

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