



Press Release

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The North Huntingdon Township Municipal Authority (NHTMA) took action at its regular meeting on May 1, 2013 to adopt a \$9 million annual budget, as well as update its \$13 million five-year capital improvement plan designed to continue repairing its aging infrastructure. The Authority's 2014 fiscal year began on May 1, 2013.

Due to the need for continuing capital improvements and an increase in operating costs, monthly rates for NHTMA residential customers will increase by \$2.00 to a total of \$48.80 per month beginning with service for May, 2013. This increase will result in a resident paying an additional \$24.00 per year for sewage service, or a total of \$1.60 per day. Commercial customers will see a similar increase of \$2.00 per month for each 4,200 gallons of water used.

The Capital Improvement Plan projects the Authority's capital expenses through Fiscal Year 2018. Projects anticipated in Fiscal Year 2014 total \$3.7 million and include replacing lines in the remainder of Country Hills, modifications to the lift station and construction of a retaining wall at the Yough Plant, line relocation at the Stewartsville pump station, finalizing updates to the chlorine disinfection system, vehicle replacement, and manhole and pump station rehabilitation. Engineering design will begin on the replacement of the Lower Tinkers Run interceptor. These capital projects will be financed through the Capital Reserve Fund without incurring any additional debt.

The increase in operating expenses included a 25% increase for water, a 20% increase in treatment fees from the Western Westmoreland Municipal Authority, and higher fuel and insurance costs.

Residential customers will see the effect of the rate increase beginning with the bills that are sent out in May covering service for the three previous months. The June prepayment stub will reflect the new rates. Customers who have paid for a year in advance in order to receive the 5% yearly discount should contact NHTMA. Customers in this situation will receive the discount on the additional charges when they are paid in full.

NHTMA tapping fee charge will remain at \$3,300 per EDU. The tapping fee is calculated based on a formula prescribed by the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, and permits an authority to recover allowable costs that have been spent on capital expenditures. The Authority's consulting engineer reviews the tapping fee each year as part of the budget process to ensure that new customers tapping into the system are paying their fair share of prior system costs.

NHTMA provides sanitary sewer service to approximately 11,900+ residential and commercial customers. With 23 full-time employees, the Authority maintains over 255 miles of sewer lines, 6,000 manholes, 13 pumping stations, and one 3.31 mgd treatment plant.