

**PUBLIC NOTICE TO ALL CUSTOMERS OF THE
CITY OF BARABOO WATER UTILITY**

The City of Baraboo Water Utility (Utility) has filed an application with the Public Service Commission of Wisconsin (PSCW) to change its method of cost recovery for providing public fire protection (PFP) service. The Utility currently collects an annual amount of \$602,452 for providing PFP to the City of Baraboo (City). This cost covers the additional storage, pumping, and distribution required to provide the high flows and pressures needed to fight fires. Currently, the City collects a municipal PFP charge of \$312,452 property taxes and pays this charge to the Utility. The remaining \$290,000 is collected directly from water customers. The City recently approved eliminating the municipal PFP charge. As such, the Utility has requested PSCW authorization to allow the entire collection of the PFP charges from each customer of the water utility. The resulting direct charges to each water customer are based on the equivalent meters method, in accordance with Wis. Stat. Sec. 196.03(3)(b), which reads as follows:

196.03(3)(b). Unless the governing body of the city, village or town adopts a resolution providing that the city, village or town will pay the retail charges for the production, storage, transmission, sale and delivery or furnishing of water for public fire protection purposes that are not included in general service charges:

1. A public utility shall include the charges in the water utility bill of each customer of the public utility in the city, village or town.
2. A municipal utility may, in addition to including the charges in water utility bills under subd. 1., bill the charges to any person who meets all of the following conditions:
 - a. The person is not a customer of the municipal utility
 - b. The person owns land that is located in the city, village or town and in an area in which the municipal utility has an obligation to provide water for public fire protection. If the person owns 2 or more parcels that are adjacent to each other or divided only by a roadway or brook, creek, river, or stream, the municipality may bill the person for only one parcel.

This change in billing for PFP will allow for the collection of PFP charges from property owners who are not subject to property taxes. The Utility does not intend to charge non-general service customers as defined in subd. 2. above.

If the request is granted, the water bill for an average residential customer with a $\frac{5}{8}$ -inch or $\frac{3}{4}$ -inch meter who uses 10,000 gallons of water per quarter will increase from \$67.26 to \$74.40, or 10.62 percent, including the PFP charge.

A public hearing on the application has been scheduled for Thursday, June 6, 2024 at 3:00 p.m. This hearing has no physical location. Parties and Commission staff appear by Zoom. Parties and Commission staff may use the telephone connection as a backup or if no practicable internet connection exists. Members of the public attend by Zoom or by audio-only telephone connection.

Join Zoom over the internet at:
<https://us02web.zoom.us/my/pschearings>

To join Zoom telephone:
1. Dial: +1 312 626 6799
2. Enter: 809 513 2930 # (Meeting ID)

The Commission intends to livestream and record this hearing on YouTube. To access the livestream, go to the Commission's website at <http://psc.wi.gov>, click the dropdown menu labeled "News & Events", and select item labeled "Broadcasts".

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.** File a comment on the internet. Go to the Commission's web site at <http://psc.wi.gov>, click the dropdown menu labeled "Commission Action". Select the item labeled "File a Public Comment". On the next page select the "File a comment" link that appears for docket number 360-PFP-100. Web comments shall be received no later than the Monday, June 10, 2024.
- **Live Comment.** Make a live comment at the hearing. The ALJ may receive live comments from any member of the public in attendance after the close of any party and Commission staff testimony. The ALJ will receive such comments by stating the name of each member of the public connected to the hearing one at a time and asking if they would like to comment.
- **Mail Comment.** Send a comment by U.S. Mail. All comments submitted by U.S. Mail shall be received no later than Monday, June 10, 2024 and shall be addressed to: Attn: Docket 360-PFP-100Comments, Public Service Commission, P.O. Box 7854, Madison, WI 53707-7854.

To access the documents, schedule, and other information about this docket, go to the Commission's web site at <http://psc.wi.gov>, select the dropdown menu labeled "eServices". Select the item labeled "Docket Search (CMS)". On the next page enter 360-PFP-100 in the spaces labeled "Case #" and select "Search".

If you have any questions, please contact the Utility at (608) 355-7338.