



NOVA SCOTIA REGULATORY AND APPEALS BOARD

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

IN THE MATTER OF AN APPLICATION by the **TOWN OF OXFORD**, on behalf of **its Water Utility**, for approval of amendment to its Schedule of Rates and Charges for Water and Water Services and amendments to its Schedule of Rules and Regulations. This matter will be considered in a public hearing as follows:

Hearing starts: **Wednesday, July 30, 2025**
10:30 a.m.

Hearing Location: **Council Chambers, Town of Oxford**
105 Lower Main Street
Oxford, NS

THE DATE AND LOCATION OF THE HEARING MAY CHANGE

If any Intervenor in this proceeding intends to file evidence, the timeline will be extended to accommodate this, and the hearing date will be rescheduled.

Depending on the circumstances, all or part of this public hearing may be held virtually, by video conferencing.

THE DATE, TIME AND LOCATION FOR THIS HEARING MAY BE CONFIRMED BY VISITING THE BOARD'S WEBSITE OR BY CONTACTING THE CLERK OF THE BOARD.

Board Hearings are open to the public and you may participate as follows:

- You may speak at the hearing. You must notify the Board by **Wednesday, July 16, 2025, of your request to speak.**
- You may make written comments by sending a letter to the Clerk of the Board at P.O. Box 1692, Unit "M", Halifax, NS B3J 3S3, or by email at: board@novascotia.ca, or by fax at (902) 424-3919 by **Wednesday, July 16, 2025.**

- You may request formal standing as an Intervenor, subject to Board approval. This will allow you to present evidence or cross-examine witnesses. Your request must be received by the Board by **Friday, June 20, 2025**, and a copy of your written evidence by **Wednesday, July 16, 2025**.

Additional information about the matter is as follows:

- For a 5/8" meter, residential customer, the quarterly-monthly water bill is proposed to increase from \$94.74 to \$111.18 (a 17.4% increase) in 2025/26; \$112.18 (0.9% increase) in 2026/27; and \$114.49 (2.1% increase) in 2027/28.
- The Utility is also requesting increases to rates for other metered customers, those with quarterly bills are proposed to change between 8.9% and 56.0% in 2025/26; -2.6% to 1.9% in 2026/27; and -0.7% to 2.8% in 2027/28.
- The annual public fire protection charge paid by the Town of Oxford is currently \$165,794 and will increase to \$202,319 (22.0%) for 2025/26, to \$210,645 (4.1%) in 2026/27 and to \$215,729 (2.4%) in 2027/28. The Utility proposes to prorate the fire protection charges in 2025/26 using 6 months at the current year's rate and 6 months at the proposed year's rate (\$184,057).

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

A copy of the Application and any timetable applying to this matter may be viewed on the Board's website at <http://nserbt.ca/nsrab/>, by clicking on "Matters & Evidence", "Go To Files & Documents", and in the "Go Directly to Matter" search box, enter Matter No. **M12239** or at the offices of the **Town of Oxford, 105 Lower Main Street, Oxford, Nova Scotia**.

To assist the Board in using correct forms of address and pronouns in our hearings and decisions, we invite all parties, lawyers, and all other participants to share their pronouns and titles with the Board and each other if they are comfortable doing so. There is no requirement to provide this information.