

WATER POLICY – UPDATED VERSION

16.4 – Water Policy

- A. Any person, legal entity or political body who seeks an extension of water service, annexation of land to the Town or a change in land use, if such change in use will increase the demand for water service, shall dedicate a sufficient amount of acceptable raw water to the Town; except that, for good cause shown, as determined by the Town Council, the Town may accept cash-in-lieu of the required raw water dedication in an amount at least equal to the fair market value of water rights sold.
- B. The Town shall protect the Town's water rights by, when warranted and economically feasible, filing water court actions to change the decreed use of such water to allow for municipal uses and participating in third party cases to protect the Town's then existing water portfolio.
- C. The Town may provide more raw water credit for the dedication of water rights that, at the time of dedication, allow for municipal uses than water rights that do not allow for municipal uses.
- D. The Town shall not sell or otherwise transfer the Town's water rights unless the Town receives, at a minimum, an equivalent yield on a water exchange; except that, in addition to the sale to allow for cash-in-lieu of the required water dedication as provided in Paragraph A above, the Town may sell water rights to fund capital improvement projects related to the treatment or distribution of water or wastewater.
- E. The Town shall endeavor to retain sufficient water resources above the Town's annual water demands to ensure that the Town will have adequate water supplies in times of extended drought.
- F. The Town shall endeavor to maintain a water portfolio greater than or equal to 1.2 times the acre-foot volume of water treated at the Johnstown Water Treatment Plant during each calendar year.