



## Agenda Item Memorandum

**TO:** City Commission of the City of Clewiston

**FROM:** Randy Maxson, Director of Finance

**VIA:** Danny Williams, City Manager

**DATE:** September 9, 2025

**SUBJECT:** Consideration of **Resolution No. 2025-38** Approving a 25% Increase in Water and Sewer Utility Rates

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### Background:

The City of Clewiston's water and sewer utility system provides essential services to residents, businesses, and visitors. A rate and budget analysis with the assistance of Waterworth, presented to the City Commission on March 17, 2025, identified the need for a rate adjustment to address rising operational costs, aging infrastructure, and compliance with state and federal regulations, including those from the Florida Department of Environmental Protection (FDEP). The study highlighted that current rates are insufficient to cover increased costs for labor, materials, and capital projects, such as upgrades to the water treatment plant and sewer collection system. That presentation resulted in a 10% rate increase that took effect July 1, 2025.

An additional 25% rate increase is necessary to maintain adequate reserves, meet debt service obligations, and fund planned improvements.

This agenda item follows prior discussions, including the March 17, 2025, presentation by Randy Maxson and Erin Cleese, and information presented during the current series of budget workshops which outlined the fiscal challenges facing the utility system.

### Attachments:

- a. Resolution No. 2025-38

### Fiscal Impact:

The 25% rate increase is projected to generate an additional \$1 million annually for the water/sewer fund, ensuring a balanced budget and adequate reserves. Without this adjustment, the city risks depleting reserves by September 30, 2026, potentially requiring emergency borrowing or service reductions. The increase will also support debt service coverage for existing utility bonds.

### Recommendations:

City staff recommends that the City Commission adopt **Resolution No. 2025-38**, approving a 25% increase in water and sewer utility rates effective October 1, 2025. This action will ensure the long-term sustainability of the utility system, protect public health, and support the city's commitment to reliable infrastructure.

**CITY OF CLEWISTON**

**RESOLUTION NO. 2025-38**

**A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF CLEWISTON, FLORIDA, INCREASING THE WATER AND SEWER RATE BY 25% AS CONTAINED IN APPENDIX A, SECTION 17 (a) AND (b) OF THE CODE OF ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF CLEWISTON, PURSUANT TO SECTION 74-109 AND 74-111 RESPECTIVELY; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY, CONFLICT, AND AN EFFECTIVE DATE.**

**WHEREAS**, section 74-111 of the code of ordinances of the City of Commission of the City of Clewiston, Florida, prescribes that the City Commission may from time to time adjust the rate of monthly sewer utility rates by resolution and rising operating costs necessitate such an increase; and

**WHEREAS**, section 74-109 of the code of ordinances of the City of Commission of the City of Clewiston, Florida, prescribes that the City Commission may from time to time adjust the rate of monthly water utility rates by resolution and rising costs necessitate an increase;

**WHEREAS**, now the City Commission desires to adjust the Monthly Water and Sewer Rates by the adoption of this Resolution.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF CLEWISTON, FLORIDA, that:**

**SECTION 1.** Appendix A section 17(a) of the Clewiston Code of Ordinances is adjusted as follows:

<i>Amount Consumed</i>	<i>Effective</i>
	October 1, 2025
Minimum .....	\$10.00
Plus, for the first 10,000 gallons, per 1,000 gallons.....	\$ 6.54
Plus, for 10,001 to 20,000 gallons, per 1,000 gallons...	\$ 7.19
Plus, over 20,000 gallons, per 1,000 gallons .....	\$ 7.91

**SECTION 2.** Appendix A section 17(b) of the Clewiston Code of Ordinances is adjusted as follows:

<i>Consumption and Charges</i>	<i>Effective</i>
	October 1, 2025
Minimum.....	\$ 7.50
Plus, All Usage per 1,000 gallons .....	\$ 5.58

**SECTION 3.** The rates provided herein shall be effective October 1, 2025.

Commissioner \_\_\_\_\_ offered the foregoing resolution. Commissioner \_\_\_\_\_ seconded the motion, and upon being put to a vote, the vote was as follows:

	<b>Aye</b>	<b>Nay</b>	<b>Absent</b>
<b>JAMES PITTMAN, MAYOR</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>HILLARY HYSLOPE, VICE MAYOR</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>BARBARA EDMONDS, COMMISSIONER</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>MALI GARDNER, COMMISSIONER</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>JASON WILLIAMS, COMMISSIONER</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

PASSED AND APPROVED by the City Commission of the City of Clewiston this \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2025.

ATTEST:

CITY OF CLEWISTON, FLORIDA

\_\_\_\_\_  
Fransheska Berrios, City Clerk

\_\_\_\_\_  
James Pittman, Mayor

(MUNICIPAL SEAL)

APPROVED AS TO FORM  
AND LEGAL SUFFICIENCY

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Kaylee Tuck, City Attorney

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