

From: Amanda Staples

Sent: Friday, May 10, 2024 6:28 AM

To: publicadvocate <publicadvocate@clsphila.org>

Subject: Water Rate Increase

Good morning,

I received your email regarding the public hearing for the Water Rate Board from my neighborhood RCO, and though I cannot make it I am really concerned and would love to be kept up to date of the situation. I also wanted to offer how a near 6% increase would affect me, since I saw that you mentioned small businesses.

I run a half acre farm on East Penn street in Germantown. My water bills are already astronomically high in season, and have gotten higher every year. From April though October, my water bill is anywhere from \$250 - \$700 month depending on rain, and I already feel like I cannot afford it, so I cannot abide another increase. I'm not sure if there is anything to be done in my specific situation, but thought maybe since you all advocate for the public regarding these rate increases, knowing of another situation where a small business growing food and plants in the community will be affected.

Thanks so much, and I welcome any insight you might have.

Amanda Staples

Germantown Kitchen Garden