

Dear Honorable Kathleen Burgess,

I am writing to voice my objection to the 116% increase in water rates and to add additional information for consideration regarding the setting of rates.

On the surface, it would appear that the previous owners were able to operate the Bristol Water Works Corporation successfully under the current rate structure. What's changed where the new owners require a 116% rate increase to continue their operation?

It's also my understanding that the PSC previously required that water meters be installed in residential homes, condominiums (?) and the commercial enterprises of the resort.

Currently;

- 140 residential homes pay \$58/quarter plus water meter consumption, regardless of the number of bedrooms.
- 179 condominium units pay between \$48 and \$112/quarter (bedroom dependent), that includes a fixed rate consumption, whether they consume water or not.
- It is not clear what quarterly rate or consumption rate the resort pays as a commercial customer.
- Additional note; many homes and condos are seasonally occupied. There is inequity when a 4 bedroom home pays a \$58 quarterly fee and consumes no water while the home is not occupied over the winter months. An equivalent 4 bedroom condominium pays a \$112 quarterly fee, also consuming no water while the home is not occupied over the winter months.

Background;

Most of the 179 condominiums are intermittently seasonally occupied. Further, there are numerous studios or one bedroom condos. One might argue that they have the same occupancy as the hotel and 5 cottages located off the resort parking lot. Therefore, it should not matter how many bedrooms there are in a hotel room, condo or residential home. Every unit should pay the same base rate - I also assume there is a commercial base rate for the resorts restaurant, party facilities and golf course. The balance would be collected through consumption.

There are 3 condo associations; buildings 1, 2 and 3 are condo I, building 4 is condo II and building 5 is condo III. These are legal entities. Water consumption can be billed to each condo association. If there are not individual meters in "each" building, there should be. It should be noted that it would be nearly impossible to place water meters in individual condo units for multiple reasons. It is not unreasonable to put a main meter in each building. The same would hold true for all resort facilities.

How things should work;

- 140 residential homes pay \$xx/quarter plus water meter consumption
- 179 condominiums pay the same rate quarterly rate as residential homes plus water consumption. Water consumption would be calculated by building and billed to each condo association. How the condo association bills individual unit owners would be up to each association.
- The same idea applies to the 31 room hotel, 5 cottages and other resort facilities.
- Bottom line, everyone pays a base rate and for what they consume.

Lastly;

- There are plans to add additional commercial service. There is also a continuous slow trickle of new homes being added within the water district. How often will rates be reevaluated to redistribute cost of new construction to offer relief to the majority of residential customers?

Thank you for your time!

Best regards,

James Bachman