

**Mon. BOT Jan. 4 (Cont. from p1)**

sidered, but not voted on, a different water rates increase proposal. It had included a 78 percent increase in the proposed water rates and fees for some customers. It started with a minimum \$60.24 per month base fee that would have automatically included the first 6,000 gallons of water for all customers whether they used that much or not. It would have included an 8 per-

cent rates increase compounded annually for the next four years. See [www.ocn.me/v15n11.htm#mbot1005](http://www.ocn.me/v15n11.htm#mbot1005).)

Lowe said the proposed Jan. 4 increased base rates would only cover 32 percent of 2016 operating costs, and therefore both base rates and volumetric rates for residential and commercial customers would then increase 8 percent each year for the next six years to 2021. The town

would re-evaluate the financial progress toward solvency of the water fund along the way, he said.


The Jan. 4 proposal would introduce a minimum \$40/month base rate for three-quarter-inch taps that includes the first 3,000 gallons of water per month, and this would increase to \$58.77/month by the time the 8 percent annual increase is compounded each year to 2021. A 1 1/2-inch tap would now start with a \$160/month base rate and increase to \$235/month by 2021, for example.

By 2021, volumetric costs would be \$8.82/thousand gallons in the 3,000-6,000

gallons per month tier. As more water is used, the price per 1,000 gallons increases in the higher tiers, so it would cost \$18/1,000 gallons for any gallons over 24,000/month then.

Bulk water customers cannot be charged a monthly base rate based on tap size since they have to pick up their own water at the bulk fill water station instead of having it piped to their homes or construction sites. Therefore, they would continue to be charged a higher volumetric rate than residential and commercial customers.




The projections planned for 3 percent



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