
Northampton to host hearing on water and sewer rates



Northampton residents could be paying a little more for their water in 2016. *(The Republican File)*



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NORTHAMPTON - The **City Council** and the Public Works Committee will hold a hearing at 5 p.m. in City Hall to solicit public input on the proposed water and sewer rates.

Mayor David J. Narkewicz, who is preparing the fiscal 2016 budget, has tentatively set the rates at \$5.74 per 100 cubic feet for water and \$6.27 per 100 cubic feet for sewer. Narkewicz is scheduled to be the meeting and could take what he hears into account in his recommendation. The City Council, which has the final say, could also adjust the rates. Councilors Paul Spector, Jesse Adams and Alisa Klein will be at the Public Works Committee hearing.

The Public Works Committee was once the Board of Public Works, which used to set the water and sewer rates until this year. Narkewicz stripped the board of that power and made it into an advisory board the Department of Public Works.

At last week's City Council meeting, Spector repeatedly urged rate-payers to attend the hearing. The proposed water rate is a 2.87 percent increase from the fiscal 2015 rate. The sewer rate is up 2.88 percent.

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