



NOVA SCOTIA UTILITY AND REVIEW BOARD

NOTICE OF

PUBLIC HEARING

The **Town of Amherst**, has made Application to the Nova Scotia Utility and Review Board, on behalf of its **Water Utility** for approval of Amendments to its Schedule of Rates and Charges for Water and Water Services, Fire Protection and Amendments to its Schedule of Rules and Regulations. Specific details of the application are set out below.

Hearing: **Thursday, April 27, 2017**
 2:00 p.m.

Place: **Community Credit Union Business Innovation Centre**
 5 Ratchford Street
 Amherst, Nova Scotia

ALL PERSONS are entitled to attend the hearing.

ANYONE WISHING TO HAVE FORMAL STANDING to present evidence or cross-examine witnesses should file such intention with the Board by no later than **Wednesday, February 15, 2017** and a copy of their written evidence by no later than **Friday, March 17, 2017**.

ANYONE WISHING TO SPEAK at the hearing but not wishing to cross-examine witnesses may do so at the hearing. Presentations will follow the order in which interested parties notify the Board of their intention to appear. Such notification is to be given to the Board on or before **Monday, April 24, 2017**.

ANYONE WISHING TO MAKE COMMENTS may do so by forwarding a letter to the Clerk of the Board at Box 1692, Unit "M", Halifax, NS B3J 3S3, or by email at: board@novascotia.ca or by calling the Clerk at (902) 424-4448, or fax (902) 424-3919 no later than **Monday, April 24, 2017**.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

For flat rate charges, the current quarterly water bill is \$71.77, and it is proposed to increase to \$78.42, (a 9.3% increase) in 2017/18; \$82.12, (a 4.7% increase) in 2018/19; and \$85.06, (a 3.6% increase) in 2019/20.

For a 5/8 meter, residential customer, the average current quarterly water bill is \$55.86, and it is proposed to increase to \$60.45, (an 8.2% increase) in 2017/18; \$62.66, (a 3.7% increase) in 2018/19; and \$63.96, (a 2.1% increase) in 2019/20.

The Utility is also requesting amendments for other metered services ranging from 8.5% to 10.2% in 2017/18; 4.7% to 4.8% in 2018/19; and 3.4% to 4.2% in 2019/20.

The annual fire protection charge paid by the Town, currently \$694,800, is proposed to be amended to \$766,273, (a 10.3% increase) in 2017/18; \$802,359 (a 4.7% increase) in 2018/19; and \$838,735 (a 4.5% increase) in 2019/20.

Upon reviewing the Application, the Board, in its decision, may determine that the proposed amendments to rates should be as requested, higher, or lower.

A copy of the Application may be viewed at the offices of the Board, Summit Place, 1601 Lower Water Street, 3rd Floor, Halifax, NS or on the Board's website at <http://nsuarb.novascotia.ca/>, by clicking on "Matters & Evidence", "Go Directly to Matter" search box, and insert in Matter Number M07816; and at the Town of Amherst, 98 Victoria Street East, Amherst, NS.