

**TOWN OF BINGHAMTON**  
**279 Park Avenue – Binghamton, NY 13903**  
**TOWN BOARD INFORMATIONAL MEETING**  
**Proposed Sewer Rates Increases**  
**May 1, 2018**

**THOSE PRESENT AT MEETING:**

N. Yezzi, Deputy Supervisor  
N. Cline, Councilperson  
V. Xlander, Councilperson  
E. Rounds, Councilperson  
V. Conklin, Town Clerk  
A. Pope, Town Attorney

N. Pappas, Building Administrator  
M. Donahue, Highway Superintendent  
R. Mastin, Planning Board Member  
5 Guests

**PURPOSE OF MEETING:**

The purpose of the informational meeting was to provide information on proposed sewer rate increases. Mr. Donahue stated that the majority of the rate increases are due to debt services. The Binghamton-Johnson City Joint Sewage Plant has been in litigation, FEMA funds were not updated, and there are currently approximately 400 people working on the remediation of the Plant, which means that funds were borrowed by the Village of Johnson City and the City of Binghamton and was given to the Plant Board. The Town's rates went up \$1.12 per thousand cubic feet. Every 748 gallons of waste sent to the Plant by the Town increases the Town's bills. This quarter the rate is at \$6.98. There are residents who do not pay their sewer bill, which puts the Town in arrears of approximately \$68,000.00 every year in billing. Their sewer bill gets rolled over to their taxes and they are charged a penalty. The Town does get the funds until approximately a year later. The rate will not be raised until December 2018. There will be an increase in the rate of approximately \$1.50 per thousand gallons. The average person's bill is approximately 10,000 gallons per quarter. The Town charges \$7.00 per thousand gallons, making an average bill \$70.00. A public hearing will be set in the near future for the June 19, 2018 Regular Town Board meeting. Residents are encouraged to attend the public hearing.

Wendy Finch, a resident of the Town, spoke about the fact that most residents are living paycheck to paycheck, and cannot afford the current rate, let alone an increase in the rate. She also stated that the Plant has been poorly managed for years, and needed improvements years ago, which may have not been as costly to make as they are today.

Respectfully submitted,



Vickie A. Conklin  
Town Clerk

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