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MARYLAND PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION CASE NO. 9879

Statement for August 24, 2026 Public Comment Hearing

Read into the record by Town Administrator Mary Bohlen

The Town has asked the Maryland Public Service Commission for authority to establish new charges to recover costs associated with infrastructure changes.

Smart Meter (AMI) Opt-Out Fees

First, the Town has proposed charges for opting out of the Town's new advanced metering infrastructure (or "AMI") system.

For customers that opt out of smart AMI meters, the Town is proposing:

A One-Time Opt-Out Fee of \$50 (payable in three installments), and

A Monthly Fee of \$17.

The purpose of these fees is to recover the incremental costs of serving customers that choose to opt out of the AMI system. When a customer opts out of AMI meter reading, the meter needs to be read manually, which imposes additional costs. The proposed fees are to ensure that these additional costs are recovered from customers who opt-out, rather than from other electric customers.

The Town based its monthly fee on that charged by other Maryland utilities; Delmarva Power and SMECO each charge \$17/month. The Town's proposed one-time opt-out fee of \$50 is lower than theirs, which is \$75. The Town is proposing \$50 to mirror the existing tariff charge for a service call.

EV Public Charging Fees:

Second, the Town has proposed charges for use of the Electric Vehicle ("EV") charging station that the Town leases, located at 25 Commerce Street.

The Town has asked the Public Service Commission for permission to charge users:

18 cents per kWh, for Level 2 charging (208/220/240 voltage levels).

While the Town does not currently have a fast-charging station, it has asked the PSC to approve a rate of:

34 cents per kWh, for Direct Current Fast Charging ("DCFC") (loads 50 kW and higher).

The Town does not have a lot of data on how much costs the charging station will incur, and so proposed the same rates charged by Delmarva and SMECO.

We look forward to hearing any comments you may have and answering your questions as best we can.