

TOWNSHIP OF WASHINGTON
BERGEN COUNTY, NEW JERSEY

RESOLUTION NO. 18-294

OPPOSING PROPOSED RATE INCREASES BY SUEZ WATER

WHEREAS, the Suez Water Companies has petitioned the Board of Public Utilities for an increase in their rates for residential water service; and

WHEREAS, if the proposal is adopted as presented, the monthly fixed service charge for a one-family home will increase by \$7.12 or 80%, and the monthly consumption rate for a one-family home with a 5/8" meter will increase by 8.5% per ccf; and

WHEREAS, for the average one-family home using 9 ccf or 6,732 gallons of water per month the proposed increase on a monthly water bill will aggregate to 16.15%, which is an increase of \$8.03; and

WHEREAS, the annual average aggregate increase to a one-family home using a 9 ccf or 6,732 gallons of water per month will be \$96.36; and

WHEREAS, affordability is already an issue in New Jersey; and

WHEREAS, while the Mayor and Council encourage all Township of Washington residents to use this precious natural resource of wisely and conserve water whenever possible, such a significant increase for Senior Citizens on fixed incomes could result in an unhealthy rationing of water usage in an effort to reduce the cost; and

WHEREAS, such a significant increase by Suez Water in the cost of a basic necessity is unreasonable and unconscionable in this economic environment;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Mayor and Council of the Township of Washington hereby oppose the proposed increase by Suez Water; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Township of Washington Governing Body calls upon the Board of Public Utilities to temper the rate increase, and more particularly the 80% increase to the monthly service charge; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Borough Clerk is hereby directed to forward a copy of this resolution to the Honorable Jacob S. Gertsman, Administrative Law Judge for the public hearing; the Board of Public Utilities; Senator Cardinale; Assemblywoman Schepisi; Assemblyman Auth; and all Bergen County municipalities.

ATTEST:

Susan Witkowski
Susan Witkowski
Township Clerk

APPROVED:
TOWNSHIP COUNCIL OF THE
TOWNSHIP OF WASHINGTON

BY Michael DeSena
Michael DeSena
Council President

DATED: September 4, 2018

MOTION		SECOND		COUNCIL	AYES	NAYES	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
Bruno		Bruno		Bruno	X			
Cascio	X	Cascio		Cascio	X			
Cumming		Cumming	X	Cumming	X			
DeSena		DeSena		DeSena	X			
Ullman		Ullman		Ullman		X		