



ORDINANCE NO. 2016-04

AN ORDINANCE REPEALING CITY OF RICHMOND ORDINANCE NO. 2015-17 AND ADOPTING AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING WATER, SEWER AND GARBAGE RATES FOR THE CITY OF RICHMOND, TEXAS AND ORDERING OTHER MATTERS RELATIVE TO RENDERING WATER, SEWER AND GARBAGE SERVICE; PROVIDING A REPEALER CLAUSE; PROVIDING A SEVERABILITY CLAUSE, PROVIDING FOR PENALTIES; PROVIDING FOR PUBLICATION AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

WHEREAS, the current charges and rate schedules set for water, sewer and garbage have been reviewed by the City Commission and the rates and regulations for Surface Water rates, Bulk Water, and Deposits for customers inside and outside the city limits are in need of adjustment; and

WHEREAS, the Commission finds that the proposed charges and rate schedules for water, sewer and garbage are just and necessary for the city to recoup its costs for providing such services; and

WHEREAS, the Commission hereby repeals Ordinance No. 2015-17, adopted August 3, 2015, and adopts the following; Now, Therefore,

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF RICHMOND:

Section 1. The monthly rates to be charged and collected by the City of Richmond, from all customers obtaining service from the City are hereby fixed as set forth below:

(a) WATER RATES

(1) Minimum Bill- all customers are assessed a minimum bill based on their meter size. See table below:

5/8" Meter	\$15.00 minimum monthly charge
1" Meter	\$21.00 minimum monthly charge
1.5" Meter	\$27.00 minimum monthly charge
2" Meter	\$43.50 minimum monthly charge
3" Meter	\$165.00 minimum monthly charge
4" Meter	\$210.00 minimum monthly charge
6" Meter	\$315.00 minimum monthly charge
8" Meter	\$435.00 minimum monthly charge
10" Meter	\$600.00 minimum monthly charge

(2) **Volumetric Rates** - Customers are also billed a fee based on their respective consumption amounts based on customer classification. See table below:

Residential Volumetric Rates

First 2,000 gallons (minimum)	See minimum bill table above
Usage per 1,000 gallons over 2,000	\$2.62 per 1,000 gallons
Usage per 1,000 gallons over 5,000	\$2.87 per 1,000 gallons
Usage per 1,000 gallons over 10,000	\$3.12 per 1,000 gallons
Usage per 1,000 gallons over 20,000	\$3.37 per 1,000 gallons
Usage per 1,000 gallons over 50,000	\$3.62 per 1,000 gallons
Usage per 1,000 gallons over 75,000	\$3.87 per 1,000 gallons

Irrigation Volumetric Rates

First 5,000 gallons	\$3.46 per 1,000 gallons
Usage per 1,000 gallons over 5,000	\$3.71 per 1,000 gallons
Usage per 1,000 gallons over 10,000	\$3.96 per 1,000 gallons
Usage per 1,000 gallons over 20,000	\$4.21 per 1,000 gallons
Usage per 1,000 gallons over 50,000	\$4.46 per 1,000 gallons
Usage per 1,000 gallons over 75,000	\$4.71 per 1,000 gallons

Volumetric Rates for All other Classes

Schools	\$1.57 per 1,000 gallons
Government	\$4.40 per 1,000 gallons
Cooling Towers	\$5.08 per 1,000 gallons
Commercial	\$2.34 per 1,000 gallons
Industrial	\$3.79 per 1,000 gallons

(3) **Rates for Customer outside City Limits:** The rates for customers outside the City of Richmond shall be two (2) times the City rate set forth above.

(b) SURFACE WATER RATES

A fee of \$200 per thousand gallons will be assessed as a groundwater reduction fee. This fee will be retained to meet the requirements set forth by

the Fort Bend Subsidence District in reducing groundwater pumpage

(c) SEWER RATES

(1) Residential Rates

First 2,000 gallons (minimum)	\$20.00 Minimum Monthly Charge
Usage per 1,000 gallons over 2,000	\$3.00 Volumetric Rate

Residential Customer Sewer Rates are determined by winter water consumption for months January, February, and March.

New customers, with no historical usage, are billed for wastewater usage at the City's overall winter water consumption.

(2) Commercial Rates

First 2,000 gallons (minimum)	\$20.00 minimum monthly charge
Usage per 1,000 gallons over 2,000	\$3.00 volumetric rate

Commercial Rates are billed based on monthly water consumption.

(3) Rates for Customer outside City Limits: The rates for customers outside the City of Richmond shall be two (2) times the City rate set forth above.

(d) GARBAGE RATES

Single family residential	\$19.00
Additional Poly Carts	\$6.00 each per month
Multi-family residential	Monthly rates will be set according to volume and frequency of pickups
Shops and small business establishments	Monthly rates will be set according to volume and frequency of pickups
All others, including large shops, stores, restaurants, and other commercial businesses	Monthly rates will be set according to volume and frequency of pickups

(e) DUMPSTER RENTAL RATE

Monthly rates will be set according to volume and frequency of pickups.

Special Pickup

At Cost

(f) **Rates for Customer outside City Limits** The rate for customers outside the City of Richmond shall be two (2) times the City rate set forth above.

SECTION 2. BULK WATER

No deposit will be required for bulk water purchased at the City of Richmond City Hall. Bulk water customers will be charged \$5.00 per one thousand (1,000) gallons assessed for the usage of bulk water within city limits. At the discretion of the City of Richmond, a construction meter may be set for construction purposes with a deposit of a minimum of \$500.

SECTION 3. FROZEN PIPES

No deductions will be made for the time any service pipe may be frozen. No deductions will be made for running water to prevent pipes from freezing.

SECTION 4. DEPOSITS

The deposit required for residential services is **ONE HUNDRED FIFTY DOLLARS (\$150.00)**. Senior citizens, age 65 years or above shall be required to pay a deposit of **SEVENTY-FIVE DOLLARS (\$75.00)** for services. The deposit will be offset against any balance on the customer's account upon discontinuance, disconnection or termination of the account. The remainder of deposit, if any, shall be mailed to the customer. The amount of the required deposit for all commercial/industrial/ or combination residential and commercial/industrial service shall be based upon the estimated water, wastewater (sewer) and solid waste charges for two (2) months.

(a) Deposit required after termination for non-payment

Required deposit. The deposit amount required before restoring water service to any residential customer whose account with the city has been discontinued for nonpayment in accordance with Code of Ordinance Section 34-114 shall be eighty dollars (\$80.00) provided that the total of all deposits required under this section and Section 34-59 shall not exceed three hundred dollars (\$300.00); a homeowner will not be required to pay a eighty dollar (\$80.00) deposit if the account

has not been terminated in the previous twelve (12) months. Any commercial customer whose account with the city has been terminated in accordance with 34-114 will be required to pay the eighty dollar (\$80.00) deposit per occurrence until the total deposit on the account is equal to an average three (3) month bill.

SECTION 5. DISCOUNTS

Persons over the age of sixty-five (65) years shall receive a discount of five dollars (\$5.00) on single-family residential water service and five dollars (\$5.00) on single family residential sewer service, upon application to the utility billing department.

SECTION 6. City Manager or Finance Director shall have the authority to adjust monthly charges on water or sewer due to excess usage from leakage on the customer side of connection. Adjustment will be calculated from the last twelve (12) months billing cycles and averaged. Adjustments will be limited to one (1) time, per calendar year, per customer. Customers who fill their swimming pools may call the city to request a reading of the water meter before they fill the pool and then once the pool has been filled for an adjustment to their sewer bill.

SECTION 7. All bills for services rendered by the water and sewer systems shall be paid monthly by the due date as shown. If the bill is not paid by the following month's bill, a 10 percent (10%) past due service charge will be assessed and a past due notice will be sent to the customer requesting payment. If such bill is not paid within five (5) days after the past due notice water service will be discontinued.

SECTION 8. RECONNECT FEE

In the event of discontinuance of services an additional sum of **THIRTY-FIVE DOLLARS (\$35.00)** shall be charged for reconnection to the system.

SECTION 9. RETURNED CHECK CHARGE

Where payment for any fine, fee, permit, license, service, or other item is

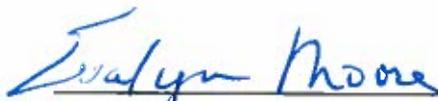
required by this or any other ordinance or resolution of the City and such payment is made by check, a **THIRTY DOLLAR (\$30.00)** fee shall be charged if the check is returned for any reason by the issuer's bank.

Section 10. Repeal. Any ordinance or other part of any other ordinance in conflict herewith shall be and is hereby repealed only to the extent of such conflict.

Section 9. Severability. In the event any section, paragraph, subdivision, clause, phrase, provision, sentence or part of this Ordinance or the application of the same to any person or circumstance shall for any reason be adjudged invalid or held unconstitutional by a court of competent jurisdiction, it shall not affect, impair, or invalidate this Ordinance as a whole or any part or provision hereof other than the part declared to be invalid or unconstitutional,; and the City Commission of the City of Richmond, Texas, declares that it would have passed each and every part of the same notwithstanding the omission of any such part thus declared to be invalid or unconstitutional, or whether there be one or more parts.

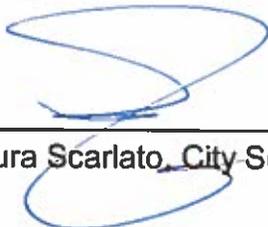
Section 11. Effective Date. This Ordinance shall be effective from and after its adoption and publication.

PASSED AND APPROVED THIS 15th DAY OF February, 2016



Evalyn Moore, Mayor

ATTEST:



Laura Scarlato, City Secretary

APPROVED AS TO FORM:



Gary W. Smith, City Attorney