

**ORDINANCE AMENDING AND RE-ENACTING SECTION 7-4-1 –
SCHEDULE OF RATES AND CHARGES GENERALLY and SEC. 7-1-9. -
DISCONTINUANCE OF SERVICE FOR DELINQUENCY IN PAYMENT
OF UTILITY BILLS; GENERALLY, OF THE CODE OF ORDINANCES
CITY OF HARRISONBURG, VIRGINIA**

Be it ordained by the Council of the City of Harrisonburg, Virginia:

That Section 7-4-1 be amended as shown:

Sec. 7-4-1. - Schedule of rates and charges generally.

The rates for water and sewer services, or specific sewer metering applications as approved by the director, to be applied to one hundred (100) percent of the water meter readings, shall be as follows:

(a) Water rates, per month:

(1) City water rates, per month:

a. First zero (0) gallons to two hundred fifty thousand (250,000) gallons at three dollars and seventy-nine cents (\$3.79) per one thousand (1,000) gallons;

b. All over two hundred fifty thousand (250,000) gallons at three dollars and forty-nine cents (\$3.49) per one thousand (1,000) gallons.

(2) Rural water rates, per month:

a. First zero (0) gallons to two hundred fifty thousand (250,000) gallons at five dollars and eighty-six cents (\$5.86) per one thousand (1,000) gallons;

b. All over two hundred fifty thousand (250,000) gallons at four dollars and ninety-two cents (\$4.92) per one thousand (1,000) gallons.

(3) In addition to the city and rural water rates as set forth above, there shall be added to all water bills generated in the months of July, August, September, October, and November of each year a seasonal water rate charge of twenty-~~four~~five cents (\$0.24~~5~~) per one thousand (1,000) gallons.

(4) Minimum water charges per month by meter: (Three thousand (3,000) gallons for 5/8 meter; AWWA equivalent multiplier for larger sizes):

Meter Size (inches)	AWWA Multiplier	City Minimum(per month)	Rural Minimum(per month)
5/8 or 3/4	1.0	\$11.37	\$17.58

1	2.5	\$28.43	\$43.95
1½	5.0	\$56.85	\$87.90
2	8.0	\$90.96	\$140.64
3	16.0	\$181.92	\$281.28
4	25.0	\$284.25	\$439.50
6	50.0	\$568.50	\$879.00
8	80.0	\$909.60	\$1,406.40
10	210.0	\$2,273.70	\$3,334.60

(5) Rockingham County Water Agreement of 1995 (north and east areas): Rates shall conform to the contract or any amendments to the same.

(6) When using storm water or surface water for "green water" purposes as set forth in [section 7-3-81](#) of this Code, water shall be billed at the city and county water rates; as published in [section 7-4-1](#); however, less the operating component of the rate. The operating component of the rate is calculated as follows: [annual pumping, storage and monitoring costs, plus annual transmission and distribution costs, plus annual water treatment costs; the sum divided by total annual consumption per one thousand (1,000) gallons].

(b) Sewer plus authority rates, per month:

(1) City sewer plus authority rates, per month (includes two dollars and twenty-six cents (\$2.26) per one thousand (1,000) gallons for each of the following rate groups for sewer charge):

a. First zero (0) gallons to two hundred fifty thousand (250,000) gallons at five dollars and eighty-nine cents (\$5.89) per one thousand (1,000) gallons;

b. All over two hundred fifty thousand (250,000) gallons at five dollars and sixty-nine cents (\$5.69) per one thousand (1,000) gallons.

(2) Rural sewer plus authority rates, per month (includes two dollars and twenty-six cents (\$2.26) per one thousand (1,000) gallons for each of the following rate groups for the sewer charge):

a. First zero (0) gallons to two hundred fifty thousand (250,000) gallons at eight dollars and seventy cents (\$8.70) per one thousand (1,000) gallons;

b. All over two hundred fifty thousand (250,000) gallons at eight dollars and twenty-eight cents (\$8.28) per one thousand (1,000) gallons.

(3) Minimum sewer charges, per month by meter: (Three thousand (3,000) gallons for 5/8" meter; AWWA equivalent multiplier for larger sizes):

Meter Size (inches)	AWWA Multiplier	City Minimum (per month)	Rural Minimum (per month)
5/8 or 3/4	1.0	\$17.67	\$26.10
1	2.5	\$44.18	\$65.25
1½	5.0	\$88.35	\$130.50
2	8.0	\$141.36	\$208.80
3	16.0	\$282.72	\$417.60
4	25.0	\$441.75	\$652.50
6	50.0	\$883.50	\$1,305.00
8	80.0	\$1,413.60	\$2,088.00
10	210.00	\$3,634.70	\$5,321.40

All minimum charges for both city and rural include authority O & M and debt charge. There shall be a separate minimum charge for each meter

(4) Rockingham County Water Agreement of 1995 (north and east areas): Rates shall conform to the contract or any amendments to the same.

(c) Utility tax: A twenty (20) percent utility tax is added to the total water bills of city and rural users, maximum two dollars (\$2.00) residential, twenty dollars (\$20.00) commercial.

(d) Regulations: All unpaid accounts are subject to discontinuance of service one (1) month and five (5) days after past due. There shall be an administrative charge of thirty-five dollars (\$35.00) added to the utility bill of any account that requires adjustment due to a returned payment by the bank on which it is drawn, for any reason. After three (3) returned payments, utility accounts may be removed from automatic draft per the discretion of the director, or their assigned. Should the account have a reduced deposit due to automatic draft set up during initialization the remainder deposit due will be billed to the utility account due in the next billing cycle. Utility accounts will be eligible to re-establish automatic bank draft after twelve (12) months. Accounts sixty (60) days or more past due shall be forwarded to a collection agency. Administrative charges incurred from the collection of past due accounts shall be charged to the account holder.

(e) Other charges:

<u>Administrative / Field call</u> -during working hours <u> next business day</u>	\$1 25.00
<u>Administrative / Field call</u> – same day service before cutoff time	<u>\$75.00</u>
<u>Administrative / Field call</u> - after working <u>business</u> hours	\$175.00 + cost
Re-connections -during working hours <u> next business day</u>	\$2 35.00

<u>Re-connection – same day service before cutoff time</u>	<u>\$75.00</u>
Re-connections s _ after working <u>business</u> hours	\$12 <u>75.00</u> + cost
Tapping orders <u>per meter</u> \geq 72 hours' notice	\$25.00 <u>per meter</u>
Tapping orders <u>per meter</u> < 72 hours' notice	\$75 <u>0.00</u> per meter
Tapping orders <u>per meter</u> < 72 hours' notice _ after working <u>business</u> hours	\$175 <u>0.00</u> per meter + cost
Meter test < 2" in size	\$150.00
Meter test \geq 2" or greater in size	\$350.00
<u>Site visit fee</u>	\$1 <u>25.00</u>

(f) (1) Field call charge for turning on the water service, transferring account ownership or turn on or off of meter for repairs that are not constituted as an emergency which charges shall be included on the next monthly statement submitted after service is provided;

(2) There is no charge for turning service off;

(3) Cost shall be as defined in [section 7-4-23](#) of this Code; Business hours and cutoff time shall be established by the Director.

(4) Re-connection charge applies to any person, firm, or corporation whose utility service has been discontinued for nonpayment of account, or who fail to comply with delinquent payment cutoff time, and shall, before the service is re-established, pay all delinquent and current bills.

(5) When a date and time to establish a connection has been agreed to between the customer and the city public utilities department and the customer fails to be present at such date and time then the customer shall be charged a site visit fee of ~~fifteen~~twenty-five dollars (~~\$15~~25.00).

(6) Installation of meters will be assessed a twenty-five-dollar (\$25.00) fee per meter when scheduled, equal to or greater than, seventy-two (72) hours in advance; if less than seventy-two (72) hours a ~~fifty~~seventy-five dollar ~~dollar~~ (~~\$50~~75.00) fee will be assessed per meter. If after business hours, a one hundred seventy-five dollar (\$175.00) fee will be assessed per meter. There will be no additional ~~connection~~administrative / field call fee subject to [section 7-4-1](#).

(g) [Exemptions.] The director is authorized on application, to exempt the payment of all charges imposed by this section, those citizens, or spouse of those, who qualify for active military service deployment on foreign soils.

(h) [Changes to fees.] Subsequent to July 1, 2012, any changes to the fees and rates as set forth in this section shall be made by city council.

That Section 7-1-9 be amended as shown:

Sec. 7-1-9. - Discontinuance of service for delinquency in payment of utility bills; generally.

The director is authorized to discontinue water and sewer service furnished by the city if the customer is delinquent in the payment of any account for water or sewer service due the city. Before water and sewer service is discontinued, the person whose account is delinquent shall be so notified. Notice of the payment date to avoid disconnection of water or sewer service shall be placed on the bill, which shall be mailed a minimum of five (5) working days before said date. Delinquency shall mean an amount due, equal to or greater than ~~ten~~fifteen dollars and one cent (~~\$10.00~~15.01), being sixty (60) days or more in arrears. No payment arrangements or extensions shall be granted by the city.

In the event a payment is returned for any reason, the customer shall have five (5) business days to reimburse the city for the balance due and the return fee before discontinuance of service, except in the event the payment returned is their initial deposit. Should the initial deposit required during account opening be returned, the customer shall have one (1) business day to reimburse the city for the balance due and the return fee before discontinuance of service.

This ordinance shall be effective from the ____ of _____, 2022. Adopted and approved this ____ day of _____, 20__.

MAYOR

ATTESTE:

CITY CLERK