

ORDINANCE 29-C-22

Synopsis: This ordinance, if adopted, would amend Chapter 51 of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Huntington, Indiana and provide for an increase in wastewater rates and charges, after hour service call fees, and water tap and meter fees.

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 51 OF THE CODE OF ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF HUNTINGTON, INDIANA

WHEREAS, the Common Council ("Council") of the City of Huntington, Indiana ("City") has enacted and established certain user rates and charges to be collected from the customers of its wastewater works; and

WHEREAS, the City has caused engineering evaluations to be undertaken with regard to the City's obligations to meet federal and state wastewater standards, including ongoing compliance with its approved Long Term Control Plan, and has also caused financial studies of its wastewater works to be made by its financial consultant, Baker Tilly, which has many years of experience and expertise in such matters; and

WHEREAS, those evaluations and studies establish that:

- Significant and increasing wastewater works expenditures have been and are necessary, and in the immediate future more wastewater works expenditures will be necessary, and
- The revenues generated pursuant to the schedule of monthly rates and charges currently in force are inadequate to meet the imminent needs of the wastewater works; and

WHEREAS, having evaluated available data in regard to these matters, Council now finds that the existing rates and charges for the use of, and services rendered by, the City's wastewater works system are insufficient to properly operate and maintain those wastewater works, and to properly serve and safeguard the health, well-being, and property of the City and its inhabitants and wastewater system users, provide for depreciation, service outstanding indebtedness, and finance necessary upgrades and improvements to the system, and that certain monthly rates and charges should be increased; and

WHEREAS, the enabling statutes of the State of Indiana require that the rates and charges to be collected for the use of services rendered by that wastewater system shall be just and equitable fees fixed by ordinance finally adopted in accordance with the requirements of applicable authority; and

WHEREAS, Council conducted a public hearing regarding this ordinance following notice and publication as required by Indiana Code 36-9-23-26; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED by Council that Section 1 of Appendix A of Chapter 51 of the City's Code of Ordinances ("Appendix A") is hereby replaced in its entirety as follows:

SECTION 1. WASTEWATER WORKS CHARGES.

(A) The wastewater rates and charges shall be based on the quantity of water used on or in the property or premises subject to those rates and charges, as the same is measured by the water therein used, except as herein otherwise provided. Water meters will be read once each month, and wastewater service bills shall be rendered once each month (or period approximating a month). The water usage schedule on which the amount of the rates and charges shall be determined shall be as follows:

<i>Flow Charges</i> <i>Flow charge per cubic feet</i>	
<i>Customer</i>	
Standard	\$0.1177
RHWSD	\$0.1177

(B)(1) The base charge for any service where the user is metered, shall be based on the size of that user's water meter, and shall be as follows:

<i>Monthly Base Charge</i> <i>Monthly Charge by Meter Size in Inches</i>	
<i>Meter Size</i>	
5/8" - 3/4"	\$12.07
1"	\$16.54
1 1/4"	\$28.87
1 1/2"	\$64.75
2"	\$112.91
3"	\$258.57
4"	\$449.05
6"	\$1,020.46

(B)(2) The monthly charge to an unmetered single family residence shall be:

<i>Monthly Unmetered Rate</i>	
<i>Single Family Residence</i>	
Unmetered	\$74.81

(C) The fee for after hour service calls shall be as follows:

<i>After Hour Service Call Fees</i>	
Sewer after hour call	\$150
Sewer after hour call on holiday	\$350

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED, that City Code Sections 50.30(b)(1) and Section 50.30(c) are each replaced in their entirety with the following:

City Code Section 50.30(b)(1) Schedule of fees for taps completed by City:

<i>Water Tap Fees</i>	
Tap Size	Fee
5/8 - 3/4"	\$1,250
1"	\$1,400
1 1/2"	\$4,600
2"	\$4,500

City Code Section 50.30(c) Schedule of fees for meters:

<i>Water Meter Fees</i>	
Meter Size	Fee
5/8- 3/4"	\$360
1"	\$475
1 1/2"	\$950
2"	\$2,000
3"	\$3,300
4"	\$4,300
6"	\$7,100

BE IT FINALLY ORDAINED, by Council that this Ordinance shall be in full force and effect for the first full billing period of the City's Wastewater Department to commence after the adoption of this Ordinance, and for all billing periods thereafter, all in accordance with applicable law and pending further action by this Council and all ordinances or parts of ordinances in conflict herewith are hereby repealed.

(Signature Block Next Page.)

Duly adopted on first reading this 25 day of October, 2022, by a vote of 4 in favor and 0 in opposition.

Duly adopted on final reading this 27 day of October, 2022, by a vote of 5 in favor and 0 in opposition.

CITY OF HUNTINGTON, INDIANA by its COMMON COUNCIL

Voting in Favor:

[Signature]
Joe Blomeke
Absent
[Signature]
Todd Johnson
[Signature]
Absent

Voting in Opposition:

Charles Chapman
(President) _____
Joe Blomeke _____
PJ Felton _____
Dave Funk _____
Todd Johnson _____
Seth Marshall _____
Paul Pike _____

Attest:

Christi McElhaney
Christi A. McElhaney
City Clerk-Treasurer

Presented by me to the Mayor for approval or veto, this 27 day of October, 2022.

Christi McElhaney
Christi A. McElhaney
City Clerk-Treasurer

This ordinance having been adopted by the Common Council and presented to me is [APPROVED or VETOED], this 27 day of October, 2022.

[Signature]
Richard Strick
Mayor of the City of Huntington, Indiana