

ORDINANCE NO. _____

**AN ORDINANCE AMENDING TITLE 13 (WATER AND SEWER), CHAPTER 13.24
(RATES AND CHARGES), SECTION 13.24.010 (CITY WATER SERVICE CHARGES)
OF THE CITY OF CREST HILL CODE OF ORDINANCES**

WHEREAS, the City Council of the City of Crest Hill has the authority to adopt ordinances and to promulgate rules and regulations that pertain to its government and affairs and protect the public health, safety, and welfare of its citizens; and

WHEREAS, the City of Crest Hill operates a combined waterworks and sewerage system and is expressly authorized by the Illinois Municipal Code to fix and collect such water rates or rents as the corporate authorities deem necessary and expedient and to collect a fair and reasonable charge for connection to its system (65 ILCS 5/11-125-3 and 65 ILCS 5/11-150-1); and

WHEREAS, the City Council of the City of Crest Hill has previously established a Code of Ordinances governing its water and sanitary sewer system, including the establishment of water and wastewater rates and equitable connection charges for connecting to the City of Crest Hill water and sanitary sewer system, which Ordinances are codified in Title 13 (Water and Sewer), Chapters 13.04 (General Provisions) through 13.30 (Sewer Use and Wastewater Pretreatment), including Chapter 13.24 (City Water Service Charges); and

WHEREAS, the City Council has from time to time amended, updated, and otherwise modified its Water and Sewer Code Ordinances as needed; and

WHEREAS, the City has determined to replace all water meters in the City with upgraded meters with remote reading capability, at no additional cost to the City's water customers; and

WHEREAS, the upgraded meters with remote reading capability are more accurate and will provide more efficiency in the operation of the City's water system by decreasing the need for City Staff to conduct manual readings of water meters within the City and have been deemed necessary to complete Crest Hill's transition to Lake Michigan water by 2030; and

WHEREAS, all but 72 water meters in the City have been replaced with the upgraded water meters, despite repeated attempts by City Staff to notify said water customers of the need to replace the meters at no charge to the customer; and

WHEREAS, the Corporate Authorities have determined that the refusal of water customers to allow the City's staff or contractors access to the property for replacement of the old water meter(s) with the upgraded meters with remote reading capability will greatly hinder the efficient operation of the City's water system; and

WHEREAS, the City Council has determined that Title 13 (Water and Sewer), Chapter 13.24 (Rates and Charges) Section 13.24.010 (City Water Service Charges) of the Crest Hill Code of Ordinances should be amended to add a Remote Meter Reading Charge to the monthly bill of those water customers who continue to refuse to allow the installation of the upgraded meters.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF CREST HILL, WILL COUNTY, ILLINOIS, PURSUANT TO ITS STATUTORY AUTHORITY, AS FOLLOWS:

SECTION 1: The City Council hereby finds that all the recitals contained in the preamble to this Ordinance are true, correct, and complete and are hereby incorporated by reference hereto and made a part hereof.

SECTION 2: That Title 13 (Water and Sewer), Chapter 13.24 (Rates and Charges), Chapter 13.24.010 (City Water Service Charges), is hereby repealed in its entirety and replaced with the following:

§13.24.010 CITY WATER SERVICE CHARGES.

There are hereby established the rates and charges for use of water provided by the City of Crest Hill through the city waterworks. These charges shall be separate and apart from (i) any wastewater service charges and (ii) from any debt service charges, as specified in §§13.24.011, 13.24.012, 13.24.013, 13.24.014, and 13.24.015 of this chapter.

- (A) For use of water service as provided by the city the following rates and charges shall apply to all water connections (other than "bulk water connections," see subpart (B) of this Section, below):
- (1) Base Water Charge: For the first four hundred cubic feet (400 ft.³) used in a given billing cycle, the water user shall pay a flat fee of \$28.30.
 - (2) Volumetric Water Charge: For every hundred cubic feet (100 ft.³), or part thereof, used in excess of four hundred cubic feet (400 ft.³) of water in a given billing cycle, the water user shall pay an additional charge of \$5.57.
 - (3) Every year on the first of May, both the base water charge and the volumetric water charge applicable to all water connections shall be immediately and automatically increased, without additional notice, as follows:

Implementation	5/1/2023	5/1/2024	5/1/2025	5/1/2026	5/1/2027	5/1/2028	5/1/2029
Date							

Base Water Charge	28.30	\$ 34.81	\$ 42.82	\$ 52.67	\$ 64.78	\$ 78.38	\$ 87.79
Volumetric Water Charge	5.57	\$ 6.85	\$ 8.43	\$ 10.36	\$ 12.75	\$ 15.42	\$ 17.27

Unless otherwise ordained by the City Council, the base water charge and volumetric water charge applicable to all water connections shall be immediately and automatically increased by six percent (6%) on each May first beginning on May 1, 2030.

- (B) Any water user that consumes, on average, more than one hundred and fifty thousand cubic feet (150,000 ft.³) of water per month is and shall be deemed a "bulk water user." Bulk water users shall pay the following rates in lieu of the amounts listed in subpart (A) of this Section, above:

- (1) Monthly Billing Cycle: all bulk water users shall be billed on a monthly basis.
- (2) Base Bulk-User Water Charge: For the first two hundred cubic feet (200 ft.³) used in a given billing cycle, the bulk water user shall pay a flat fee of \$14.16.
- (3) Volumetric Bulk-User Water Charge: For every hundred cubic feet (100 ft.³), or part thereof, used in excess of two hundred cubic feet (200 ft.³) of water in a given billing cycle, the bulk water user shall pay an additional charge of \$5.57.
- (4) Every year on the first of May, both the base bulk-user water charge and the volumetric bulk-user water charge applicable to all water connections shall be immediately and automatically increased, without additional notice, as follows:

Implementation Date	5/1/2023	5/1/2024	5/1/2025	5/1/2026	5/1/2027	5/1/2028	5/1/2029
Base Bulk User-Water Charge	14.16	\$ 17.41	\$ 21.42	\$ 26.34	\$ 32.40	\$ 39.21	\$ 43.92
Volumetric Bulk-User Water Charge	5.57	\$ 6.85	\$ 8.43	\$ 10.36	\$ 12.75	\$ 15.42	\$ 17.27

Unless otherwise ordained by the City Council, the base bulk-user water charge and volumetric bulk-user water charge applicable to all water connections shall be immediately and automatically increased by six percent (6%) on each May first beginning on May 1, 2030.

Billing for water service shall be as specified in §13.24.050 of this chapter, and the procedure for handling delinquent bills shall be in accordance with §13.24.140 of this chapter. The procedure for establishing liens on behalf of the city for unpaid water bills shall be in accordance with §13.24.080 of this chapter.

All water customers shall have a water meter that is capable of being read remotely. Any water customer who does not have a water meter which is capable of being read remotely shall be charged a Manual Water Meter Read charge of \$50.00 per meter read billing cycle which shall be added to each water bill until the water customer allows the City or its designee to access the property to install a water meter which is capable of being read remotely.

(78 Code, §13.24.010) (Ord. 311, passed - -72; Am. Ord. 667, passed - -87; Am. Ord. 700, passed - -88; Am. Ord. 918 passed 5-2-94; Am. Ord. 1293, passed 6-16-03; Am. Ord. 1427, passed 7-16-07; Am. Ord. 1433, passed 9-4-07; Am. Ord. 1448, passed 2-4-08; Am. Ord. 1474, passed 3-2-09; Am. Ord. 1897, passed 3-7-22; Am. Ord. 1967, passed 12-4-23).

SECTION 3: In the event that any provision or provisions, portion or portions, or clause or clauses of this Ordinance shall be declared to be invalid or unenforceable by a Court of competent jurisdiction, such adjudication shall in no way affect or impair the validity or enforceability of any of the remaining provisions, portions, or clauses of this Ordinance that may be given effect without such invalid or unenforceable provision or provisions, portion or portions, or clause or clauses.

SECTION 4: That all ordinances, resolutions, motions, or parts thereof, conflicting with any of the provisions of this Ordinance, are hereby repealed to the extent of the conflict.

SECTION 5: That the City Clerk is hereby directed to publish this Ordinance in pamphlet form.

SECTION 6: That this Ordinance shall be in full force and effect from and after its passage, approval and publication in pamphlet form as provided by law.

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PASSED THIS 2ND DAY OF JUNE, 2025.

	Aye	Nay	Absent	Abstain
Alderman Scott Dyke	_____	_____	_____	_____
Alderman Angelo DiSerio	_____	_____	_____	_____

Alderwoman Claudia Gazal
Alderman Darrell Jefferson
Alderpersion Tina Oberlin
Alderman Mark Cipiti
Alderman Nate Albert
Alderman Joe Kubal
Mayor Raymond R. Soliman

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_____	_____	_____	_____

Christine Vershay-Hall, City Clerk

APPROVED THIS 2ND DAY OF JUNE, 2025.

Raymond R. Soliman, Mayor

ATTEST:

Christine Vershay-Hall, City Clerk