

TOWN OF CHESTER  
TOWN BOARD  
LOCAL LAW 1 OF 2026, A LOCAL LAW TO OPT OUT OF INSTALLATION OF  
CELLULAR ENDPOINTS FOR WATER METERS

BE IT ENACTED, by the Town Board of the Town of Chester as follows:

**Section 1. Legislative Intent.**

The Town of Chester utilizes cellular endpoint technology to collect water meter reading data to reduce required manpower and for the immediate detection of water leaks. The Town Board recognizes that there are some who are concerned as to potential ill effects of such technology. While the Town Board has not seen such ill effects, the Town Board desires to provide property owners with the option of not using cellular end point technology for collecting water meter data.

**Section 2. Chapter 95 of the Town of Chester Town Code, entitled “Water”, section 3, entitled “Meters” is hereby amended to read as follows:**

- A. All water supplied to residential users in districts shall be through water meters approved by the Town Board. There shall be no tampering with water meters or breaking of meter seals with the intent to slow, stop or alter the readings of the meter. All water meters shall be the property of the Town of Chester, and any damage to a meter shall be reported to the Town Clerk within five days of such damage. The owner of the premises in which a water meter is installed shall be liable for any and all damage to said meter when such damage is either intentionally caused or caused by the negligence of the owner, occupant, agent or employee.
- B. Property owners elect to have meters read manually by providing written notice to the Town Clerk. Property owners who elect to have their water meter read manually shall be charged an opt out fee on each water bill. Such opt out fee shall be established by resolution of the Town Board from time to time and shall be subject to § 95-8, “Water rates; nonpayment of bills”.

**Section 3. Chapter 95 of the Town of Chester Town Code, entitled “Water”, section 7, entitled “Promulgation of rules and regulations authorized” is hereby amended to read as follows:**

The Town Board shall have the right to promulgate rules, regulations or restrictions by resolution relating to the operation of the water district, including restrictions on the use of water and the prohibition of water for certain purposes if the Town Board finds that circumstances exist which necessitate the imposition of such regulations and/or prohibitions. The Town Board may further promulgate rules, regulations or restrictions

by resolution concerning the implementation of advancing technology and the means of property owners opting out of the use of such technology. The Town Board shall publish such rules, regulations or restrictions in the official Town newspaper as soon as possible after their adoption and in no event more than five days after their effective date. The rules, regulations or restrictions shall have the same force and effect as if they were a part of this article.

**Section 4. Authority.**

This local law is adopted pursuant to section 10 of the Statute of Local Governments which provides local governments the power “to adopt, amend and repeal ordinances, resolutions and rules and regulations in the exercise of its functions, powers and duties”.

**Section 5. Severability.**

If any clause, sentence, paragraph, subdivision, or part of this Local Law or the application thereof to any person, firm or corporation, or circumstance, shall be adjusted by any court of competent jurisdiction to be invalid or unconstitutional, such order or judgment shall not affect, impair, or invalidate the remainder thereof , but shall be confined in its operation to the clause, sentence, paragraph, subdivision, or part of this Local Law or in its application to the person, individual, firm or corporation or circumstance, directly involved in the controversy in which such judgment or order shall be rendered.

**Section 6. Effective Date.**

This local law shall take effect upon filing with the Secretary of State.