



Town of Fairfield

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P R E S S R E L E A S E

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FIRST SELECTMAN TETREAU ENCOURAGES RESIDENTS TO ATTEND PUBLIC COMMENT HEARING ON PROPOSED AQUARION RATE INCREASES

First Selectman Mike Tetreau announced today that Fairfield residents are encouraged to attend a public comment hearing in Fairfield on Tuesday, June 18, 2013 to voice any concerns on Aquarion Water Company's proposed rate increases for each of the next three years. The first year's increases for Fairfield are proposed at 18.3% for residential, 18.4% for public authority usage and commercial and 9.0% for public fire.

Connecticut's Public Utilities Regulatory Authority (PURA) will conduct the hearing which is being held in the First Floor Conference Room in Independence Hall, 725 Old Post Road, at 6:30 pm on Tuesday, June 18, 2013. The hearing will not exceed 7:30 pm unless there are a large number of attendees. A transcriptionist will be present to record comments. The Town will be making a statement against the proposed increases. Any resident can attend and voice their opinions.

There are three other hearings in Connecticut:

-6/24/13: Mystic—6:30 pm

-6/25/13: Torrington—6:30 pm

-7/8/13: Simsbury—6:30 pm

Any resident unable to attend Tuesday's hearing may attend any of the three hearings or email a statement to as soon as possible to PURA.executivesecretary@ct.gov.

Last February, Aquarion notified PURA of the proposed increases. PURA is statutorily charged with regulating the rates and services of Connecticut's investor owned electricity, natural gas, water and telecommunication companies. If these increases take effect, residents, the Town, its public fire, as well as businesses would incur these costs starting this September. A final decision is expected to be made this August.

First Selectman Tetreau said, "I strongly urge residents to attend Tuesday's hearing. The Town will be submitting our objections to these excessive increases. Since these increases could also affect 46 other municipalities in the State, I have reached out to my fellow mayors and first selectmen in those towns to encourage them to let PURA know of any objections they may have. I am hoping that a collaborated effort will help to mitigate the final rate increases."

Information is available on PURA's website, <http://www.ct.gov.pura>. The Docket No. is 13-02-20.