

ORDINANCE NO. 03-2021

AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING AND CONFIRMING RATES FOR SERVICES RENDERED BY THE WATER AND SEWER SYSTEM OF THE CITY OF AUSTIN, ARKANSAS; AND PRESCRIBING OTHER MATTERS RELATING THERETO.

WHEREAS, the City of Austin, Arkansas (the "City") owns and operates water and sewer facilities, which water and sewer facilities are operated as one interrelated municipal undertaking (the "System"), and has determined that betterments and improvements to the sewer facilities of the System (the "improvements") should be made in order that the City and its inhabitants may have adequate and proper sewer facilities; and

WHEREAS, in connection with the improvements, it is necessary for the City to establish new rates to be charged for services of the sewer facilities of the System; and

WHEREAS, the City desires to confirm existing rates charged for services of the water facilities of the System;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED by the City Council of the City of Austin, Arkansas:

Section 1. Water Rates. The following monthly rates and charges which the City Council hereby finds and declares are fair, reasonable and minimum rates to be charged for water services be, and they are hereby, confirmed as rates to be rendered by the System.

The water usage of each customer shall be determined each month by meter measurement and the amount to be paid by each customer shall be computed on the basis of the following schedule of rates:

Inside City Limits

For the first 1,000 gallons of water consumption per month, or portion thereof	\$17.75 (minimum)
For the next 4,000 gallons of water consumption per month, or portion thereof	6.75 per 1,000 gallons
For all monthly water consumption in excess of 5,000 gallons per month	5.50 per 1,000 gallons

Outside City Limits

For the first 1,000 gallons of water consumption per month, or portion thereof	\$22.50 (minimum)
For the next 4,000 gallons of water consumption per month, or portion thereof	6.75 per 1,000 gallons
For all monthly water consumption in excess of 5,000 gallons per month	5.50 per 1,000 gallons

Section 2. Sewer Rates. The following monthly rates and charges which the City Council hereby finds and declares are fair, reasonable and minimum rates to be charged for sewer services be, and they are hereby, fixed and established as rates to be charged for services rendered by the System.

The monthly charge for each customer shall be determined each month by water consumption. The water usage of each customer shall be determined each month by meter measurement and the amount to be paid by each customer shall be computed on the basis of the following schedule of rates:

For the first 1,000 gallons of water consumption per month, or portion thereof	\$18.50 (minimum)
For the next 14,000 gallons of water consumption per month, or portion thereof	5.99 per 1,000 gallons
For all monthly water consumption in excess of 15,000 gallons per month	4.00 per 1,000 gallons

Section 3. New Account and Connection Fees. Each customer who connects with the System shall be charged a non-refundable new account fee in the amount of \$125.00. Each customer who connects with the sewer facilities of the System shall also be charged a non-refundable connection fee of \$600.00 for all new sewer connections; provided, however, that such connection fee is waived for existing sewer connections.

Section 4. Tapping Fee. There shall be a tapping fee for every customer who connects with the water facilities of the System and for every customer who connects with the sewer facilities of the System. Tapping fees shall be as follows:

Standard Meters

Water (Inside City)	\$300.00
Water (Outside City)	400.00
Sewer	600.00 (if available)

Boring underground for standard meters is priced and quoted based on project requirements. Any other additional charges will be provided before work is agreed upon and scheduled. All fees must be paid before work is scheduled.

Electronic Meters

Water (Inside City)	\$ 800.00
Water (Outside City)	1,200.00
Sewer	600.00 (if available)

Boring underground is a minimum of \$1,000, and may be up to \$2,000 depending on locations and obstructions. Any other additional charges will be provided before work is agreed upon and scheduled. All fees must be paid before work is scheduled.

Section 5. None of the water facilities or services afforded by the System shall be furnished without a charge being made therefor.

Section 6. The operation of the System shall be on a fully metered basis, with a meter installed at each water connection (except fire hydrants) when practical. There shall be only one user on a single connection. There shall be not dual connections: that is, there shall be no more than one user on a single meter.

Section 7. A single statement will be submitted for monthly water and sewer charges. All bills for services of the System shall be rendered monthly in the net amount due and must be paid before the fifteenth (15th) day of the subsequent month. If any charge is not paid on or before the fifteenth (15th) day of each month for usage in the preceding month, a 10% penalty shall be added. If any charge is not paid on or before the twenty-fifth (25th) day of each month for usage in the preceding month, water services may be disconnected, a disconnect fee of \$20 shall be charged, and suit can be brought to collect the amount due, together with a reasonable attorney's fee, plus the disconnection fee and a reconnection fee. A reconnection fee in the amount of \$20 for reconnections during normal business hours and in the amount of \$50 for reconnections after-hours and on weekends, plus the payment of all arrears (including the disconnection fee), shall be paid before any premises so disconnected shall be again connected to the System.

Section 8. The provisions of this Ordinance are separable and if a section, phrase or provision shall be declared invalid; such declaration shall not affect the validity of the remainder of the Ordinance.



Section 9. All ordinances and resolutions and parts thereof in conflict herewith are hereby repealed to the extent of such conflict. In particular, and without limitation, Ordinance Nos. 05-81, 05-81(A), 05-81(B), 02-2006, 02-2009, and 08-2013 are hereby repealed to the extent that such ordinances are in conflict herewith.

PASSED: May 24, 2021.

APPROVED:

Bernie Chamberlain  
Mayor

ATTEST:

Mary Eastham  
City Recorder

(SEAL)



CERTIFICATE

The undersigned, City Recorder of the City of Austin, Arkansas hereby certifies that the foregoing pages are a true and perfect copy of Ordinance No. 03-2021 adopted at a AUSTIN session of the City Council of the City of Austin, Arkansas, held at the regular meeting place in said City at 7:25 o'clock p.m., on the 24 day of MAY, 2021, and that the Ordinance is of record in the Ordinance Record Book now in my possession.

GIVEN under my hand and seal on this 24<sup>TH</sup> day of MAY, 2021.

Mary Eathan  
City Recorder

(SEAL)

