

RESOLUTION

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE HIRING OF JOEL R. DICHTER OF DICHTER LAW LLC AS SPECIAL COUNSEL TO REPRESENT PARTICIPATING WESTCHESTER MUNICIPALITIES IN CON EDISON'S ELECTRIC AND GAS RATE CASE BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

WHEREAS, on January 31, 2025, Con Edison filed a petition with the New York Public Service Commission to increase electric and gas rates as of January 1, 2026; and

WHEREAS, under this petition, electric rates would rise by 18% with residential delivery charges increasing by 25.1%, and natural gas delivery rates rising by 19.1%; and

WHEREAS, this Con Edison rate hike proposal comes after an increase of 20% in rates over the past three (3) years and any further significant increases would have negative financial impacts on residents and businesses within Westchester County; and

WHEREAS, the Public Service Commission is currently reviewing Con Edison's petition for an electric and gas rate increase; and

WHEREAS, it is in the best interest of the Village of Buchanan be represented in this matter to ensure the concerns of local governments and its residents are adequately addressed; and

WHEREAS, Joel R. Dichter of Dichter Law LLC has the necessary experience and expertise to represent the interests of the participating municipalities in this case and has submitted a proposal dated February 13, 2025 to represent participating municipalities; and

WHEREAS, the proposal includes intervening in the rate case, conducting discovery, retaining expert witnesses, preparing briefs, and attending all hearings and any settlement negotiations at a total cost that shall not exceed One Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$100,000) which would be split equally among all of the participating municipalities that accept to his representation in this rate case; and

WHEREAS, such representation will only proceed if at least twenty (20) municipalities agree to be represented by Joel R. Dichter of Dichter Law LLC;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Trustees of the Village of Buchanan, as follows:

1. The Municipality hereby authorizes the hiring of Joel R. Dichter of Dichter Law LLC as special counsel to represent participating Westchester municipalities in Con Edison's Electric and Gas Rate Case before the Public Service Commission; and

2. The Municipality's share of the legal fees shall be determined based on an equal division among all participating municipalities, with the total amount of such representation not to exceed \$100,000 (example: (\$100,000 / 20 municipalities = \$5,000 each); and
3. This authorization shall only take effect if at least twenty (20) municipalities agree to be represented by Joel R. Dichter of Dichter Law LLC in this matter.
4. The mayor is hereby authorized to take all necessary actions to execute agreements and related documents and make payments in furtherance of this resolution.
5. This resolution shall take effect immediately.

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Village of Buchanan shall coordinate the payment to Joel R. Dichter of Dichter Law LLC on behalf of the participating municipalities for representation in this Con Edison electric and gas rate case.

Adopted this 1 of April, 2025, by the Village Board of Trustees