

#4627

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AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND CHAPTER 45 OF THE CITY CODE REGARDING (i) SEWER SYSTEM RATES AND CHARGES AND WATER RATES AND CHARGES FOR FISCAL YEAR 2020 AND (ii) SEWER SYSTEM UNIT CHARGES

WHEREAS, the Council of the City of Wilmington (the "Council") has enacted Chapter 45 of the Wilmington City Code, Article II of which includes provisions regarding sewer systems and sewage disposal and the rates and charges for same, such provisions being most recently amended by Ordinance No. 18-008; and

WHEREAS, the Council has enacted various ordinances establishing a system of drinking water user charges, the most recent being Ordinance No. 18-008; and

WHEREAS, the Council has enacted Section 45-58 of the City Code regarding unit charges for sewer services; and

WHEREAS, the Council deems it necessary and proper to (i) increase the water and sewer user rates and charges and (ii) amend the sewer system unit charges.

NOW, THEREFORE, THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WILMINGTON HEREBY ORDAINS:

SECTION 1. Chapter 45 of the City Code is hereby amended by amending Section 45-175 thereof by adding the underlined language and deleting the stricken language to read as follows:

Sec. 45-175. Monthly water rates and fire service charges.

(a) *General water rates, excluding residential.* Charges for water service shall be composed of a monthly facilities charge for each meter and usage charges based on rates per 1,000 gallons of actual consumption. The monthly facilities charge for five-eighths-inch, three-fourths-inch and one-inch meters shall include a monthly allowance of 3,000 gallons of water. Facilities and usage charges for all accounts in each classification of customers shall be payable monthly based on monthly meter readings. The classification of customers, monthly facilities charges, and usage charges shall be as follows:

Meter Size (Inches)	Monthly Facilities Charge \$	Inside City Usage Charges (\$ per 1,000 gallons)					
		Commercial		Industrial		Apartment	
5/8	21.75 22.90	8.907	9.379	7.123	7.501	8.405	8.850
¾	24.50 25.80	8.907	9.379	7.123	7.501	8.405	8.850
1	27.20 28.64	8.907	9.379	7.123	7.501	8.405	8.850
1½	27.20 28.64	8.907	9.379	7.123	7.501	8.405	8.850
2	35.38 37.26	8.907	9.379	7.123	7.501	8.405	8.850
3	114.25 120.31	8.907	9.379	7.123	7.501	8.405	8.850
4	217.57 229.10	8.907	9.379	7.123	7.501	8.405	8.850
6	293.72 309.29	8.907	9.379	7.123	7.501	8.405	8.850
8	407.96 429.58	8.907	9.379	7.123	7.501	8.405	8.850
10	407.96 429.58	8.907	9.379	7.123	7.501	8.405	8.850
12	407.96 429.58	8.907	9.379	7.123	7.501	8.405	8.850
14	407.96 429.58	8.907	9.379	7.123	7.501	8.405	8.850
16	407.96 429.58	8.907	9.379	7.123	7.501	8.405	8.850

Meter Size (Inches)	Monthly Facilities Charge \$	Outside City Usage Charges (\$ per 1,000 gallons)		
		Commercial	Industrial	Apartment
5/8	34.82	12.221	10.326	13.186
¾	38.10	12.221	10.326	13.186
1	42.43	12.221	10.326	13.186
1½	40.26	12.221	10.326	13.186
2	54.39	12.221	10.326	13.186
3	184.96	12.221	10.326	13.186
4	359.02	12.221	10.326	13.186
6	478.66	12.221	10.326	13.186
8	680.32	12.221	10.326	13.186
10	680.32	12.221	10.326	13.186
12	680.32	12.221	10.326	13.186
14	680.32	12.221	10.326	13.186
16	680.32	12.221	10.326	13.186

(b) *General water rates, residential only.* Charges for water service shall be composed of a monthly facilities charge for each meter and usage charges based on rates per 1,000 gallons of actual consumption. The monthly facilities charge for five-eighths-inch, three-fourths-inch, and one-inch meters shall include a monthly allowance of 2,000 gallons of water. Facilities and usage charges for all accounts in each classification of customers shall be payable monthly based on monthly meter readings. The classification of customers, monthly facilities charges, and usage charges shall be as follows:

Meter Size (Inches)	Monthly Facilities Charge (1)		Inside City Residential Customers Usage Charges (per 1,000 gallons)			
			1 st Block (2)		2 nd Block (3)	
5/8	18.48	19.46	5.853	6.163	7.315	7.703
3/4	20.84	21.94	5.853	6.163	7.315	7.703
1	23.11	24.33	5.853	6.163	7.315	7.703
1½	27.20	28.64	5.853	6.163	7.315	7.703
2	35.38	37.26	5.853	6.163	7.315	7.703
3	114.25	120.31	5.853	6.163	7.315	7.703
4	217.57	229.10	5.853	6.163	7.315	7.703
6	293.72	309.29	5.853	6.163	7.315	7.703
8	407.96	429.58	5.853	6.163	7.315	7.703

- (1) Includes a monthly allowance of 2,000 gallons for 5/8", 3/4", and 1" metered customers.
- (2) All usage between 2,001 gallons and 5,000 gallons per month for 5/8", 3/4", and 1" metered customers. All usage up to 5,000 gallons per month for all other meter sizes.
- (3) All usage over 5,000 gallons per month.

Meter Size (Inches)	Monthly Facilities Charge \$ (1)	Outside City Residential Customers Usage Charges (\$ per 1,000 gallons)	
		1 st Block (2)	2 nd Block (3)
5/8	29.59	10.597	13.239
3/4	32.37	10.597	13.239
1	36.07	10.597	13.239
1½	40.26	10.597	13.239
2	54.39	10.597	13.239
3	184.96	10.597	13.239
4	359.02	10.597	13.239
6	478.66	10.597	13.239
8	680.32	10.597	13.239

- (1) Includes a monthly allowance of 2,000 gallons for 5/8", 3/4", and 1" metered customers.
- (2) All usage between 2,001 gallons and 5,000 gallons per month for 5/8", 3/4", and 1" metered customers. All usage up to 5,000 gallons per month for all other meter sizes.
- (3) All usage over 5,000 gallons per month.

(c) *Charges for certain elderly homeowners.* All property owners including the disabled who are eligible for and have been granted exemptions from

municipal taxation of real property in the city pursuant to the provisions of section 44-64 shall be charged monthly for all meters servicing exempt properties and shall pay the monthly facilities charge of ~~\$12.70~~ \$13.37 for the monthly allowance of 2,000 gallons. All usage between 2,001 gallons and 5,000 gallons per month shall be charged at ~~\$2.198~~ \$2.314 per 1,000 gallons. All usage above 5,000 gallons per month shall be charged at ~~\$2.747~~ \$2.893 per 1,000 gallons.

* * *

SECTION 2. Chapter 45 of the City Code is hereby amended by amending Section 45-58 thereof by adding the underlined language and deleting the stricken language to read as follows:

Sec. 45-58. - Unit charges.

Unit charges for sewer service. The following unit charges for sewer service shall be effective July 1, 2019, and shall continue as stated herein until and unless amended by ordinance of city council:

R _{BOD}	=	\$0.38/lb.
R _{ss}	=	\$0.50/lb.
R _f	=	\$0.53/1,000 gallons
P	=	\$0.34/1,000 gallons
T	=	\$1.05/1,000 gallons
W	=	0.75 <u>0.7315</u> of water rent

SECTION 3. This Ordinance shall become effective as of July 1, 2019.

First Reading.....March 28, 2019
 Second Reading.....March 28, 2019
 Third Reading.....

Passed by City Council,

 President of City Council

ATTEST: _____
City Clerk

Approved this ____ day of _____, 2019.

Mayor

SYNOPSIS & FISCAL IMPACT: This Ordinance enacts water and sewer charges and rates for Fiscal Year (FY) 2020. The charges and rates for water services will increase by 5.30% for Inside City customers in FY 2020 from what they are in FY 2019, while remaining unchanged for Outside City customers. This Ordinance also amends the sewer service unit charges listed in City Code Section 45-58 by decreasing the sewer factor (listed in City Code Section 45-58 as W) from 0.75 to 0.7315. This amendment results in a net rate increase of 2.69% for sewer services for Inside City customers. Stormwater charges and rates are not affected by this Ordinance and will remain the same as they are in FY 2019, as listed in City Code Section 45-53(d).

The projected fiscal impact of this Ordinance is an annual increase of almost \$1.21 million in revenue (net of bad debt) to the Water/Sewer Fund. Below is a table showing the fiscal impact on a typical residential customer living in the City.

FY 2020 Rate Increase Impact on Typical Residential Customer				
Water, Sewer & Stormwater Typical Monthly Bill Impact (Inside City Residential 5/8 inch meter @ 4,000 gallons monthly consumption)				
Services	Monthly Charge FY 2019	Monthly Charge FY 2020	Monthly Increase	Monthly % Increase
Water	30.19	31.79	1.60	5.30%
Sewer	22.64	23.25	0.61	2.69%
Stormwater	4.95	4.95	0.00	0.00%
Total Bill	\$57.78	\$59.99	\$2.21	3.82%

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