

Roxanne Maher

From: David and JoAnn Conway <daveandjoann1998@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, August 11, 2026 3:02 PM
To: Town Council Group
Subject: What is UP with the water bill?

Hello, Town Council!

I am horrified that now, in addition to Eversource reaching into our wallets with the Public Benefit (which never did go away when they said it would; although reduced, it's still there).

And now, here I am looking over my water bill. How is anyone on the town council representing the people of Ledyard by increasing the water charges so drastically??? My bill went from \$80.09 to \$130.06. An approximately 38% upcharge? Really?

Here's the thing -- realistically, let's acknowledge that every single thing has increased in price. Egg prices have come back down somewhat as their inflated prices had a legitimate reason behind it. Eversource? Don't even get me started on that. Groceries? Gas? Clothes? Housing prices? Everything has gone up.

I accept that prices are rising. They have my whole life. I am not sitting in some rocking chair looking back to the "Good Old Days" and bemoaning that things don't cost what they did then. But I cannot get past such a massive increase, and I am sure some of the elderly on fixed incomes are really starting to feel the hurt of the rising prices. Now, this gigantic upcharge!

If WPCA has a pile of matters needing urgent attention, why wasn't the increase a gradual one? Did someone forget to keep ahead of things? Seems like it to me. What level of planning was involved in this? Who was asleep at the wheel? At our house, we fix and maintain things, budgeting for those very things. Why does WPCA need 38% more?

The town clerk mentioned that the increase was listed in the newspaper according to the law (which needs to be changed since fewer people subscribe to the skeletal newspaper). Nobody thought of posting a little notice on the bill for last month? Why? Then, when I wanted to question someone at the WPCA, there is nobody to contact except you all. The mayor's office gave me your e-mail, but it just seems really odd that one cannot contact the WPCA.

I realize this letter will likely do nothing. I can reduce my water usage, I guess, but seriously, laundry needs to be done, showers need to be taken, floors need cleaned, teeth need brushed, toilets need flushed. It's not like we're letting water run all over the place with only 2 of us in the house and my husband at work 8 hours each day.

This is disappointing, and the apparent lack of foresight and planning is wrong, especially in these more difficult economic times. Sure, we can afford the increase right now. But when we are on a fixed income, how in the world are we going to be able to do so?

Last, SHAME ON YOU! Do better!

