RESOLUTION NO. 2015 - 57

A Resolution establishing revised sanitary sewer user fees; and repealing Resolution 2014-2.

RECITALS:

The enactment of the fee schedule as herein set forth is required by the contractual obligations entered into when incurring bonded indebtedness to finance the construction of the Water Reclamation Facility, associated facilities and structures, and to comply with the standards issued by the Oregon State Department of Environmental Quality.

The City of McMinnville has recently completed a sanitary sewer rate analysis and equity review. The findings of that work indicate revenues from user fees need to increase 2.8 percent per fiscal year through the planning period (FY25/26) to cover the costs of planned capital improvements and operating costs. Actual rate increases will vary between customer classes, based on individual water consumption patterns or waste load on the City's wastewater system.

In order to mitigate the short-term impacts on ratepayers, the implementation of the rate equity portion of the study will occur over a four-year period and gradually shift a larger portion of the costs to the fixed charge, reflecting the increase in costs associated with wet weather flow treatment.

Additionally, the rate structure for monitored industrial/commercial customers has been modified from the current extra-strength approach to a class average approach.

The current sanitary sewer user fees were set by Council Resolution 2014-2 (sewer user fee rates were increased 2.8 percent on July 1, 2014), which is repealed by this resolution. Future rates will be adjusted by City Council action, and the City will continue to complete biennial reviews of the actual revenues and expenses to verify that needs are being met.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COMMON COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF McMINNVILLE, OREGON as follows:

SANITARY SEWER FEE SCHEDULE

Sewer User Fees.

A. Customer Service Charge. Water meters serving individual single-family living units, multiple single-family living units, and individual commercial or industrial customers shall be charged the Customer Service Charge for each unit that has access to water. Multi-family, duplex, and manufactured home parks comprised of individual single-family units or mixed use structures (such as residential and commercial) shall be charged on the basis of the total number of single-family living units and/or individual commercial units that receive water service from one meter as permitted by the City. The Customer Service Charge shall be:

1. Residential - $18.60 per living unit
2. Commercial/Industrial - $18.60 per account

B. Volume Charge. Residential customers are charged a volume charge based on actual water consumption in the winter months of December, January, February and March billing periods. The remaining eight months, the volume charge is based on the lesser of actual consumption or the average of the winter months' water use.

Commercial and Industrial customers are generally billed a volume charge on actual water use throughout the year. Some commercial customers that do not use water in their commercial enterprise, and that do not have an isolated water service for irrigation uses, can be billed the volume charge based on the lesser of actual consumption or the average of the winter month's water use.

New residential customers without a winter average billing history will be assigned a 500 cubic feet winter average volume. New commercial and industrial customers who are eligible and do not have a winter average billing history will be assigned a winter average volume consistent with the service location's historical winter average volume.

Residential service locations that are vacant during the winter months or have zero water consumption shall be assigned a 500 cubic feet winter average volume.

When a service location experiences a water leak that does not flow into the sanitary sewer system, customers may be eligible for an adjustment based upon the customer's water consumption patterns prior to, and/or after, the leak is repaired.

1. Residential - $5.22 per hundred cubic feet of water
2. Non-monitored Commercial/Industrial - $6.48 per hundred cubic feet of water
3. Monitored Commercial/Industrial classifications:
   - Low strength – $6.00 per hundred cubic feet of water
   - Medium strength – $6.50 per hundred cubic feet of water
   - High strength – $8.50 per hundred cubic feet of water
   - Very high strength – $10.20 per hundred cubic feet of water
   - Super high strength - $12.00 per hundred cubic feet of water

C. Flat-rate Customers. Residential Customers that are connected to the sanitary sewer system, but are not on a metered water system, shall pay for sanitary sewer service on a fixed monthly rate per living unit or account at the following rate:

1. Residential - $55.35 per living unit

E. Residential Septic Waste. Residential waste from septic tanks is hauled by commercial service providers and is discharged at the Water Reclamation Facility.

Residential Septic Waste - $0.12 per gallon.

EFFECTIVE DATE

The effective date of this Resolution shall be January 1, 2016.

Adopted by the Common Council of the City of McMinnville at a regular meeting held the 24th day of November 2015 by the following votes:

Ayes: Hill, Jeffries, Menke, Yoder

Nays: Drabkin

Approved this 24th day of November 2015.

MAYOR

Approved as to form:

CITY ATTORNEY