



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Bristol Water Department Now Credit and Debit Card Payments

Bristol, CT, September 4, 2009 – Customers of the Bristol Water Department will now be able to pay their water and sewer bills by either Credit or Debit Card.

The ability to pay by credit and debit cards is the second phase of the Water Department's On-Line Payment Program. Under the first phase, the department set up an On-Line Payment system so customers could pay on-line through their checking or savings accounts. The existing on-line payment system has been modified to incorporate credit cards. Credit card machines have also been installed at the water department's office for any customer paying in person.

“We wanted to find a way to assist our customers without having to incur large percentage based fees from the credit card companies”, said Water Board Commissioner Steve Posa. Commissioner Posa also stated that “Webster Bank was able to provide us with an acceptable fixed transaction fee and the Board of Water Commissioners decided to cover all associated cost, so customers could use the service without any additional charges”.

The department is also working on replacing their 25 year old utility billing software, which is the final phase of the program. “Once we replace our software, all payments made online can be imported directly into the new software which will eliminate the need for data entry”, according to Commissioner Elizabeth Phelan. The water department receives on average 7,500 payments per month and has over 2,500 customers currently utilizing the On-line Payment system.

By logging on to the Bristol Water Department's website at www.bristolwaterdept.org, customers can click on the link titled “Pay Online”. The link sends the customer to a page administered by Webster Bank, which handles all of the transactions.

Anyone with questions about the On-Line or Credit Card payments can contact the Bristol Water Department at 860-582-7431 or may visit the Bristol Water Department's website at www.bristolwaterdept.org.