



# STAFF REPORT

## CITY OF GREEN COVE SPRINGS, FLORIDA

**TO:** City Council Regular Session                      **MEETING DATE:** September 3, 2024  
**FROM:** Scott Schultz, Assistant Water Utilities Director  
**SUBJECT:** City Council approval on First Reading of Ordinance O-24-2024 authorizing reclaimed water (irrigation) rate changes for Fiscal Year 2025.

### BACKGROUND

Reclaimed water rates have not been adjusted since the creation of the Reclaimed Water Fund in 2016. To date, there have been no revenues from reclaimed water. Upon completion of the Harbor Road Advanced Wastewater Treatment Facility in January of 2025, the city will activate the North Grid Reclaimed Water Main which will provide reclaimed water irrigation to the Black Creek Village and Edgewater Landing developments (approximately 260 homes). At that time a revenue source will begin for reclaimed water. The proposal is for rates for reclaimed water irrigation service to match that of potable water irrigation rates.

Sec. 90-575. Reclaimed Water usage and monthly minimum charges.

- (a) *Rates schedule.* The rates, fees and charges for reclaimed water service furnished by the reclaimed water system of the city, referred to as a reclaimed water charge, shall be based upon the quantity of reclaimed water, determined by metering, furnished to each user's premises each month. The owner, occupant or tenant of each lot or parcel of land connected with or using the reclaimed water system shall pay for the use of, and for the services furnished by the reclaimed water system, a reclaimed water charge according to the following schedule:

Base Charges for all reclaimed water meters are as follows:

Meter Size	Monthly Base Charge*
¾"	<del>\$13.83</del> <u>\$16.60</u>
1"	<del>\$20.54</del> <u>\$24.65</u>
1-½"	<del>\$29.24</del> <u>\$35.09</u>
2"	<del>\$40.46</del> <u>\$48.55</u>
3"	<del>\$55.32</del> <u>\$66.38</u>
4"	<del>\$221.26</del> <u>\$265.51</u>
6"	<del>\$408.00</del> <u>\$489.60</u>
8"	<del>\$580.89</del> <u>\$697.07</u>
10"	<del>\$760.69</del> <u>\$912.83</u>

\* Base charge does not include any usage.

Residential Irrigation		Monthly Charge per 1,000 Gallon of use			
Block Size	<10,000 gallons	10,001—15,000 gallons	15,001—20,000 gallons	>20,001 gallons	
Rate (\$/1,000 gal)	<del>\$2.41</del>	<del>\$2.49</del>	<del>\$3.17</del>	<del>\$4.15</del>	
	<u>\$2.89</u>	<u>\$2.99</u>	<u>\$3.80</u>	<u>\$4.98</u>	

  

Commercial Irrigation		Monthly Charge per 1,000 Gallon of use			
Block Size	<10,000 gallons	10,001—15,000 gallons	15,001—20,000 gallons	>20,001 gallons	
Rate (\$/1,000 gal)	<del>\$2.41</del>	<del>\$2.49</del>	<del>\$3.17</del>	<del>\$4.15</del>	
	<u>\$2.89</u>	<u>\$2.99</u>	<u>\$3.80</u>	<u>\$4.98</u>	

- (b) *Reclaimed water utility users outside the city limits.* All reclaimed water users outside the city limits shall pay 125 percent of the equivalent rate charged to those users within the city limits.
- (c) *Application of charges.* The charges in this section shall apply to all classes of users, including residential and commercial (industrial, institutional, charitable or otherwise), except as otherwise provided in this Code.
- (d) *Maximum monthly bill.* There shall be no maximum charge per month.
- (e) *Minimum monthly bill.* The minimum residential and commercial charge shall be the base charge based on the user's potable water meter size. The base charge does not include any usage.
- (f) *Bulk reclaimed water rates.* Bulk or wholesale reclaimed water rates shall be calculated to reflect the city's cost of providing reclaimed water service to those entities entering into an agreement with the city. Such rates will be determined on an individual basis by the city.
- (g) *Commercial* as defined within this section, includes all uses other than residential.
- (h) *Annual rate increase.* The City Manager shall issue a written report to the City Council during the annual budget process recommending any necessary reclaimed water rate adjustments.
- (i) *Computation of use.* A consumption of a fraction of any 1,000 gallons shall be the same as using the entire 1,000 gallons.

### FISCAL IMPACT

Adjustment in the Reclaimed Water Fund Operating Budget to match Potable Water Irrigation. There are currently no revenues from reclaimed water.

### RECOMMENDATION

Approve First Reading of Ordinance O-24-2024 authorizing reclaimed water rate changes for Fiscal Year 2025 and set September 17, 2024 at 7:00PM as the second and final reading.