

**ORDINANCE NO. 01-23**

**AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF CAMDEN, ARKANSAS, AUTHORIZING A RATE PLAN FOR THE WATER AND SEWER DEPARTMENT, AND AMENDING CHAPTER 22, WATER AND SEWERS, ARTICLE II, WATER, DIVISION 2, METERS AND RATES, SECTION 22-22, RATES, OF THE CODE OF ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF CAMDEN, ARKANSAS.**

**WHEREAS**, the City of Camden’s Water and Sewer Department wishes to continue to offer professional service and products to the citizens of Camden; and

**WHEREAS**, like much of the nation, the City of Camden’s Water infrastructure is approaching its age and service limit and is in need of improvement; and

**WHEREAS**, the Camden City Council previously approved a twenty (20) year Master plan for water and sewer improvements in 2015 as Ordinance 11-15; and

**WHEREAS**, the Master Plan included rate increases for five (5) years with a review to be conducted by the City Council after the first five (5) year cycle; and

**WHEREAS**, Act 605 of 2021 requires, among other things, that retail water providers conduct a rate study at least every five (5) years; and

**WHEREAS**, Camden Water Utilities retained Civil Engineering Associates, LLC of Conway to complete a rate study; and

**WHEREAS**, Civil Engineering Associates, LLC has presented its 2023 Water & Sewer Rate Study to the Camden Water & Sewer Commission and the Camden City Council; and

**WHEREAS**, the Camden Water & Sewer Commission voted to approve the rates suggested in the rate study and forwarded it to the City Council for review and approval; and

**WHEREAS**, it has been determined that funding for water operations necessitate an annual rate increase for the next five (5) years.

**BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF CAMDEN, ARKANSAS, THAT:**

**SECTION 1. Section 22-22. Rates.** Is hereby deleted in its entirety and the following substituted therefor:

**Section 22-22. Rates.**

- (a) **BASE CHARGE** - shall include the meter charge and the first one-thousand (1,000) gallons of metered water.
- (b) **CHARGE PER GALLONS** - the charge per gallons of water used shall be applied after the first one-thousand (1,000) gallons of metered water, which shall be included within the base charge.
- (c) The following monthly rates shall apply to all measured water service, except as otherwise provided in this division:
  - (1) Beginning August 1, 2023:
    - (A) Three dollars and fifty cents (\$3.50) per one thousand (1,000) gallons, or any portion thereof; plus
    - (B) A sixteen dollar (\$16.00) per each metered customer account base charge; and
    - (C) An additional surcharge of thirteen dollars (\$13.00) shall apply to each meter supplying a customer located outside the Camden City Limits [equaling a total of twenty-nine dollars (\$29.00) per meter serving customers outside of the city limits of Camden].
  - (2) Beginning August 1, 2024:
    - (A) Three dollars and seventy-five cents (\$3.75) per one thousand (1,000) gallons, or any portion thereof for all accounts; plus
    - (B) An eighteen dollar (\$18.00) per each metered customer account base charge; and
    - (C) An additional surcharge of thirteen dollars (\$13.00) shall apply to each meter supplying a customer located outside the Camden City Limits [equaling a total of thirty-one dollars (\$31.00) per meter serving customers outside of the city limits of Camden].
  - (3) Beginning August 1, 2025:
    - (A) Three dollars and eighty-five cents (\$3.85) per one thousand (1,000) gallons, or any portion thereof for all accounts; plus
    - (B) A nineteen dollars (\$19.00) per each metered customer account base charge; and
    - (C) An additional surcharge of thirteen dollars (\$13.00) shall apply to each meter supplying a customer located outside the Camden

City Limits [equaling a total of thirty-two dollars (\$32.00) per meter serving customers outside of the city limits of Camden].

- (4) Beginning August 1, 2026:
  - (A) Three dollars and ninety-five cents (\$3.95) per one thousand (1,000) gallons, or any portion thereof for all accounts; plus
  - (B) A twenty dollar (\$20.00) per each metered customer account base charge; and
  - (C) An additional surcharge of thirteen dollars (\$13.00) shall apply to each meter supplying a customer located outside the Camden City Limits [equaling a total of thirty-three dollars (\$33.00) per meter serving customers outside of the city limits of Camden].
  
- (5) Beginning August 1, 2027:
  - (A) Four dollars and five cents (\$4.05) per one thousand (1,000) gallons, or any portion thereof for all accounts; plus
  - (B) A twenty-one dollars (\$21.00) per each metered customer account base charge; and
  - (C) An additional surcharge of thirteen dollars (\$13.00) shall apply to each meter supplying a customer located outside the Camden City Limits [equaling a total of thirty-four dollars (\$34.00) per meter serving customers outside of the city limits of Camden].
  
- (6) Beginning August 1, 2028:
  - (A) Four dollars and fifteen cents (\$4.15) per one thousand (1,000) gallons, or any portion thereof for all accounts; plus
  - (B) A twenty-two dollars (\$22.00) per each metered customer account base charge; and
  - (C) An additional surcharge of thirteen dollars (\$13.00) shall apply to each meter supplying a customer located outside the Camden City Limits [equaling a total of thirty-five dollars (\$35.00) per meter serving customers outside of the city limits of Camden].

**PASSED AND APPROVED THIS \_\_\_\_\_ DAY OF \_\_\_\_\_, 2023.**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Mayor**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**City Clerk**