

PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE **FOR PROPOSED UPGRADES TO ANDES WATER DISTRICT #1**

Purpose of Public Hearing:

A hearing is scheduled for September 1, 2022, at 6:00pm to discuss proposed upgrades to Water District #1 (WD#1). The meeting will be held at Andes Central School. The purpose of the hearing is to present the proposed upgrades to WD#1 customers and to pass a Bond Resolution for the proposed project.

Project Overview:

The New York State Department of Health (NYSDOH) has recently stated “The [Andes] water system relies on springs that are groundwater under the direct influence of surface water and a backup drilled well to supply water. Water output from the springs is variable and not reliable as a source of water for the system.” The Town has identified a potential reliable source located on land owned by the Town on New Cemetery Road. The proposed project is for the development, treatment, and connection of this source to the existing water system.

The key components of the upgrade include:

- Installation and development of two (2) new wells
- New treatment plant
- Connection to existing distribution system
- Water reservoir improvements

Project Benefits:

The new groundwater source area has been tested for both yield and water quality. This source has the necessary yield, and the natural contaminants identified (manganese and hydrogen sulfide) can be treated to acceptable levels. This source, if developed, is not under the influence of surface water and will not require filtering and UV treatment. The new source would be less susceptible to drought conditions. All water from this source will be properly disinfected prior to entering the water distribution system. As a result, disinfected water will be stored in the existing reservoir. This would be an improvement as water that is not properly treated is currently used during a fire event, with boil water and disinfection protocols necessary after such usage.

Cost of the Project:

The estimated cost of this project is \$2,588,210. The Town is applying for a Water Infrastructure Improvement Act (WIIA) grant to fund 60% of the estimated cost. The 40% local share will be funded by a Drinking Water State Revolving Fund (DWSRF) 30-year loan. Based on the number of service connections, the estimated increase in cost per water service customer will be \$406 per year. Based on this increase in debt service, the existing Annual Water Service charge will increase from \$490 to \$896.

Bond Amount:

The New York State Environmental Facilities Corporation (EFC) requires that Towns bond the full amount of the project with a 30% increase for possible inflation. Therefore, the total amount of the required bond is \$2,950,000.

Please contact Carol Ames, Andes Town Clerk, if you have any questions regarding this Public Hearing Notice.