

**MAYOR AND COMMISSIONERS
TOWN OF NORTH EAST
106 S. MAIN STREET
NORTH EAST, MARYLAND 21901**

**Artesian Interconnection Rate
Workshop Meeting – August 27, 2025**

Town Administrator Melissa Cook-MacKenzie called the Artesian Interconnection Rate Workshop to order at 6:07 P.M. Participating were Mayor Kelly Benson, Vice-Mayor Kimberly Davis, Commissioners Hilary A. Crothers-Moore, Catherine Bernard-Dutton and Neil DeMatt. Also present were, Assistant Town Administrator Grant Handley and Town Clerk Stephanie Racine-Dean.

OPENING COMMENTS

Melissa Cook-MacKenzie, Town Administrator, gave history regarding the Rate Study Findings through NewGen Strategies & Solutions, February 2024 and received the final report in May 2024. However the final report at the time did not give include a final recommendation for the Artesian Interconnection Rate. Mrs. Cook-MacKenzie gave a brief history starting when Artesian began being a customer of the Town.

The parties executed an Interconnection Agreement dated January 24, 2018 to an interconnection between the Town's distribution system and Artesian's water distribution system on Red Toad Road near the rail line crossing. Artesian also would like to connect to the Town's water system east of the Town between Mechanics Valley Road and Marley Road and Red Toad Road.

The Interconnection Agreement was made, June 26, 2019 between Artesian Water Maryland, INC., 664 Churchmans Road, Newark, Delaware and the Mayor and Commissioners of the Town of North East, 106 South Main Street, North East. Artesian is a public utility that owns and operates water systems and furnishes water service to the public and other water distributors in Maryland along with the Town who owns and operates a water system that supplies water to customers inside and outside the Town's corporate limits. The Town shall deliver and sell portable water to Artesian, Route 40 East Interconnection or the Red Toad Road Interconnection, a minimum average daily rate of thirty-five thousand gallons in each quarterly billing period and make available to Artesian from Red Toad Road Interconnection up to one hundred five thousand gallons per day. Artesian can request an increase of supply no more than one hundred and fifty thousand. The Town will make available to Artesian from

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the Route 40 Interconnection up to two hundred thousand gallons a day. Artesian can request an increase of supply no more than two hundred and forty five thousand.

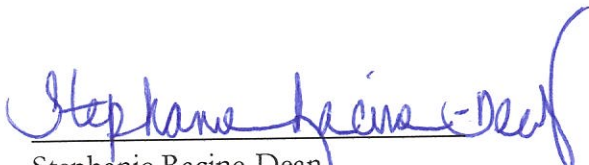
The term of the Agreement shall be for a period of 5 years and shall automatically renew for up to two additional five year terms at the end of the prior term absent cancellation by notice from either party provided at least 30 days prior to the end of the prior term. Both parties agree that the price for water delivered through the Interconnections shall be \$4.46 per thousand gallons and subject to change if the Town adjusts rates for all its water customers.

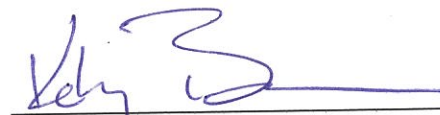
After discussion, Melissa Cook-MacKenzie will further investigate both documents from the year 2018 and 2019 along with the official commandment date which is how the renewal is based. Mrs. Cook-MacKenzie will bring back the information to the Board to decide if they would like to continue as a wholesale, and if yes, the town will go back to NewGen Strategies & Solutions for assistance.

With there being no further information discussed regarding the Artesian Interconnection Fee. The meeting adjourned at 6:49 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Attest:


Stephanie Racine-Dean
Town Clerk


Kelly Benson, Mayor