \$30.00 will be imposed upon any customer whose check for payment of charges is returned by their bank due to insufficient funds.

METER TESTING FEE

A charge of \$35.00 will be applied for any meter test requested by the customer.

PRIVATE FIRE PROTECTION

\$900.00 per year.

PUBLIC FIRE PROTECTION

\$900.00 per year.

LEAK ADJUSTMENTS

Should a leak be deemed eligible, the customer is due an adjustment to the customer's bill. The adjusted bill shall be calculated as follows: the charge for average usage plus the charge for usage in excess of the average usage at the applicable incremental costs set by the Public Service Commission of West Virginia.

EQUIPMENT TAMPERING

Damaging or otherwise tampering with the Town of Romney's waterworks system, which includes, but is not limited to, all piping and meters used and useful in providing water service and all appurtenances thereof, is prohibited under the West Virginia Code. Violators shall be subject to potential termination of service, fines and penalties not to exceed \$2,000.00, in addition to the replacement cost, inclusive of material and labor, for damaged equipment.

METER ACCESSIBILITY

The utility shall at all reasonable times have access to meters, service connections and other property owned by the utility. Neglect or refusal on the part of the customers to provide reasonable access to meters, service connections and other property owned by the utility shall be deemed to be sufficient cause for discontinuance of service.

SECTION 2 – TARIFF EFFECTIVE DATE

The rates, charges and penalties provided herein shall become effective forty-five (45) days after enactment, or as soon thereafter as the same may be approved by the Public Service Commission of West Virginia.

SECTION 3 – SEVERABILITY; REPEAL OF CONFLICTING ORDINANCES

The provisions of this Ordinance are severable, and if any clause, provision or section hereof shall be held void or unenforceable by the West Virginia Public Service Commission or any court of competent jurisdiction, such holding shall not affect the remainder of this Ordinance. Upon the effective date hereof, all ordinances, resolutions, orders or parts thereof in conflict with the provisions of this Ordinance are, to the extent of such conflicts, hereby repealed, and to the extent that the provisions of this Ordinance do not touch upon the provisions of prior ordinances, resolutions, orders or parts thereof, the same shall remain in full force and effect.

SECTION 4 – STATUTORY NOTICE AND PUBLIC HEARING

Upon introduction hereof, the Town Recorder shall cause to be published a copy of this Ordinance once a week for two (2) successive weeks within a period of fourteen (14) consecutive days, with at least six (6) days between each publication, in the *Hampshire Review*, a qualified newspaper of general circulation in the Town of Romney, and said notice shall state that this Ordinance has been introduced, and that any person interested may appear before Council on _____, _____, 2018, at ___:___ p.m., which date is not less than ten (10) days after the date of the first publication of the Ordinance and notice, and present any comment or protest thereto, following which hearing, Council shall take such action as it shall deem proper. Copies of this Ordinance shall be available to the public for inspection at the municipal office, 340 E. Main Street, Romney, West Virginia.

First Reading May 7, 2018

Second Reading May 16, 2018

Final Reading
and Public Hearing: June 4, 2018

TOWN OF ROMNEY, a municipal corporation

Mayor: Benny Keader

Recorder: _____