Dear Water Rate Board,

I was pleased to see you use 3740 gallons in your example instead of 5 CCF. In this age of transparency, why doesn’t the Water Department bill use gallons in their bar chart showing water usage for the past year? In fact, why doesn’t the Water Department become really transparent and show what the bill is per gallon? In your example, this would be 3740 gallons divided by $78.45. That comes to 2 cent per gallon after the full increase. That’s not an increase of 2 cents per gallon. That’s what this full increase would bring the cost to. That’s 2 cents per gallon for water, wastewater, stormwater and administrative costs. I’m not saying that the Water Department should change their metering or anything that would be costly. They should just do one simple calculation on the bill and possibly an explanation.

I have no objection to the rate increase as long as the Water Department becomes transparent and puts the cost per gallon on the bill so that everybody knows it. I don’t believe that anybody would object to 2 cents per gallon for clean drinking water and clean streams.

Hopefully, you agree with me and bring this issue of transparency to the Water Department’s attention.

Thank You,

Drew S. M