

ORDINANCE NO. 52-632

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF WICHITA, KANSAS, AMENDING SECTION 17.12.090 OF THE CODE OF THE CITY OF WICHITA, PERTAINING TO THE SCHEDULES OF FEES, RATES, AND CHARGES FOR THE WATER UTILITIES, AND REPEALING THE PREVIOUS VERSIONS OF SUCH SECTION

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE CITY OF WICHITA, KANSAS:

**SECTION 1.** Section 17.12.090, of the Code of the City of Wichita is hereby amended to read as follows:

**WATER RATES AND CHARGES.** On and after April 1, 2025, the schedule of rates and charges as set forth below shall apply to all categories of water customers with metered, flat rate or fire protection services:

**I. MINIMUM WATER SERVICE CHARGES**

Minimum water service charges per meter, per monthly billing period, based on water service sizes, shall be assessed to all customers who have service availability at any time during a billing period as shown below. An individual is deemed to have service available if the private water service system, at the individual's residence or business, has been connected to the City of Wichita's water system at any time during a billing period. The minimum charge is to be applied regardless of whether or not any water volume passed from the City to private water systems during a billing period. Water service connections deemed inactive by the director of public works & utilities shall not be assessed minimum water service charges.

**A. METERED AND WHOLESALE WATER SERVICES**

<b>Water Meter Sizes</b>	<b>Residential Inside City</b>	<b>Commercial Inside City</b>	<b>Residential Outside City</b>	<b>Commercial Outside City</b>	<b>Wholesale</b>
5/8 inch	\$20.57	\$21.85	\$32.94	\$34.98	\$34.58
3/4 inch	20.57	21.85	32.94	34.98	34.58
1 inch	20.57	21.85	32.94	34.98	34.58
1 1/2 inch	26.75	28.42	42.79	45.46	44.93
2 inch	34.05	36.18	54.52	57.91	57.24
3 inch	57.33	60.90	91.77	97.49	96.36
4 inch	76.14	80.89	121.90	129.49	127.99
6 inch	115.30	122.49	184.58	196.09	193.81
8 inch	154.14	163.74	246.75	262.13	259.08
10 inch	197.20	209.50	315.72	335.41	331.51
12 inch	273.83	290.90	438.36	465.68	460.27
16 inch					1,041.12

**B. FIRE PROTECTION FLAT MONTHLY CHARGES**

<b>PIPE SIZES</b>	<b>Inside City</b>	<b>Outside City</b>
5/8 inch	\$6.49	\$10.42
3/4 inch	6.69	10.72
1 inch	7.45	11.91
1 1/2 inch	8.86	14.22
2 inch	10.78	17.23
3 inch	20.32	32.50
4 inch	26.95	43.14
6 inch	41.88	67.04
8 inch	56.19	89.95
10 inch	72.91	116.64
12 inch	98.44	157.51

**II. WATER VOLUME CHARGES**

Charges for any volume of water passing from the City of Wichita water system to a private water system shall be billed to the individual residing at the residence or business. Volume charges shall not apply to flat rate services which have been properly established with the Wichita Water Utilities.

**A. AVERAGE WINTER CONSUMPTION**

Average winter consumption (AWC) shall be defined as the arithmetic mean of monthly consumption computed by adding the metered consumption on bills rendered during the months of December, January, February, and March and then dividing this sum by the number of billings rendered during these same months. Each customer's AWC shall be recalculated in April of each year. Metered consumption charges for the ensuing twelve months shall be computed utilizing the AWC as calculated each April, apportioning usage among the applicable rate blocks as designated below. In those instances where no consumption data exists for the calculation of an AWC for particular customers, the director of public works & utilities shall determine the most appropriate method of establishing average winter consumptions for such circumstances. The minimum monthly AWC for any metered service sized one (1) inch or less shall be 6,000 gallons. If a billing period of greater than one month (defined as days of service within twenty eight to thirty one days) is used, the actual or minimum AWC shall be adjusted accordingly on a daily basis.

**B. RETAIL VOLUME CHARGES**

**Rates Per 1,000 Gallons**

		Residential Inside City	Commercial Inside City	Residential Outside City	Commercial Outside City
Block 1:	Metered Consumption through 110% of AWC	\$3.27	\$3.48	\$5.24	\$5.57
Block 2:	Metered Consumption between 111% and 310% of AWC and from Fire Services	11.42	12.13	18.29	19.43
Block 3:	Metered Consumption above 310% of AWC	16.71	17.75	26.75	28.42

### **RETAIL VOLUME CONSERVATION CONTRACT RATES**

In order to obtain significant reductions in customers' annual water use, through more efficient use of Wichita's water resources, the director of public works & utilities is empowered to negotiate and execute contracts with retail customers which provide for a significant annual water savings by customers in return for charging all water use at the retail volume conservation contract rate. The director of public works & utilities is further empowered to establish such rules and regulations in contract terms as may be necessary to most equitably carry out the intent of this section. Rules and regulations shall be promulgated based on the needs of the City of Wichita as demonstrated in its water conservation plan and programs to address the requirements of the State of Kansas. In all circumstances, customers seeking to qualify for the conservation contract rate must make written application to the director of public works & utilities, detailing methods to be employed to conserve water, the time frame for implementing such conservation methods and the expected annual water savings in gallons per year to be derived from implementing such conservation plans. Each January, customers who have entered into conservation contract rate agreements shall report the results of their conservation initiatives to the director of public works & utilities. If the director of public works & utilities determines that any customer did not meet the goal, then a billing will be rendered to the customer to reconcile charges for the proportion of the customer's prior year total annual consumption volume that did not qualify for the retail conservation contract rate as determined by the formula below:

(PRIOR YEAR'S RETAIL VOLUME CHARGE BLOCK 2 RATE - PRIOR YEAR'S RETAIL VOLUME CONSERVATION CONTRACT RATE) x ((PRIOR YEAR'S ANNUAL WATER USE/1,000) x (1 - (PRIOR YEAR'S ACTUAL ANNUAL GALLONS OF WATER SAVED / PRIOR YEAR'S PROJECTED ANNUAL GALLONS OF WATER SAVED)))

Customers exceeding their water conservation goals may use such excess savings in gallons as a credit toward the next year's water savings goal. This rate shall only be made available to customers who can demonstrate potential water savings that would be considered economically significant to the City of Wichita as determined by the director of public works & utilities.

	<b>Conservation Contract Rates</b>	
	<b>Inside City</b>	<b>Outside City</b>
All Metered Consumption: Price per 1,000 gallons	\$9.02	\$14.44

**C. WHOLESALE VOLUME RATES**

		<b>Rates Per 1,000 Gallons</b>
Block 1:	Metered Consumption through 110% of AWC	\$3.98
Block 2:	Metered Consumption between 111% and 310% of AWC and from Fire Services	20.61
Block 3:	Metered Consumption above 310% of AWC	30.87

**D. UNIFORM WHOLESALE VOLUME RATES**

All Metered Consumption \$5.52 per 1,000 gallons

**E. NON POTABLE VOLUME RATES**

All Metered Consumption \$1.78 per 1,000 gallons

**III. ASSOCIATION OF LAWN SERVICES**

In all cases where practical and appropriate, lawn service accounts shall be associated with the primary service account at a particular service location. The individual consumption amounts for the primary service account and the lawn service accounts shall be added together and the total consumption for the billing period shall be allocated to the appropriate water volume charge rate blocks and volume charges calculated therefor. The consumption as recorded on billings rendered in the months of December, January, February and March for both the primary and lawn service accounts shall be used to calculate the average winter consumption used in apportioning water usage among the volume rate blocks whenever lawn service accounts are associated with primary service accounts.

**IV. LATE CHARGES**

An amount equal to one and one-half percent of the unpaid balance will be added to all bills not paid within twenty-five (25) days of the date of issuance.

## **V. MISCELLANEOUS CHARGES**

When termination of water service has been ordered by the department for any cause, the customer shall be charged a fee to cover costs of arranging such termination. In instances where the service is actually terminated and later reinstated, the customer shall be charged an additional fee to cover costs of reinstating the service.

If a customer requests inspection and testing of a meter a testing fee shall be paid. If upon such examination and test conducted in the presence of the customer, or the customer's representative, the meter is found to be inaccurate according to the standards of the American Water Works Association, a meter will be substituted and the adjustment of the water bill for the preceding billing period shall include a credit for the testing fee.

Where water service is turned on and shut off in a period of less than one billing period, the billing shall be computed as if service was rendered for an entire billing period. Any customer desiring to discontinue water service temporarily must make request therefor at the office of the department not less than two working days prior to the date on which the service is desired to be discontinued. After the effective date of such discontinuance, all charges for such water and water service shall cease for the period during which the service shall be shut off; provided, that the period of such discontinuance shall not be less than thirty days.

A fee shall be required for the disconnection of a lawn service when the customer of record requests disconnection without concurrently requesting disconnection of the associated service account at the service location. An additional fee shall be required for the reconnection of the lawn service at the same location.

The fees authorized in this section, and other charges and billing for special services, such as but not limited to administrative costs, account origination fees, collection costs, damages and/or vandalism to Utility infrastructure and appurtenances, etc., shall be as set forth in Section 17.12.080.

## **VI. GOVERNMENT MILITARY FACILITIES LOCATED OUTSIDE THE CITY**

Government military facilities located outside the City of Wichita shall be charged inside city rates for water service.

**SECTION 3.** The original of Section 17.12.090 is hereby repealed.

**SECTION 4.** This ordinance shall take effect and be in force on and after March 21, 2025 and upon publication once in the official City paper.

ADOPTED at Wichita, Kansas, this 18th day of March 2025.

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Lily Wu, Mayor  
City of Wichita

ATTEST:

Approved as to Form:

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Paul Leeker, City Clerk

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Jennifer Magaña, Director of Law  
and City Attorney