



City of Berlin RESOLUTION #23-10

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE DIRECT CHARGE OF PUBLIC FIRE PROTECTION

WHEREAS, the City of Berlin, Green Lake and Waushara Counties, Wisconsin (the "Municipality") owns and operates Berlin Municipal Water and Sewer Utility (PSC ID# 480) (the "Utility") as a public utility; and

WHEREAS, the Municipality provides fire protection for the benefit of the public health, safety, and well-being of its residents; and

WHEREAS, the Utility is authorized by the Wisconsin Public Service Commission (the "PSC") to recover the cost of providing and maintaining water system infrastructure including but not limited to fire hydrants used for public protection; and

WHEREAS, the Municipality has determined it is in the public interest to change the portion in the manner in which public fire protection charges are paid from a municipal charge (via tax roll) basis, to a direct charge on water bills based on an equivalent meter basis, thus, allowing for the collection of public fire protection charges from property owners not presently subject to property taxes; and

WHEREAS, the Municipality has determined to shift the entire municipal charge amount of \$247,775 to a direct charge on water bills based on an equivalent meter basis; and

WHEREAS, the direct charge will be applicable to general and non-general service customers who own property that is located both within the municipal limits and in an area where the Utility has an obligation to provide water for public fire protection; and

WHEREAS, \$247,775, plus the current direct charges, of Public Fire Protection charges shall be a direct charge on water bills as of the rate implementation date determined through the Test Year 2024 Conventional Rate Case; and

WHEREAS, Wis. Stat. Sec. 196.03(3)(b), allows the Municipality to collect the Public Fire Protection charge either through the tax levy or as a direct charge on the Utility bills; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the City Council, requests that Berlin Municipal Water and Sewer Utility (PSC ID# 480) apply to the PSC for authority to establish all Public Fire Protection charges be a direct charge on water bills to collect Public Fire Protection Charges for the City; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ALSO RESOLVED, that this change shall be effective upon review and approval by the PSC.

ADOPTED by the City Council of the City of Berlin, Green Lake and Waushara Counties, Wisconsin on the 12th day of September, 2023.


ROLL CALL VOTE:


6 AYES

0 NAYS

0 ABSENT

CITY OF BERLIN

BY: 
Joel Bruessel, Mayor

ATTEST: 

Sara Rutkowski
City Clerk