

ORDINANCE NO. O-07-2025

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF GREEN COVE SPRINGS, FLORIDA, AMENDING CITY CODE CHAPTER 90, UTILITIES, ARTICLE III, ELECTRIC UTILITY, SECTION 90-122 ENTITLED “RATE SCHEDULE FOR ELECTRICITY FURNISHED”; AND SECTION 90-123 ENTITLED “FEES FOR CAPITAL INSTALLATION IN THE ELECTRIC DEPARTMENT”; AND SECTION 90-61, “SECURITY AND NIGHT-LIGHTS”; AND SECTION 90-62 “METERS, GENERALLY, A NEW SERVICE CONNECTION CHARGE; TEMPORARY SERVICE, GENERALLY.”; PROVIDING FOR REPEALER, SEVERABILITY, AND SETTING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

WHEREAS, Chapter 90, Utilities, Article III, Electric Utility, Division 3 establishes rates and charges for electric service from the City’s Electric System; and

WHEREAS, the City hired an independent rate consultant to review and perform a rate study on the City’s electric service rates; and

WHEREAS, the City has now determined that it is necessary to make certain changes to its electric service rates effective June 1, 2025 and October 1, 2025; and

WHEREAS, the City intends to file its revised tariff sheets with the Florida Public Service Commission upon approval of this Ordinance, with an effective date of such revised tariff sheets of June 1, 2025 and October 1, 2025, subject to approval by the Florida Public Service Commission; and

WHEREAS, increases in material and construction costs necessitate an increase in the per lot fee paid by developers of subdivisions for installation of electric infrastructure to each lot; and

WHEREAS, conversion of some halogen area lights to LED lights necessitates an adjustment of the fees charged for area lights; and

WHEREAS, increases in the cost of electric meters and materials necessitate an increase in the new electric service connection fee; and

WHEREAS, in order to enact such rates, the City Council has proposed this Ordinance.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ENACTED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF GREEN COVE SPRINGS, FLORIDA AS FOLLOWS:

SECTION 1. The City Council declares that changes are necessary to implement policy recommendations on the Electric Utility System. City Code Chapter 90, Article III, Electric Utility is hereby amended to read as follows:

Sec. 90-122. - Rate schedule for electricity furnished.

The following schedule of rates and charges to be imposed, assessed and collected by the city for electric energy, facilities and services furnished by the city to its customers, including the initial deposit, and other connection and service charges, is hereby adopted and established. Such rates shall be reviewed ~~bi~~-annually.

(1) Residential service, as defined in section 90-59, for the following:

a. *Character of service.* Alternating current; regulated frequency of 60 cycles; delivered at approximately 120/240 volts, single-phase; other phases and voltages as required when available.

b. *Available.* Within the service area of the electric utility of the city.

c. *Monthly meter reading.* All quantities of electrical energy shown by regular monthly watt-hour meter readings to have been delivered shall be charged the rate provided in subsection (1)d of this section.

d. *Rate per month.*

1. Customer service charge: ~~\$16.50~~ 18.81 (effective June 1, 2025); 19.94 (effective October 1, 2025).

2. Shall apply to each account whether or not there is consumption.

3. Energy charge for the first 1,000 kWh consumed in a billing month, per kWh: ~~0.11869~~ 0.13531 (effective June 1, 2025); 0.14343 (effective October 1, 2025).

4. Energy charge for each additional kWh above 1,000, per kWh: ~~0.12344~~ 0.14072 (effective June 1, 2025); 0.14916 (effective October 1, 2025).

(2) General service nondemand (commercial), as defined in section 90-59, for the following:

a. *Character of service.* Alternating current; regulated frequency of 60 cycles; delivered at approximately 120/240 volts, single-phase; other phases and voltages as required when available.

b. *Available.* Within the service area of the electric utility of the city.

c. *Rate per month.*

1. Customer service charge: ~~\$16.50~~ 18.81 (effective June 1, 2025); 19.94 (effective October 1, 2025).

2. Energy charge (all kWh), per kWh: ~~0.12617~~ 0.14383 (effective June 1, 2025); 0.15246 (effective October 1, 2025).

d. *Minimum monthly bill.* A minimum monthly electric bill shall be rendered to each customer whose application has been approved for general service nondemand service, for an amount equal to the customer service charge.

e. *Bulk power cost adjustment.* The bulk power cost adjustment shall be as provided in subsection (6)b of this section.

(3) General service demand (commercial), as defined in section 90-59, for the following:

a. *Character of service.* Alternating current; regulated frequency of 60 cycles, single-phase or three-phase, at voltages less than 600 volts line-to-line, as required when available.

b. *Available.* Within the service area of the electric utility of the city. Applicable to all customers who qualify for a demand rate who have an operable demand meter installed, as defined in section 90-59.

c. *Rate per month.*

1. Customer service charge: ~~\$66.00~~ 75.24 (effective June 1, 2025); 79.75 (effective October 1, 2025).

2. Demand charge (all kW), per kW: ~~\$9.94~~ 11.30 (effective June 1, 2025); 11.98 (effective October 1, 2025).

3. Energy charge (all kWh), per kWh: ~~\$0.09275~~ 0.10574 (effective June 1, 2025); 0.11208 (effective October 1, 2025).

d. *Minimum bill.* The minimum bill shall be the customer service charge, plus the demand charge times the minimum demand kW.

e. *Bulk power cost adjustment.* The bulk power cost adjustment shall be as provided in subsection (6)b of this section.

(4) General service large demand (industrial), as defined in section 90-59, for the following:

a. *Character of service.* Alternating current; regulated frequency of 60 cycles, single-phase or three-phase, at voltages less than 60 volts line-to-line, as required when available.

b. *Available.* Within the service area of the electric utility of the city. Applicable to all customers who qualify for a demand rate who have an operable demand meter installed, as defined in section 90-59.

c. *Rate per month.*

1. Customer service charge: ~~\$275.00~~ 313.50 (effective June 1, 2025); 332.31 (effective October 1, 2025).

2. Demand charge (all kW), per kW: ~~\$44.08~~ 12.63 (effective June 1, 2025); 13.39 (effective October 1, 2025).

3. Energy charge (all kWh), per kWh: ~~0.08142~~ 0.09282 (effective June 1, 2025); 0.09839 (effective October 1, 2025).

d. *Minimum bill.* The minimum bill shall be the customer service charge plus the demand charge times the minimum demand kW.

e. *Change of classification of account.* Any existing general service large demand customer who constructs additional facilities under a separate demand metered account may have such new account classed as general service large demand from the date of service connection, provided the following are met:

1. The existing large service demand account has maintained a minimum kilowatt demand of 1,000 kW or greater for each of the preceding 12 months; and

2. The new account, in the sole opinion of the city, is anticipated as attaining in not less than six months a monthly demand of 200 kW or greater and a load factor of greater than 70 percent. Should such new account not have met such criteria after 12 months of operation, the city shall allow such account to continue as general service large demand provided the customer's combined general service large demand accounts when summed together would qualify for such classification based on this section.

f. *Bulk power cost adjustment.* The bulk power cost adjustment shall be as provided in subsection (6)b of this section.

(5) Master-metered service, as defined in section 90-59, for the following:

a. *Character of service.* Alternating current; single or three-phase, regulated frequency of 60 cycles; at a locally-available system primary voltage.

b. *Available.* Within the service area of the electric utility of the city. This rate schedule is not available to residential subdivisions or individually metered residences or businesses, and resale of electric service is not permitted.

c. *Rate per month.*

1. Customer service charge: ~~\$58.85~~ 67.09 (effective June 1, 2025); 71.12 (effective October 1, 2025).

2. Energy charge (all kWh), per kWh: ~~\$0.12100~~ 0.13794 (effective June 1, 2025); 0.14622 (effective October 1, 2025).

d. *Minimum bill.* The minimum bill shall be the customer service charge.

e. *Bulk power cost adjustment.* The bulk power cost adjustment shall be as provided in subsection (6)b of this section.

(6) Rate stabilization; power cost adjustment.

a. *Rate stabilization fund.* An amount may be established from time to time by the city by resolution to be deposited (rate stabilization fund deposit or RSFD) in a rate stabilization fund which shall be used at the discretion of the city council to offset increases in the cost of power to the city (rate stabilization fund adjustment or RSFA) or for other lawful electric utility purposes, including, but not limited to, expansions, renewals and replacement of electric utility facilities. The rate stabilization fund deposit and rate stabilization fund adjustment, if any, may be included in the calculation of the bulk power cost adjustment in accordance with the provisions in subsection (6)b of this section, or may be handled in a similarly equitable manner as a separate billing line item.

b. *Bulk power cost adjustment.*

1. *Determined by city.* The bulk power cost adjustment (BPCA) will be determined each month by the city. This factor is designed to recover the cost of bulk power supply and related expenses actually incurred by the city to provide electric service to its customers. Bulk power supply costs shall include the following:

(i) Cost of power purchased from any bulk power supplier for use in the city's electric system.

(ii) The cost of transmission services to deliver bulk power to the city's substations.

(iii) The cost of any equipment owned or leased by the city to generate power.

(iv) The cost of operation including fuel and maintenance of city-owned or city-operated power generating equipment.

(v) Other costs directly related to securing bulk power supply for the city, such as professional services to issue, evaluate, and negotiate bulk power supply contracts, and regulatory fees associated with bulk power supply.

2. *Under recovery.* If the BPCA under recovers the actual costs of bulk power supply and related expenses, the city will increase the BPCA to collect the under recovery. If the BPCA over collects actual costs of bulk power supply and related expenses, the city will decrease the fuel adjustment to credit back to customers the over recovery. In order to stabilize fluctuations in the BPCA, the city manager may determine to phase in such increases or decreases over time. In no case, however, will cumulative under or over collections be allowed to exceed eight percent of the fiscal year's annual adopted bulk power supply budget without appropriate adjustments to the BPCA. All over recovered funds remaining at the end of a fiscal year would be carried over to the subsequent fiscal year to be applied to the BPCA calculation for future months.

3. *Definitions.* The following words, terms and phrases, when used in this subsection (6), shall have the meanings ascribed to them in this section, except where the context clearly indicates a different meaning:

Bulk power cost (BPC) means all electric energy costs during the calculation period related to the purchase of wholesale power and the capacity costs associated with the joint action agency ownership of generation.

Bulk power cost adjustment (BPCA) means the difference between the adjusted bulk power unit cost and the power cost base, stated in cost per kilowatt-hour, as determined by the calculation. This is also referred to as the purchased power/fuel adjustment factor.

Bulk power cost true-up (BPCT) means the difference between the bulk power cost actually incurred and the bulk power cost recovered through the power cost base and the bulk power cost adjustment that may be deposited in or removed from a true-up account, as applicable. The BPCT is that portion of the true-up account to be recovered from or returned to customers through the calculated BPCA.

Power cost base (PCB) means the bulk power-related cost that is embedded within the base retail rate, stated in cost per kilowatt-hour. The energy charge includes a power cost base of \$0.08015 per kWh in the base rate.

Rate stabilization fund adjustment (RSFA) means funds to offset sudden and/or temporary changes in the cost of power may be deposited in or removed from a rate stabilization fund, as applicable. The RSFA is that portion of the rate stabilization fund to be recovered from or returned to customers through the calculated BPCA.

System loss factor means the factor applied to adjust the bulk power unit cost from a basis of cost per kilowatt-hour of purchases to a basis of cost per kilowatt-hour of sales.

(7) Rates when demand history for a customer has not yet been established with the electric utility. All customers who initially request either the general service large demand (industrial) or general service demand (commercial) rate class will be billed under the general service nondemand (commercial) rate class until such time as an applicable consumption history with the electric utility justifies, and the customer requests, reclassification as a demand account based on the definitions contained in section 90-59 has been established. The city shall determine the appropriate rate class for the customer based on consumption history as defined in section 90-59.

(Code 1983, § 23-53.1; Code 2001, § 78-83; Ord. No. O-16-99, § 1(23-53.1), 4-27-1999; Ord. No. O-14-2000, § 1(23-53.1), 11-21-2000; Ord. No. O-08-2007, § 2, 6-5-2007; Ord. No. O-12-2008, § 1, 6-17-2008; Ord. No. O-12-2010, § 1, 10-19-2010; Ord. No. O-05-2013, § 1, 4-9-2013; Ord. No. O-10-2015, § 1, 8-4-2015; Ord. No. O-14-2015, § 1, 9-15-2015)

SECTION 2. AMENDMENT TO SECTION 90-123(e) OF THE GREEN COVE SPRINGS CITY CODE. The first two sentences of Chapter 90, Article III, Division 3, Section 90-123(e) of the Green Cove Springs City Code is hereby amended and restated as follows:

- (e) *Responsibilities of developer.* The developer shall be responsible for paying a capital installation fee of ~~\$2,200.00~~ \$2,600.00 per lot. The aforementioned fee amount may be increased by the city from time to time, upon posted notice at city hall, by not more than the increase in such amount as is required by cover all of the city's actual costs for capital installations. The fee shall be paid to the city within 30 days of the subdivision plat recording date. If any fee increase is posted by the city after the initial payment of the fee by a developer, the city will provide specific information to the developer evidencing its actual costs, and the developer shall have 30 days to pay such increased amount invoiced by the city.

SECTION 3. AMENDMENT TO SECTION 90-61 OF THE GREEN COVE SPRINGS CITY CODE. Chapter 90, Article III, Division 3, Section 90-61 of the Green Cove Springs City Code is hereby amended and restated as follows:

Sec. 90-61. Security and night lights.

- ~~(a) The city shall charge such owner or tenant a fee as follows for security or night lights. The city will install and maintain such lights. The city will only install new lights on existing poles.~~
- ~~(1) 175 watt mercury vapor light or 100 watt high pressure sodium light or LED light monthly charge: \$10.25.~~
- ~~(2) 400 watt mercury vapor light or 250 watt high pressure sodium light monthly charge: \$20.00.~~
- ~~(3) Relocate light head, photo eye or lamp fee of \$25.00 during normal business hours.~~
- ~~(b) The requesting party shall agree in writing that any poles, lights, or accessories placed upon his property shall remain the sole property of the city, and the city shall have the right to remove such equipment at any time fees are delinquent.~~

Sec. 90-61. Streetlights and Area Lights.

A. Streetlights within the city limits of Green Cove Springs and Green Cove Springs Electric Utility Boundaries.

Existing streets with existing Green Cove Springs overhead utility poles:

1. The City of Green Cove Springs will provide, install, and maintain these streetlights on existing city rights-of-way.
2. These streetlights are provided at no additional charge to the public.

B. New streets within New Planned Developments with Underground Utilities.

On collector street rights-of-way within the city limits of Green Cove Springs.

1. The developer will purchase, build, and install the streetlight system. Green Cove Springs Electric will maintain these streetlights at no additional charge to the public.

Note: Green Cove Springs Electric will provide specifications for this system and approve the streetlight designs.

On residential street rights-of-way and all other rights-of-way locations within the service area of Green Cove Springs Electric:

1. The developer will purchase, build, and install the streetlight system that the HOA will own and maintain. These lights are charged a monthly fee, as follows, for the electric power used.
 - a. LED lights, 0 - 50-watt - \$4.00 each, per month
 - b. LED lights, 51-watt and above, \$8.00 each, per month
 - c. Alternatively, lights can be installed behind an electric service meter and have a monthly bill.
2. Existing streetlights in existing HOA developments, that are not LED lights, will remain available at the previous charge of \$10.25 each, per month.

C. Streetlights within the service area of Green Cove Springs Electric, but outside the City Limits of Green Cove Springs

1. The City of Green Cove Springs does not provide streetlights in this area.

D. Area Lights (night-light).

1. Green Cove Springs Electric will provide, install, and maintain area lights within its service area, only on existing Green Cove Springs Electric overhead utility poles.
 - a. 50-watt LED Dusk-to-Dawn, pole-mounted, \$10.25 each, per month.
2. Area lights require a minimum two-year contract.
3. Relocate light head, photo eye or lamp fee of \$25.00 during normal business hours.

SECTION 4. AMENDMENT TO SECTION 90-62 OF THE GREEN COVE SPRINGS CITY CODE. Chapter 90, Article III, Division 3, Section 90-62 of the Green Cove Springs City Code is hereby amended and restated as follows:

Sec. 90-62. Meters, generally, and new service connection charge; temporary service, generally.

The city shall have the right to connect and install or set meters of such sizes as the electric utility may determine, after consideration of all services to be served by the electric system of the city, and shall charge and collect in advance from the user, property owner, contractor, or agent a total of ~~\$125.00~~ \$200.00 as a new electric

service connection fee, payable at the time that the building permits are let. All new connections will be done during normal business hours. All meters so installed shall be and remains the property of the city and shall be maintained and kept in repair by the department without cost to the user. All temporary electric service shall be metered and all charges imposed by this section shall apply thereto. The city shall charge and collect in advance from the user, property owner, contractor, or agent a total of \$50.00 as a new temporary construction service connection fee or \$50.00 as a new temporary short-term service connection fee, payable at the time that the building permits are let. All temporary service connections will be done during normal business hours.

SECTION 5. REPEALER. Any Ordinances or parts thereof in conflict with the provisions of this Ordinance are hereby repealed to the extent of such conflict.

SECTION 6. SEVERABILITY. The various parts, sections, and clauses of this Ordinance are hereby declared severable. If any part, sentence, paragraph, section, or clause is adjudged unconstitutional or invalid by a court of competent jurisdiction, the remainder of the Ordinance shall not be affected thereby.

SECTION 7. EFFECTIVE DATE. This Ordinance shall become effective upon passage.

**INTRODUCED AND APPROVED AS TO FORM ONLY ON THE FIRST
READING BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF GREEN COVE
SPRINGS, FLORIDA, ON THIS 6TH DAY OF MAY, 2025.**

CITY OF GREEN COVE SPRINGS, FLORIDA

Steven R. Kelley, Mayor

ATTEST:

Erin West, City Clerk

**PASSED ON SECOND AND FINAL READING BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF
THE CITY OF GREEN COVE SPRINGS, FLORIDA, THIS 20TH DAY OF
MAY, 2025.**

CITY OF GREEN COVE SPRINGS, FLORIDA

Steven R. Kelley, Mayor

ATTEST:

Erin West, City Clerk

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

L. J. Arnold, III, City Attorney