

**AN ORDINANCE
AMENDING AND REORDAINING CHAPTER 31 (UTILITIES) OF THE CODE
OF THE CITY OF CHARLOTTESVILLE, 1990, AS AMENDED,
TO ESTABLISH NEW UTILITY RATES AND SERVICE FEES
FOR CITY GAS, WATER AND SANITARY SEWER.**

BE IT ORDAINED by the Council of the City of Charlottesville, Virginia, that:

1. Sections 31-56, 31-57, 31-60, 31-61, 31-62, 31-102, 31-106, 31-153, 31-156 and 31-158 of Chapter 31, of the Code of the City of Charlottesville, 1990, as amended, are hereby amended and reordained as follows:

CHAPTER 31. UTILITIES

ARTICLE II. GAS

DIVISION 2. TYPES OF SERVICE; SERVICE CHARGES

Sec. 31-56. Rates - Generally.

The firm service gas rates based on monthly meter readings shall be as follows:

Basic Monthly Service Charge	\$ 10.00	
First 3,000 cubic feet, per 1,000 cubic feet	\$8.9908	<u>\$8.8087</u>
Next 3,000 cubic feet, per 1,000 cubic feet	\$8.5198	<u>\$8.3559</u>
Next 144,000 cubic feet, per 1,000 cubic feet	\$8.0489	<u>\$7.9031</u>
All over 150,000 cubic feet, per 1,000 cubic feet	\$7.5779	<u>\$7.4504</u>

Sec. 31-57. Air conditioning.

(a) Gas service at the rate specified in this paragraph (“air conditioning rate”) shall be available to customers who request such service in writing and who have installed and use air conditioning equipment operated by natural gas as the principal source of energy. The air conditioning rate will be ~~\$7.3421~~\$7.3471 per one thousand (1,000) cubic feet of gas used per month.

(b) The director of finance may, when it is impracticable to install a separate meter for air conditioning equipment, permit the use of one (1) meter for all gas delivered to the customer, in which instance the director of finance shall estimate the amount of gas for uses other than air conditioning and shall bill for such gas at the rates provided in applicable sections of this division.

...

Sec. 31-60. Interruptible sales service (IS).

(a) *Conditions. . . .*

(b) *Customer's agreement as to discontinuance of service. . . .*

(c) *Basic monthly service charge.* The basic monthly charge per meter for interruptible sales service (“IS gas”) shall be sixty dollars (\$60.00).

(d) *Rate.* For all gas consumed by interruptible customers the rate shall be ~~\$7.2178~~ \$7.0120 per one thousand (1,000) cubic feet for the first six hundred thousand (600,000) cubic feet, and ~~\$6.6937~~ \$6.5125 per one thousand (1,000) cubic feet for all volumes over six hundred thousand (600,000) cubic feet.

(e) *Annual Minimum Quantity.* Interruptible rate customers shall be obligated to take or pay for a minimum quantity of one million two hundred thousand (1,200,000) cubic feet of gas annually. Each year, as of June 30, the director of finance shall calculate the total consumption of each interruptible customer for the preceding twelve (12) monthly billing periods and shall bill any customer that has consumed less than the minimum quantity for the deficient amount at the rate of ~~\$7.2178~~ \$7.0120 per one thousand (1,000) cubic feet. Any new customer shall be required to enter into a service agreement with the City prior to the start of service. If an interruptible customer terminates service, the annual minimum requirement shall be prorated on the basis of one hundred thousand (100,000) cubic feet per month for each month the customer has received service since the last June 30 adjustment.

(f) *Contract required. . . .*

Section 31-61. Interruptible Transportation Service (TS).

(a) *Generally. ...*

(b) *Rates.* The rates for interruptible transportation service (“TS gas”) shall be as follows:

(1) ~~\$2.6462~~ \$2.6287 per dekatherm for a customer receiving only TS gas, and

(2) ~~\$1.5877~~ \$1.5772 per dekatherm, for customers who transport 35,000 or more dekatherms per month (“large volume transportation customers”), regardless of whether such large volume transportation customer receives only TS gas, or also receives IS service.

(c) *Basic Monthly Service Charges. ...*

(d) *Special terms and conditions. ...*

(e) *Extension of facilities. . . .*

(f) *Billing month. . . .*

- (g) *Lost and unaccounted-for gas. . . .*
- (h) *Combined IS and TS customer using more than provided or scheduled by customer....*
- (i) *TS Customer providing more gas, or less gas, than customer's usage. . . .*
- (j) *Other terms and conditions. . . .*

Section 31-62. Purchased gas adjustment.

In computing gas customer billings, the basic rate charges established under sections 31-56, 31-57, 31-60 and 31-61 shall be adjusted to reflect increases and decreases in the cost of gas supplied to the city. Such increases or decreases shall be computed as follows:

(1) For the purpose of computations herein, the costs and charges for determining the base unit costs of gas are:

- a. Pipeline tariffs;
- b. Contract quantities; and
- c. Costs of natural gas, in effect or proposed as of ~~April 1st, 2021~~, April 1st, 2022

(2) Such base unit costs are ~~\$4.2810-\$5.1715~~ per one thousand (1,000) cubic feet for firm gas service and ~~\$2.8498-\$3.4986~~ per one thousand (1,000) cubic feet for interruptible gas service.

(3) In the event of any changes in pipeline tariffs, contract quantities or costs of scheduled natural gas, the unit costs shall be recomputed on the basis of such change in accordance with procedures approved by the city manager. The difference between the unit costs so computed and the base unit costs shall represent the purchased gas adjustment to be applied to all customer bills issued beginning the first billing month after each such change.

ARTICLE III. WATER AND SEWERS GENERALLY

Sec. 31-102. - Application for water service; water connection charges generally; installation of meters, etc.

(a) Whenever any person owning or leasing property for which water service has been installed desires the initiation of water delivery, they shall make written application to the director of finance on forms prescribed by the director.

(b) Whenever any person owning or leasing property along an existing city water main desires to provide a service connection from such main to such property, they shall make application to the director of finance on forms prescribed by the director. The charge for a water connection for a meter provided, installed and set by the city under this subsection. The cost of connecting to the city water shall be determined based on the water meter size or equivalent residential connections (ERC), whichever fee is greater, shall be as follows:

Water Meter Size (inch)	ERC	Water Meter Set Fee	Water Facility Fee
5/8	1	\$325.00	\$3,100.00
1	2.5	\$495.00	\$7,750.00
1 1/2	5	\$565.00	\$15,500.00
2	8	\$635.00	\$24,800.00
3	15-25	\$825.00	\$46,500.00 \$77,500.00
4	25-50	\$965.00	\$77,500.00 \$155,000.00
6	50-80	\$1,145.00	\$155,000.00 \$248,000.00

(c) In new subdivisions or any portion thereof the city may, if the city manager deems it to be in the best interest of the city, install water connections at the same time the water main or mains are installed in the new streets and prior to the time that the streets are paved, provided:

- (1) The subdivider so requests;
- (2) The subdivider gives assurance in writing that the lots will be built upon within a reasonable time; and
- (3) The subdivider designates on a plat the desired location of such connections. The charge for a water connection shall be as indicated in subsection (b) of this section.

(d) All installations made pursuant to subsections (b) and (c) of this section, from and including the meter to the main, shall be the property of the city, and the city shall maintain such service line and meter.

(e) In new subdivisions, such as apartment or office complexes or shopping centers, the city may, if the city manager deems it to be in the best interest of the city, install water meters at approximately the same time the water main or mains are installed in the project, provided:

- (1) The subdivider or developer so requests;
- (2) The subdivider or developer gives assurance in writing that the project will be built within a reasonable time;
- (3) The subdivider or developer designates on a plat the desired location of any main or mains, service lines and meters; and
- (4) The subdivider or developer installs at their expense any required mains and service lines in accordance with city standards.

The charge for a water connection shall be as indicated in subsection (b) of this section.

Sec. 31-106. - Sewer connections generally.

(a) All sanitary sewer connections shall be done by the applicant; extensions of all lines in city streets shall be performed by or approved in advance by the city. The cost of connecting to the city sewer shall be determined based on the water meter size or equivalent residential connections (ERC), whichever fee is greater, as follows:

Meter Size (inch)	ERC	Sewer Facility Fee
5/8	1	\$5,350.00
1	2.5	\$13,375.00
1 1/2	5	\$26,750.00
2	8	\$42,800.00
3	15-25	\$80,250.00 -\$133,725.00
4	25-50	\$133,725.00 -\$267,500.00
6	50-80	\$267,500.00 -\$428,000.00

For the purposes of this subsection, multi-family housing shall equal 0.5 ERC per unit and hotels shall equal 0.33 ERC per room. "Multi-family housing" shall include all buildings or structures with three (3) or more dwelling units, regardless of whether the units are individually owned or leased.

As used herein, a "sewer facility fee" is defined as a charge levied to offset existing or planned future capital costs necessary to meet the service needs of city sanitary sewer customers. The amount of the sewer facility fee is based on the customer's water meter size, or the number of equivalent residential connections as indicated above.

(b)Connections shall be made only upon application in writing on a form provided by the director of finance, to whom applications shall be made, and the payment above mentioned shall be made at the time of application.

(c) All applicant connections to the city's sewer lines shall be made only by a certified master plumber after securing a proper permit. All such connections must be inspected and approved by the city.

(d)All connections to mains of the city sewerage system, whether inside or outside of the city, shall be made only by the use of a mechanical tapping saddle with straps or bands circling the entire pipe compressing a rubber seal against the main line, or a polyvinyl chloride or ductile iron wye in the line. Any portion of the house sewer line within any street or road right-of-way shall be ductile iron, polyvinyl chloride or cast iron.

(e)In new subdivisions or any portion thereof, the city may, if the city manager deems it to be in the best interest of the city, install sewer connections at the same time the sewer main or mains are installed in the new streets and prior to the time that the streets are paved; provided:

- (1) The subdivider so requests;
- (2) The subdivider gives assurance in writing that the lots will be built upon within a reasonable time; and
- (3) The subdivider designates on a plat the desired location of such connections.

The charge for sewer connections shall be as indicated in subsection (a) of this section.

ARTICLE IV. WATER AND SEWER SERVICE CHARGES

Sec. 31-153. Water rates generally.

(a) Water rates shall be as follows:

(1) Monthly service charge....

	<u>May-September</u>	<u>October-April</u>
(2) Metered water consumption, per 1,000 cu. ft.	\$70.08 <u>\$80.59</u>	\$53.91 <u>\$62.00</u>

(b) This section shall not apply to special contracts for the consumption of water which have been authorized by the city council.

Sec. 31-156. Sewer service charges generally.

(a) Any person having a connection directly or indirectly, to the city sewer system shall pay therefor a monthly charge as follows:

(1) Monthly service charge ...

(2) An additional charge of ~~eighty one dollars and thirty four cents (\$81.34)~~ eighty-three dollars and eighty cents (\$83.80) per one thousand (1,000) cubic feet of metered water consumption.

(b) Any water customer not discharging the entire volume of water used into the city's sanitary sewer system shall be allowed a reduction in the charges imposed under this section, provided such person installs, at his expense, a separate, City-approved water connection to record water which will not reach the City sewer system. The cost and other terms of City Code section 31-102 shall apply. For customers with monthly water consumption in excess of thirty thousand (30,000) cubic feet, where the director of finance considers the installation of a separate meter to be impracticable, the director may establish a formula which will be calculated to require such person to pay the sewer charge only on that part of the water used by such person which ultimately reaches the city sewers.

2. The foregoing amendments shall become effective July 1, 2022.

	<u>Aye</u>	<u>No</u>
Magill	<u>_x_</u>	_____
Payne	<u>_x_</u>	_____
Pinkston	<u>_x_</u>	_____
Snook	<u>_x_</u>	_____
Wade	<u>_x_</u>	_____

Approved by Council
June 21, 2022



Maxicelia Robinson
Deputy Clerk of Council