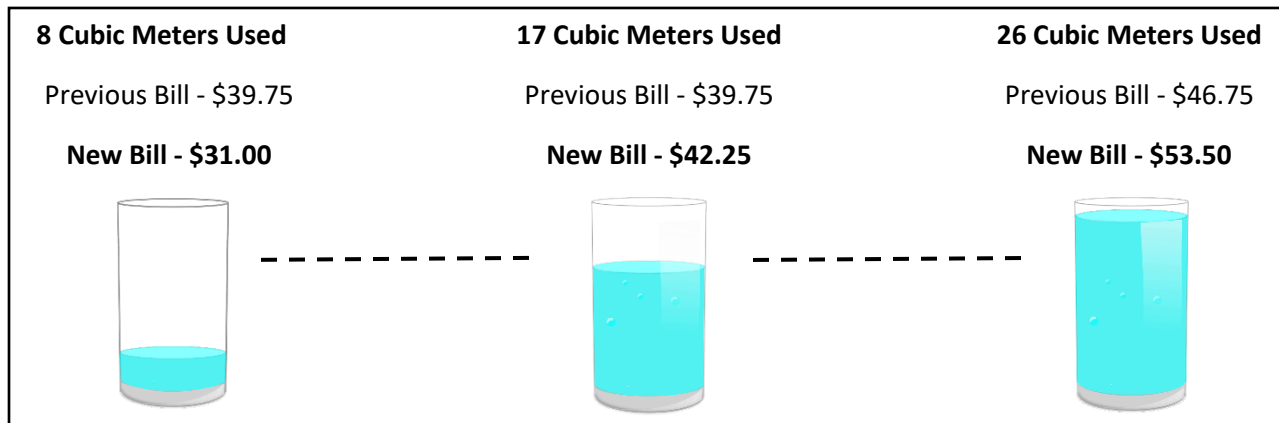


**Upcoming Changes to Utility Rates**

Starting February 1, 2020, you will notice some changes on your Town Utility bill. During the December 10, 2019 Council meeting, Council passed a motion to adjust all Waste Management, Storm Sewer, and Sanitary Sewer rates by a 1.3% Cost of Living increase. Regular Residential Rates will change as follows:

	2019	2020
<b>Garbage Rate</b>	\$ 18.90	<b>\$ 19.15</b>
<b>Recycling Rate</b>	\$ 2.20	<b>\$ 2.23</b>
<b>Storm Sewer Rate</b>	\$ 5.50	<b>\$ 5.57</b>
<b>Sanitary Sewer Rate</b>	\$ 37.30	<b>\$ 37.78</b>

In addition to this, the Water Rate calculation has been shifted to charge for actual water consumption per household. This method supports more environmentally conscious usage and will incentivize residents to use their water wisely. Instead of a flat rate of \$39.75 for up to 20 cubic meters, residents will now only pay a flat rate of \$21, plus \$1.25 for each cubic meter used up to 32 cubic meters. Any usage over 32 will be \$1.75. The average residential usage is approximately 17 cubic meters per month. It's estimated that about half the residents will see savings, and the other half will see increases, depending on your actual usage. To better illustrate this, please see the following example below:



These changes will appear on your March Bill. In order to prepare for the change, here are some tips.

**6 Easy Ways to be More Water Conscious in your Home:**

1. **Fix leaks.** You may have a slow leak in a faucet or toilet. This can increase your water usage dramatically. If you think you have a leak, there are free toilet leak testers at the Town Office.
2. **Install Low or Dual Flush Toilets.** This can decrease indoor water usage by up to 30%.
3. **Use Clothes/Dish Washer for Full Loads Only.** For partial loads, adjust water levels to match the size of the load. Also consider a High Efficiency Washer next time it needs to be replaced.
4. **Take Shorter Showers.** Implement a timer for kids or install low-flow shower heads and faucets.
5. **Turn off the water while shaving or brushing your teeth.** The same thing can apply to washing dishes or vegetables. Instead, plug the sink and fill it with some water when you need to rinse.
6. **Water your lawn less and fertilize.** You can still have a lush, green lawn, without using a ton of water. Most lawns only need about 1-2 inches of water per week. Put a pie plate or frisbee on the lawn to track water usage. Fertilizing about 4-5 times a year will help a lot as well.