

ORDINANCE NO. O2023-07

**AN EMERGENCY ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER NO. 921.05,
WATER RATES, OF THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES
OF THE CITY OF GALLIPOLIS, OHIO**

WHEREAS, the City of Gallipolis, Ohio wishes to increase the rates for water usage by thirteen- and one-half percent (13.5%) to bring the City up to the one percent (1%) of median income toward water bills as required by the State of Ohio to qualify for funding and principal forgiveness, and

WHEREAS, the City Commission voted to freeze the increase in the rates for water usage in the years 2019, 2020, 2021 and 2022, and

WHEREAS, the City of Gallipolis has one of the lowest water rates in the region with the average Ohio yearly residential water bill being \$695.00 with an average yearly increase of 4.5%, and

WHEREAS, The City Commission wishes to move forward with updates to the City's water infrastructure and does not currently qualify for principal loan forgiveness from the State of Ohio due to how low the City has allowed it rates to remain, and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED by the City Commission of the City of Gallipolis, Ohio:

SECTION I: That Section 921.05 Rates, which reads as follows:

921.05 RATES

- (a) The City Manager is authorized and directed to adopt and put into effect for the users of water from the City water system the rates and charges in this section.
- (b) The metered rates for users of water inside the corporation limits shall be billed per hundred gallons and read to the nearest hundred gallons. The metered rates inside the corporation limits shall be as follows:

<u>Gallons / Month</u>	<u>Rates</u>
First 1,000	\$12.03
1,100 – 3,000	0.266
3,100 – 100,000	0.248
100,100 – 500,000	0.214
500,100 – 1,000,000	0.204
Over 1,000,000	0.192

Minimum:

Residential (1,000 gallons)	\$12.03
Commerical (3,000 gallons)	17.36

- (c) The meter rates for users of water outside the corporation limits shall be billed per hundred gallons and read to the nearest hundred gallons. The metered rates outside the corporation limits shall be as follows:

<u>Gallons / Month</u>	<u>Rates</u>
First 1,000	\$22.17
1,100 – 3,000	0.488
3,100 – 100,000	0.445
100,100 – 500,000	0.310
500,100 – 1,000,000	0.281
Over 1,000,000	0.257

Minimum:

Residential (1,000 gallons)	\$22.17
Commerical (3,000 gallons)	31.92

- (d) All amounts shall be payable monthly. If any water bill remains unpaid past the due date, an additional ten percent (10%) shall be added to the unpaid bill. If the utility bill remains unpaid and the water service is shut off as a result thereof, a twenty-dollar (\$20.00) fee shall be charged to reinstate and continue service.
- (e) Right of Appeal. All customers shall have the right to appeal bills rendered for water service charges. In the event that a billing dispute cannot be resolved by the utility billing department that initially rendered the bill, it shall become the responsibility of the City Manager or his designee to resolve such dispute.
- (f) The new rates shall be effective the November 2004 utility billing. The water rates shall increase three percent (3%) each year as reflected in the first bill sent in April of each successive year. The rates shall not increase in the years 2019, 2020, 2021 and 2022. The 3% increase shall resume in 2023 in the first bill sent in April and each successive year.

BE, AND IS HEREBY AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS:

- (a) The City Manager is authorized and directed to adopt and put into effect for the users of water from the City water system the rates and charges in this section.

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- (b) The metered rates for users of water inside the corporation limits shall be billed per hundred gallons and read to the nearest hundred gallons. The metered rates inside the corporation limits for March 2023 shall be as follows:

<u>Gallons / Month</u>	<u>Rates</u>
First 1,000	\$20.63
1,100 – 3,000	0.456
3,100 – 100,000	0.426
100,100 – 500,000	0.367
500,100 – 1,000,000	0.350
Over 1,000,000	0.329

Minimum:

Residential (1,000 gallons)	\$20.63
Residential Senior (1,000 gallons)	18.63
Commercial (3,000 gallons)	29.75

- (c) The meter rates for users of water outside the corporation limits shall be billed per hundred gallons and read to the nearest hundred gallons. The metered rates outside the corporation limits for March 2023 shall be as follows:

<u>Gallons / Month</u>	<u>Rates</u>
First 1,000	\$38.08
1,100 – 3,000	0.841
3,100 – 100,000	0.763
100,100 – 500,000	0.531
500,100 – 1,000,000	0.481
Over 1,000,000	0.440

Minimum:

Residential (1,000 gallons)	\$38.08
Residential Senior (1,000 gallons)	36.08
Commercial (3,000 gallons)	54.90

- (d) All amounts shall be payable monthly. If any water bill remains unpaid past the due date, an additional ten percent (10%) shall be added to the unpaid bill. If the utility bill remains unpaid and the water service is shut off as a result thereof, a twenty-dollar (\$20.00) fee shall be charged to reinstate and continue service.

- (e) Right of Appeal. All customers shall have the right to appeal bills rendered for water service charges. In the event that a billing dispute cannot be resolved by the utility billing department that initially rendered the bill, it shall become the responsibility of the City Manager or his designee to resolve such dispute.
- (f) The new rates shall be effective the March 2023 utility billing. The water rates shall increase three percent (3%) each year as reflected in the first bill sent in April of each successive year. The 3% increase shall resume in 2023 in the first bill sent in April and each successive year.

Section 2: This Ordinance shall be in full force and effect at the earliest period of time allowed by law.

PASSED: February 20, 2023

ATTEST: _____

Shelly Clonch
Clerk of the City Commission
Shelly Clonch

Tony Gallagher
President of the City Commission
Tony Gallagher

The foregoing Ordinance is hereby approved as to form.

Bryn
Gallipolis City Solicitor
Brynn Saunders Noe

The foregoing Ordinance is hereby approved as to funds according to City Charter.

Shelly Clonch
Gallipolis City Auditor