

ORDINANCE NO. O-22-23

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE CODE OF ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF PALESTINE, TEXAS, BY AMENDING CHAPTER 98 ENTITLED “UTILITIES,” ARTICLE III ENTITLED “RATES AND CHARGES,” SECTION 98-90 ENTITLED “WATER RATES,” SECTION 98-91 ENTITLED “WASTEWATER RATES,” AND SECTION 98-91 ENTITLED “DISCONNECTION OF SERVICE FOR NONPAYMENT”; PROVIDING A SAVING CLAUSE; PROVIDING A SEVERABILITY CLAUSE; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

WHEREAS, the City of Palestine provides water and wastewater services to citizens within its corporate boundaries and non-residents of the City; and

WHEREAS, the City is required to collect charges for the services it provides so as to pay for the provision of adequate and reliable service; and

WHEREAS, the City ensures that the charges are collected and needs to establish fair and reasonable deposits to ensure that ratepayers are responsible for the services they receive; and

WHEREAS, the City Council has determined that the rates charged to customers of the City’s water and wastewater should be adjusted to more accurately reflect the cost of providing the services.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF PALESTINE, TEXAS:

I.

That Sections 98-90, 98-91, and 98-94 of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Palestine, Texas be amended to read as follows:

Sec. 98-90. - Water rates.

The monthly water rates or charges to be charged by the city for treated water furnished to its consumers in the city shall be as follows:

- (1) The minimum monthly charge for the first 2,000 gallons shall be based on the size of the meter as follows:
 - a. Three-fourths-inch to one-inch~~\$14.86~~ 16.17
 1. Three-fourths to one-inch sprinkler ~~19.86~~ 21.68
 - b. One and one-half-inch ~~26.15~~ 42.18
 - c. Two-inch ~~33.22~~ 61.61
 - d. Three-inch ~~63.02~~ 123.11
 - e. Four-inch ~~92.76~~ 195.37
 - f. Six-inch ~~282.70~~ 516.48

g. Eight-inch ~~405.95~~ 774.61

(2) Usage charges shall be as follows:

a. Residential:

1. From 2,000 gallons to 6,000 gallons, per 1,000 gallons ~~\$6.69~~ 6.73
2. After From 6,000 gallons to 20,000 gallons, per 1,000 gallons ~~8.37~~ 8.41
3. After 20,000 gallons, per 1,000 gallons ~~10.46~~ 10.51

b. Commercial:

1. From 2,000 gallons to 20,000 gallons, per 1,000 gallons ~~\$7.15~~ 7.18
2. After 20,000 gallons, per 1,000 gallons ~~8.93~~ 8.98
3. Sprinkler: From 2,000 gallons to 20,000 gallons, per 1,000 gallons ~~7.15~~ 7.18
4. Sprinkler: After 20,000 gallons, per 1,000 gallons ~~10.46~~ 10.51

c. Multifamily, as defined in subsection (3):

1. From 2,000 gallons to 20,000 gallons, per 1,000 gallons ~~\$7.15~~ 7.18
2. After 20,000 gallons, per 1,000 gallons ~~8.93~~ 8.98
3. Sprinkler: From 2,000 gallons to 20,000 gallons, per 1,000 gallons ~~7.15~~ 7.18
4. Sprinkler: After 20,000 gallons, per 1,000 gallons ~~10.46~~ 10.51

d. Industrial:

1. From 2,000 gallons to 20,000 gallons, per 1,000 gallons ~~\$7.15~~ 7.18
2. After 20,000 gallons, per 1,000 gallons ~~8.93~~ 8.98
3. Sprinkler: From 2,000 gallons to 20,000 gallons, per 1,000 gallons ~~7.15~~ 7.18
4. Sprinkler: After 20,000 gallons, per 1,000 gallons ~~10.46~~ 10.51

e. Raw water, per 1,000 gallons ~~\$0.88~~ 0.89

f. Starting in October 2021, a three-fourths-percent increase in all water rates, or an increase equal to the CPI inflation index annually, whichever is greater, should be implemented each year.

(3) Apartment houses or multi-family dwellings or multi-unit buildings designed to house two or more families or units shall, unless each unit is separately metered, be charged and billed at the multifamily rate set forth in subsection (2)(c) of this section.

(4) Mobile home parks and trailer courts shall, unless each unit is separately metered, be charged and billed at the commercial rate set forth in subsection (2)(b) of this section.

(5) The rates specified in all water contracts entered into by the city, except those specified in the following subsection (6) shall be charged and billed at the rate of ~~\$7.15~~ 7.18-per 1,000 gallons with no minimum charge per month.