

ORDINANCE #538

AN ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR CONTROL AND MANAGEMENT OF THE WATER/SEWER DEPT IN THE TOWN OF MANSFIELD; PROVIDING FOR A RATE STRUCTURE TO BE EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2025, REPEALING ALL OTHER ORDINANCES IN CONFLICT HERewith; BE IT ORDAINED BY THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF MANSFIELD, WASHINGTON AS FOLLOWS:

SECTION 1. NEW CONNECTION FEE/STAND BY FEE

a) Any water user wishing water turned on to an existing service shall pay a Deposit Fee of first and last months utility fee plus a delinquency fee to the Town Treasurer, and upon presenting Treasurer's receipt to the Water Supt., the water shall then be turned on. The Deposit Fee is refundable to the utility customer one year after current status on account with no delinquencies or if the utility customer moves and account is paid in full.

b) Any new water meter installation to a non-established service shall require a hook-up fee for a 3/4" meter of \$3,183.00.00 plus the cost of materials or a 2" meter of \$5,305.00 plus the cost of materials to be paid in advance to the Town Treasurer before installation. An upgrade to an existing service will be billed time and materials. \$3,183.00 will be charged for sewer. The owner is responsible to pay from the main line. Any premises with an existing water and sewer meter that has been removed but has previously had a meter installed will be charged \$371.00 for water and \$265.00 for sewer for re-installation.

c) Any water user wishing the services to be discontinued shall notify the water superintendent, who shall turn off the water and report said shutoff to the Treasurer. A \$10.00 on 3/4" meter and \$10.00 on 2" meter per month service fee will be charged while the service is discontinued. A \$10.00 per month stand by service fee will be charged to any sewer service not in regular use.

D) Any service that would require an extension of existing water, sewer mains, street repairs and all expenses of Engineering and Construction to establish mains, will be the developer and or homeowners expense.

SECTION 2. LATE PAYMENT FEE All charges for water shall be due and payable at the office of the Town Treasurer in City Hall, on the first day of the month, and must be paid before the 10th of that same month following the use of service to avoid penalty of \$35.00 additional fee per month. Immediately after the 10th of each month, the Treasurer shall notify the Water Superintendent that they are unpaid and the water Superintendent shall have authority to cut off the water if not paid after the proper delinquency notice has been sent.

SECTION 3. DOOR HANGER FEE Payments not received by 3:00 PM at the Town Hall by the 10th day of the month will receive a door hanger notifying customer of utility shut-off in 2 business days. The door hanger fee is \$50.00.

SECTION 4. WATER RECONNECT FEE If water is shut off, customer must pay the full account balance, deposit if not currently on account, and all late and door hanger fees plus an additional \$50.00 water reconnect charge by 3:00 P.M. Monday thru Friday. If customer requests reconnection of services after working hours (3:00 P.M. to 7:00 A.M. upon availability) a fee of \$100.00 will be charged.

SECTION 5. UTILITY MAINTENANCE If customer requests a meter to be turned off/on for maintenance the fee of \$25.00 will apply per each off/on request Monday thru Friday (7:00 A.M. to 3:00 P.M. upon availability) A fee of \$50.00 will apply per each off/on request after working hours.

SECTION 6. WATER RATES

a) IN TOWN RESIDENTIAL shall pay a minimum monthly base rate for water of \$30.50 with a 40,000 gallon monthly usage, 3/4" meter.

b) OUT OF TOWN RESIDENTIAL shall pay a base rate of \$36.30 with a 40,000 gallon monthly usage, 3/4" meter.

c) IN TOWN COMMERCIAL shall pay a minimum monthly base rate of \$30.50 with a 40,000 gallon monthly usage, 3/4" meter.

d) OUT OF TOWN COMMERCIAL shall pay a base rate of \$62.91 with a 40,000 gallon monthly usage, 3/4" meter.

e) 2" METERS shall maintain a monthly base rate of \$188.05 and will be allowed 198,000 gallon monthly usage.

f) EXCESS WATER CHARGES shall be assessed for the water usage greater than the applicable minimum use set forth above in the amount of .59 per 1,000 gal. for 3/4" meters. For 2" meter excess water charges will be .59/1,000 gallons thereafter.

g) MULTIPLE USES: Where more than one family, firm, business, commercial establishment, association, corporation, or entity is served by the same water meter the water service charge shall be the same as if each unit were separately connected thereto. Excess water charges will be based on size of meter, and the water allowance will be the same as the classification times the number of units.

h) BULK WATER will be \$17.50 per 1,000 gallons.

i) METERS WILL BE READ within 5 working days before the 25th of the month, month. If weather does not permit meter reading the monthly read(s) will be averaged.

j) IN THE EVENT OF LEAK OR FAILURE OF A PRIVATE WATER SYSTEM OR AN OBVIOUS METER FAILURE OR READING ERROR resulting in excess consumption, the Town Clerk/Treasurer may provide an adjustment through an administrative determination based on the normal or average consumption for a single month as determined over a year. This is a one-time exemption for a specific meter. This one-time adjustment does not constitute a gift beyond the powers granted to the Town and the City shall not receive direct benefits and consideration exchanged for such a policy.

k) ACCESSIBILITY. Customers supplied by meters shall keep their premises adjacent to the meter free from all materials of any kind which will prevent the employee of the Town from having access to the meter.

l) METER PROTECTION. It is unlawful for any person to tamper, disconnect, damage or remove any meter after installation. Consumers shall take every reasonable precaution to protect the meter from injury or damages. The Town reserves the right to charge customers the cost of replacement for damage due to their negligence.

SECTION 7. SEWER RATES

a) RESIDENTS in or out of the city limits shall pay a flat rate of \$63.54 per month for sewer service.

b) COMMERCIAL services shall pay a flat rate of \$66.34 per month for sewer service.

c) OTHER RATE CATEGORIES. The Mansfield school shall be charged a flat

rate for sewer of \$183.54 per month. The Mansfield Manor Apartments shall be charged a flat rate of \$941.61 per month for sewer.

SECTION 8. RENTER UTILITY CHANGE APPLICATION All applications for use of water shall be made in writing, signed by the owner of the lands and property where such water/sewer is intended to be used, or by the occupant thereof giving a legal description of said lands and property, and shall be filed with the Clerk; each applicant must state fully all the purposes for which the water/sewer is to be used, must agree to conform to the rules and regulation now or hereafter be adopted by the City Council, and to the terms, condition and provisions of this Ordinance and any amendments thereto.

SECTION 9. LANDOWNER FEES. All fees for water/sewer services shall be billed to the landowner unless landowner has agreed for the renter to be billed. If the renter fails to keep account current or leaves an ending balance when no longer renting the property the landowner shall be responsible to the Town of Mansfield for the payment of all fees so assessed. This provision is directed toward those persons owning and renting property wherein persons other than the owner are using the facilities and receiving the benefit of municipal service.

SECTION 10. SEVERABILITY. If any section, sentence, clause or phrase of this ordinance should be held to be invalid or unconstitutional by a court of competent jurisdiction, such invalidity or unconstitutionality shall not affect the validity or constitutionality of any other section, sentence, clause or phrase of this ordinance.


SECTION 11. EFFECTIVE DATE. This ordinance shall take effect and be in full force five (5) days after publication.

Passed by the City Council of the Town of Mansfield, Washington, this 11th day of December, 2024.

APPROVED:


Mayor

ATTEST:


Clerk/Treas.