

ORDINANCE NO. 02-23

**AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF
CAMDEN, ARKANSAS, AMENDING CHAPTER 22, WATER AND
SEWERS, ARTICLE III, SEWERS, DIVISION 3, RATES AND
CHARGES, SECTION 22-65, SEWER 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 sewer infrastructure is approaching its age and service limit and is in need of improvement; and

WHEREAS, Act 605 of 2021 required, 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 forwarded it to the City Council for review; and

WHEREAS, it has been determined that funding for water and sewer 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. The second paragraph of Section 22-65 (a) of the Code of Ordinances is hereby deleted in its entirety and the following substituted therefor:

Commencing on the date set forth in subsection (q) hereof, all users of the system shall be charged the following monthly rate per one thousand (1,000) gallons, over the first one thousand (1,000) gallons included within the base charge, or portion thereof of metered water consumption for OM&R.

- (1) Beginning August 1, 2023, all customers shall pay four dollars and fifty cents (\$4.50) per (1,000) one-thousand gallons.

- (2) Beginning August 1, 2024, all customers shall pay four dollars and seventy-five cents (\$4.75) per (1,000) one-thousand gallons.
- (3) Beginning August 1, 2025, all customers shall pay five dollars (\$5.00) per (1,000) one-thousand gallons.
- (4) Beginning August 1, 2026, all customers shall pay five dollars and twenty-five cents (\$5.25) per (1,000) one-thousand gallons.
- (5) Beginning August 1, 2027, all customers shall pay five dollars and fifty cents (\$5.50) per (1,000) one-thousand gallons.
- (6) Beginning August 1, 2028, all customers shall pay five dollars and seventy-five cents (\$5.75) per (1,000) one-thousand gallons.

SECTION 2. Section 22-65 (d) of the Code of Ordinances is hereby deleted in its entirety and the following substituted therefor:

(c) The following monthly sewer base charge shall apply to all customers except as may be provided in subsection (c) hereof.

- (1) Beginning August 1, 2023, all customers shall pay a monthly sewer base charge of twenty-two dollars (\$22.00); and
- (2) Beginning August 1, 2024, all customers shall pay a monthly sewer base charge of twenty-four dollars (\$24.00); and
- (3) Beginning August 1, 2025 all customers shall pay a monthly sewer base charge of twenty-six dollars (\$26.00).
- (4) Beginning August 1, 2026 all customers shall pay a monthly sewer base charge of twenty-seven dollars (\$27.00).
- (5) Beginning August 1, 2027 all customers shall pay a monthly sewer base charge of twenty-eight dollars (\$28.00).
- (6) Beginning August 1, 2028 all customers shall pay a monthly sewer base charge of twenty-nine dollars (\$29.00).
- (7) A five dollar (\$5.00) outside city customer surcharge will be added to the sewer base charge for all customers residing outside the City.

PASSED AND APPROVED THIS _____ DAY OF _____, 2023.

Mayor

City Clerk