



CITY OF NEW BEDFORD

JONATHAN F. MITCHELL, MAYOR

April 5, 2022

City Council President Ian Abreu and
Honorable Members of the City Council
133 William St.
New Bedford, MA 02740

Dear Council President Abreu and Honorable Members:

As you recall, last year my administration submitted a five-year sewer rate increase proposal to ensure adequate funding to implement the City's five-year Integrated Capital Improvements Project Plan. As you know, the City is mandated to undertake these improvements to comply with a federal Administrative Order. As the Council determined it could only vote to approve the Fiscal Year 2022 rate increase, I am resubmitting for your approval a five-year rate proposal.

The attached Order details a series of proposed sewer rate increases, with the first one taking effect on July 1, 2022, the first day of Fiscal Year 2023. Subsequent rate increases would take effect on the first day of the four subsequent fiscal years—2024, 2025, 2026, and 2027.

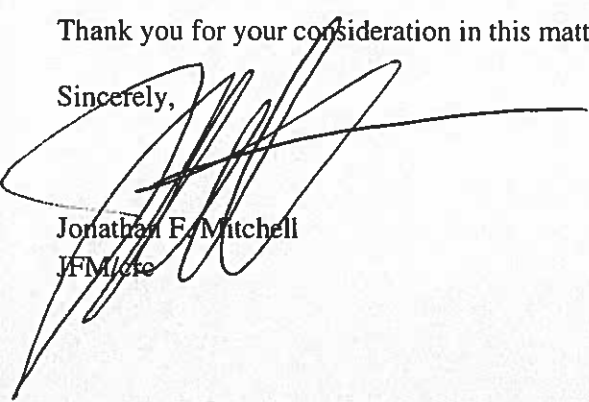
I urge you to take up this matter with all deliberate speed, as failure to adopt the proposed rate increases and to authorize the associated FY 2023 loan order—which I am filing separately—by June 30, 2022, will result in the loss of State Revolving Fund (SRF) monies. As you may recall, the administration advised the Council of the risk of losing approximately \$11 million in grant funds should the City miss the Commonwealth's deadline, and that is exactly what happened when the previously requested \$57 million appropriation was not authorized in time.

Moreover, last year's delays have compressed the time within which the City can execute its five-year capital project plan. Any further delay in the approval of rates and associated appropriations will only exacerbate the situation, perhaps to a point at which default on the Administrative Order cannot be avoided.

City staff and consultants are available to thoroughly brief the Council on the details of the rate proposal and five-year capital project plan at your earliest convenience.

Thank you for your consideration in this matter.

Sincerely,


Jonathan F. Mitchell
JFM/cfo



CITY OF NEW BEDFORD

CITY COUNCIL

April 12, 2022

Ordered, that the schedule of rates and charges for wastewater service adopted by the City Council pursuant to Section 16-94 the New Bedford Code of Ordinances on September 28, 2006 and amended on June 26, 2008 and June 23, 2016, is hereby rescinded, effective July 1, 2022; and

Ordered, that the charges for suspended solids (TSS) and bio-chemical oxygen demand (BOD) adopted by the City Council on June 28, 2008 pursuant to Section 16-91 of the New Bedford Code of Ordinances, shall remain in effect;

Further ordered that the following schedule of rates and charges for wastewater service is hereby established pursuant to Section 16-94 the New Bedford Code of Ordinances:

WASTEWATER COMMODITY RATE:

The FY23 commodity rate effective July 1, 2022 - \$6.85

The FY24 commodity rate effective July 1, 2023 - \$7.68

The FY25 commodity rate effective July 1, 2024 - \$8.38

The FY26 commodity rate effective July 1, 2025 - \$9.15

The FY27 commodity rate effective July 1, 2026 - \$9.75

WASTEWATER ANNUAL BASE CHARGE:

The annual base charge for FY23, effective July 1, 2022, shall be as follows:

5/8" service size - \$111.23

3/4" service size - \$111.23

1" service size - \$111.23

1.5" service size - \$111.23

2" service size - \$111.23

3" service size - \$366.65

PRESENTED TO THE MAYOR

For approval.....

City Clerk

Approved.....

Mayor

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IN CITY COUNCIL

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City Clerk

4" service size - \$530.26
6" service size - \$987.39
8" service size - \$1,534.99
10" service size - \$2,173.05
12" service size - \$2,173.05

The annual base charge for FY24, effective July 1, 2023, shall be as follows:

5/8" service size - \$124.58
3/4" service size - \$124.58
1" service size - \$124.58
1.5" service size - \$124.58
2" service size - \$124.58
3" service size - \$410.65
4" service size - \$593.90
6" service size - \$1,105.88
8" service size - \$1,719.18
10" service size - \$2,433.82
12" service size - \$2,433.82

The annual base charge for FY25, effective July 1, 2024, shall be as follows:

5/8" service size - \$136.04
3/4" service size - \$136.04
1" service size - \$136.04
1.5" service size - \$136.04

2" service size - \$136.04
3" service size - \$448.43
4" service size - \$648.53
6" service size - \$1,207.62
8" service size - \$1,877.35
10" service size - \$2,657.73
12" service size - \$2,657.73

The annual base charge for FY26, effective July 1, 2025, shall be as follows:

5/8" service size - \$148.56
3/4" service size - \$148.56
1" service size - \$148.56
1.5" service size - \$148.56
2" service size - \$148.56
3" service size - \$489.69
4" service size - \$708.20
6" service size - \$1,318.72
8" service size - \$2,050.06
10" service size - \$2,902.24
12" service size - \$2,902.24

The annual base charge for FY27, effective July 1, 2026, shall be as follows:

5/8" service size - \$158.22
3/4" service size - \$158.22

1" service size - \$158.22

1.5" service size - \$158.22

2" service size - \$158.22

3" service size - \$521.51

4" service size - \$754.23

6" service size - \$1,404.43

8" service size - \$2,183.32

10" service size - \$3,090.89

12" service size - \$3,090.89