City of Fort Atkinson
City Engineer's Office
101 N. Main Street
Fort Atkinson, WI 53538

PRESS RELEASE

DATE: **June 5, 2026**

TO: **Local Media Outlets**

FROM: **Zach Navin, Director of Public Works**

RE: **City of Fort Atkinson Water Utility Rate to increase**

The Public Service Commission of Wisconsin formally approved the City of Fort Atkinson's simplified rate case for a water rate increase starting on October 1, 2026. Increases will appear in the utility bills received by Fort Atkinson Utility customers in October. The increase for homeowners would be 3% or an average of $2.51 on the average residential bimonthly utility bill.

The base rate will increase from $14.47 to $14.90. Usage rate will increase from $3.44 per 100 cubic feet (748 gallons) to $3.54 per 100 cubic feet. The public fire protection rate will go from $22.07 to $22.73 and the main water replacement rate will go from $3.96 to $4.08.

In 2021 the City was approved by the Public Service Commission to use a portion of rates to fund a dedicated, annual, water main replacement program, now in its sixth year. So far the City has replaced over 31,000 linear feet of water main, or approximately 6 miles of the approximately 75 miles of water main. The simple rate increase will adjust for increased costs in that program as well as operating expenses for the Water Utility.

There are several components to each water bill, the fixed rate, is fixed for all customer categories based on the size of the meter, and the usage rate, which is variable based upon the volume of water used. Fire protection and water main replacement rates are also fixed charges based on meter size. Utility bills also include sewer and stormwater rates, which had increases go into effect earlier this year.

Formed in 1901, the Fort Atkinson Water Utility is comprised of 75 miles of water mains. This network of underground pipes moves water to meet daily demands of residents, industry, and institutions and is a crucial component of fire suppression.

Questions on the rate increase may be directed to Zach Navin, Director of Public Works at znavin@fortatkinsonwi.gov or 920-397-9901. Questions about your utility bill can be directed to Utility Billing at 920-397-9902.

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