

CITY ORDINANCE #244-D
OF THE CITY OF BRACKETTVILLE

AN ORDINANCE FIXING AND ESTABLISHING MONTHLY RATES TO BE CHARGED TO ALL CUSTOMERS FOR WATER, SEWER AND GAS SERVICE; PROVIDING FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF CONNECTION AND SERVICE CHARGES FOR DISCONTINUANCE OF SERVICE; PROVIDING FOR THE APPLICATION OF ELECTRIC SURCHARGES TO WATER SERVICE; REPEALING ALL ORDINANCES AND PARTS OF ORDINANCES PRESCRIBING DIFFERENT RATES, CONNECTION FEES AND SERVICE CHARGES, LATE FEES AND SURCHARGES, AND PRESCRIBING A PENALTY OF A FINE NOT LESS THAN \$1.00 AND NOT MORE THAN \$500.00.

WHEREAS, the City Council meeting in open session on November 12, 1991, and after public hearing, established rates and fees to be charged to all customers of the City's gas, water and sewer systems, now therefore,

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF BRACKETTVILLE:

MONTHLY RATES:

The following monthly rates shall be charged for furnishing and supplying water, sewer and gas service to all customers.

DEFINITION:

New development means the subdivision of land; or construction, reconstruction, redevelopment, conversion, structural, alteration, relocation or enlargement of any structure; or any use or extension of the use of land which increases the demand for either water, sewer or gas service.

A. WATER RATES:

The following monthly rates shall be charged to all customers of the City's water system.

1. For the first 3,000 gallons or less of metered flow of water in any billing month to any metered customer, the minimum service charge shall be \$7.00.
2. All metered flow of water over the first 3,000 gallons shall be charged at a rate of \$.90 (90 cents) per thousand gallons of water.
3. ELECTRIC SURCHARGE. A surcharge will be charged to each water customer monthly to reflect, pro rata, the surcharge charged by the electric company on the City's electric bill for the water wells.

4. WATER CONNECTION FEE. A connection fee of \$200.00 (Two-Hundred Dollars) shall be charged for each new water connection made to the City's water system. *All Taps (water, sewer and gas) will be installed by the City at the owners property line. The location is at the discretion of the City.
5. WATER SERVICE LINE EXTENSION. If a water customer is more than 100 feet from the main, the City will bear the expense of the service line for the first 100 feet. The customer will pay 100% of the actual cost of labor, material, and excavation required to complete the extension. The customer shall not receive water service until the actual cost of the extension in excess of 100 feet has been paid. The City will not charge more than the actual cost.
6. NEW DEVELOPMENT. The actual cost of extending water lines to serve new development will be reimbursed to the City or paid directly by the owners of such new development. The City will not charge more than actual cost.
7. WATER SERVICE DEPOSIT. Water Customers will be required to deposit thirty-five dollars (\$35.00) for water service. Deposits will be returned to commercial and non-home owners within, but not more than, 30 days AFTER FULL PAYMENT OF THE FINAL BILL. Homeowners' deposits will be returned after one year of utility service, if the customer has not been delinquent in the past twelve months.
8. SERVICE CHARGE. A service charge of twenty dollars (\$20.00) will be charged to any water service connected to system to include new accounts or reconnection of discontinued service. This service charge is non-refundable.

If both water/gas are connected at the same time, a \$20.00 service charge will be collected. If separately connected, each utility connection will be charge \$20.00. *All new taps (water, sewer and gas) will not be charged a Service Charge if the new account is put into service within six months.

B. SEWER RATES.

The following monthly rates shall be charged to all customers of the City Sanitary Sewer System.

1. A monthly service charge of six dollars(\$6.00) will be charged for each single family residential connection to the sewer system.

2. All connections to the City Sewer System other than single family residential (to include all commercial, multi-family residences and industrial connections) shall be charged a monthly service charge of seven dollars (\$7.00) for the first 3,000 gallons of metered water flow plus thirty cents (\$.30) per 1,000 gallons of metered water flow in excess of 3,000 gallons per monthly billing.
3. SEWER CONNECTION FEE. A connection fee of one hundred fifty dollars (\$150.00) shall be charged for each new sewer connection made to the City Sanitary Sewer System. (*) See Section A, #4
4. SEWER SERVICE LINE EXTENSION. If a sewer customer is more than the 100 feet from the main, the City will bear the expense for the service for the first 100 feet. The customer will pay 100% of the actual cost of labor, material and excavation required to complete the extension. The customer shall not receive the sewer service until the actual cost of the extension in excess of 100 feet has been paid. The City will not charge more than the actual cost.
5. NEW DEVELOPMENT. The actual cost of extending sewer lines to serve new development will be reimbursed to the City or paid directly by the owners of such new development. The City will not charge more than actual cost.

C. GAS RATES.

The following monthly gas rates will be charged to all customers of the City Natural Gas System.

1. The monthly service charge for gas delivered to individual meters shall be based on the monthly charge per 1,000 cubic feet of gas delivered to the City by the Valero-Reata Gas Company, plus a system charge of as follows:

Actual monthly cost per 1,000 cubic feet (m.c.f.) charged by Valero-Reata to City plus \$4.20 system charge for the first 1,000 c.f. of gas metered.

Actual monthly cost per m.c.f. charged by Valero-Reata to City plus \$2.80 per 1,000 c.f. for 1,001, to 5,000 cubic feet of gas metered.

Actual monthly charge per m.c.f. charged by Valero-Reata to City plus \$2.62 per 1,000 c.f. for 5,001 c.f. to 10,000 cubic feet of gas metered.

Actual monthly charge per m.c.f. charged by Valero-Reata to City plus \$2.40 per 1,000 c.f. for 10,001 to 15,000 c.f.

Actual monthly charge per m.c.f. charged by Valero-Reata to City plus \$2.31 per 1,000 c.f. for gas delivered and metered in excess of 15,000 cubic feet.

2. STATE AND CITY GAS TAX.

- A. A City gas tax of 1% is charged to each residential gas customer and each commercial customer.
- B. A state gas tax of $6\frac{1}{4}$ % is charged to each commercial gas customer.

3. NATURAL GAS SYSTEM CONNECTION FEE.

A natural gas system connection fee of two-hundred dollars shall be charged for each new gas connection made to the City's natural gas system. (*)See Section A, #4

4. GAS SERVICE LINE EXTENSION.

If a gas customer is more than 100 feet from the main, the City will bear the expense of the service line for the first 100 feet. The customer will pay 100% of the actual cost of labor, material, and excavation required to complete the extension. The customer shall not receive gas service until the actual cost of the extension in excess of 100 feet has been paid. The City will not charge more than the actual cost.

5. NEW DEVELOPMENT.

The actual cost of extending gas lines to serve new development will be reimbursed to the City or paid directly by the owners of such new development. The City will not charge more than the actual cost.

6. GAS SERVICE DEPOSIT.

All gas service customers will be required to deposit fifty-five dollars (\$55.00) for gas service. Deposits will be returned to Commercial and non-home owners within, but not more than, 30 days AFTER FULL PAYMENT OF FINAL BILL. Homeowner deposits will be returned after one year of utility service if the customer has not been delinquent in the past twelve months.

7. SERVICE CHARGE.

A service charge of twenty-dollars (\$20.00) will be charged to any gas service connected to system to include new accounts or reconnection of discontinued service. This service charge is non-refundable.

(*) SEE A, Section 8

If both gas/water are connected at the same time, a \$20.00 service charge will be collected. If separately connected each utility connection will be charged \$20.00.

8. VACATION/SUMMER CUT-OFF RECONNECT FEE.

A service charge of twenty-five dollars (\$25.00) will be charged to any gas customer who disconnects their service for the summer or vacation. Charge will be made upon reconnection of services.

9. DISCONTINUANCE OF SERVICE.

Any customer, person, firm and/or corporation who fails to pay the water, sewer and gas utility billing charge set forth herein at the City business office of the City, by the twentieth (20th) day of the month following month in which service is rendered, shall be subject to have services disconnected and such services will not be reconnected until all delinquent charges, service charges and updates on deposits are paid in full, whether service has been physically disconnected or not.

10. FEES.

A. INSUFFICIENT CHECK FEE.

Any customer, person, firm and/or corporation who issues an insufficient check to the City of Brackettville for utility services or other services rendered, shall pay a twenty-dollar (\$20.00) insufficient check fee, plus any other fees charged by bank to us. Payment of insufficient check to be collected in cash, money-order, or cashier check. After two (2) insufficient checks, we will require payment by cash, money-order or cashier check.

B. LATE-CHARGE FEE.

A late-charge fee of \$2.00 will be charged on all accounts paid after the 20th of each month. If the 20th falls on week-end or holiday, the account should be paid by 5:00 P.M. of the next work day. If not paid, the late charge will be charged after that date.

C. RECEIPT FEE.

Any customer not supplying utility card at time of payment, will be charged a \$.50 fee for receipt.
(This is at the City Office Personnel's discretion; if the account is a frequent problem)

11. PENALTIES.

It shall be unlawful for a customer, person, firm and/or corporation, whose services (water, sewer, gas) have been discontinued, to reconnect such services or attempt to reconnect such services until all delinquent charges, penalties, reconnection fees and updates on deposits, have been paid in full. Any person, firm and/or corporation attempting to turn on services (water, gas, sewer) shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor and shall be punishable by a fine of not less than \$1.00 and no more than \$200.00.

12. CLEAN OUT INSPECTIONS.

All new sewer connections must be inspected for a clean-out having been installed within the property line.

13. VALVE INSPECTIONS.

All new water and gas lines will be inspected for a valve being installed between water or gas meter and residence or building.

14. SEVERABILITY.

If any terms or provisions of this Ordinance are found for any reason to be invalid, such partial invalidity shall not affect the remainder of this Ordinance.

15. REPEAL.

All Ordinances or parts of Ordinances prescribing rates, connection fees, and/or service charges in conflict with those herein set forth, are repealed to the extent of such conflict. All other sections of previous Ordinances pertaining to the operations of the City's Utility department, water, sanitary sewer or natural gas system - which are not in conflict herewith shall remain in effect.

16. EFFECTIVE DATE.

This Ordinance shall be effective from and after its passage, approval and publication as prescribed by law.

PASSED AND APPROVED ON THIS 18th DAY OF November 1991.

Diane Bravo
DIANE BRAVO, MAYOR PRO-TEM
CITY OF BRACKETTVILLE

ATTEST:

CITY SECRETARY

Carol M. Fudake