

*Upper Mohawk Valley Regional Water Board
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

October 14, 2025

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THE MVWA WILL HOLD A PUBLIC RATE HEARING ON MONDAY, OCTOBER 20 AT 5:00

The Mohawk Valley Water Authority (MVWA) will hold a public rate hearing at 5:00 p.m. on Monday, October 20, 2025. **The rate hearing will be held in the Common Council Chambers on the first floor of Utica City Hall.** The Board of the MVWA is considering a rate increase of 2.0% to take effect on January 1, 2026.

If approved, the rate change will equate to approximately \$9.58 per year in higher water costs for the average household, or about 80 cents per month. The total proposed budget for the coming fiscal year is approximately \$32.46 million.

Some factors considered in the proposed budget include:

1. An increase of 15%, or \$144,000, in the payment to the NYS Retirement System. The total payment is estimated at \$1,089,896 for fiscal year 2026.
2. Overall water sales and consumption are projected to remain flat with no increase or decrease.
3. A decrease in interest earnings of approximately \$347,000 compared to 2025 actual.
4. An increase of \$532,000 in funding for smaller capital repair projects that includes piping and valve repairs and buildings and grounds improvements.

The rate increase has been partially offset by a cash carry-forward from accumulated surplus of \$1.6 million. There will be no increase in debt service in 2026.

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The MVWA Board of Directors will be considering the proposed rate structure at its regular monthly meeting to be held at 5:00 p.m. on October 27, 2025. The board meeting is open to the public and will take place at the MVWA Board room on the third floor of Utica City Hall.

The Mohawk Valley Water Authority is a regional agency that provides drinking water to approximately 128,000 customers throughout 18 municipalities in Oneida and Herkimer Counties. Contact the MVWA at 792-0301 or on the web at www.mvwa.us

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