

**TOWN OF PONDER**

**ORDINANCE NO. 23-16**

**AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWN OF PONDER, AMENDING THE TOWN OF PONDER CODE OF ORDINANCES, CHAPTER 36 FEE SCHEDULE, SECTION 36.04 UTILITY RELATED FEES, AMENDING WATER RATES, SEWER RATES, SERVICE CONNECTION FEES, AND OTHER RELATED CHARGES:**

**WHEREAS**, the Town of Ponder, Texas has enacted an Ordinance fixing Water Rates to be charged for water services furnished by the Town; and

**WHEREAS**, said ordinance has from time to time been amended; and

**WHEREAS**, the Town Council of the Town of Ponder, Texas has determined that it is necessary and expedient to further amend said Ordinance establishing current water and sewer utility related fees, rates, and charges;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF PONDER, TEXAS:**

That the Ordinance establishing utility related fees as amended, be further amended and hereafter read as shown in Exhibit A, titled Chapter 36 Fee Schedule, Section 36.04 Utility Related Fees.

**PASSED AND APPROVED BY THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF PONDER, TEXAS, THIS 16<sup>th</sup> day of October, 2023.**

**APPROVED:**

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**John Bassler, Mayor**

**ATTEST:**

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**Sheri Clearman, Town Secretary**

**§ 36.04 UTILITY RELATED FEES.**

(A) *Establishing water rates.* The monthly water rates to be charged and collected by the Town of Ponder, Texas from all customers obtaining service from the water system of the town within the town limits of the town shall be and are hereby fixed as follows:

(1) *Residential water rate schedule.*(a) *Residential In-town water.*

<i>Quantity</i>	<i>Per Month</i>
First 1,000 gallons or any part thereof	\$34.65
1,001-2,000 gallons	\$3.70 per 1000 gallons
2,001-10,000 gallons	\$5.20 per 1000 gallons
All over 10,001 gallons	\$6.25 per 1000 gallons

(b) *Residential In-town water only.*

<i>Quantity</i>	<i>Per Month</i>
First 1,000 gallons or any part thereof	\$42.00
1,001-2,000 gallons	\$5.15 per 1000 gallons
2,001-10,000 gallons	\$5.80 per 1000 gallons
All over 10,001 gallons	\$6.25 per 1000 gallons

(2) *Commercial water rate schedule*(a) *Commercial water – In-town*

<i>Quantity</i>	<i>Per Month</i>
First 1,000 gallons or any part thereof	\$51.45
1,001-2,000 gallons	\$3.90 per 1000 gallons
2,001-10,000 gallons	\$6.20 per 1000 gallons
All over 10,001 gallons	\$7.20 per 1000 gallons

(b) *Commercial water – Out-of-town*

<i>Quantity</i>	<i>Per Month</i>
First 1,000 gallons or any part thereof	\$77.45
1,001-2,000 gallons	\$6.15 per 1000 gallons
2,001-10,000 gallons	\$6.55 per 1000 gallons
All over 10,001 gallons	\$7.60 per 1000 gallons

(3) *Connections.*

<b><i>Connection fee - Residential (Developed)*</i></b>	
For each 3/4 inch meter connection	\$800
For each 1 inch meter connection	\$800
For each 2 inch meter connection	\$1,100
<b><i>Connection fee – Residential (Undeveloped)*</i></b>	
For each 3/4 inch meter connection	\$1,400 + Street Bore Costs*
For each 1 inch meter connection	\$1,400+ Street Bore Costs
For each 2 inch meter connection	\$1,700 + Street Bore Costs
<b><i>Connection fee – Commercial (Developed)</i></b>	
For each 3/4 inch meter connection	\$1,200
For each 1 inch meter connection	\$1,200
For each 2 inch meter connection	\$1,500
<b><i>Connection fee – Commercial (Undeveloped)</i></b>	
For each 3/4 inch meter connection	\$1,900 + Street Bore Costs
For each 1 inch meter connection	\$1,900+ Street Bore Costs
For each 2 inch meter connection	\$2,200+ Street Bore Costs
* <i>Additional costs incurred by Town for street crossing (i.e. street bore costs) above connection fee shall be responsibility of customer</i>	
* <i>Developed – water main tap, service line and meter box are in place</i>	
* <i>Undeveloped – water main tap, service line and meter box are not in place or require relocation</i>	

(4) *Late fee.* Delinquent payment charge after tenth of month: \$20

(5) *Service fees.*

Service fee during business hours	\$40
Service fee after business hours	\$60

(6) Meter deposit: \$200.

(2000 Code, § 4.100) (Ord. 240, passed 8-5-1999; Am. Ord. passed 9-9-2002; Am. Ord. 03-34, passed 6-9-2003; Am. Ord. 04-10, passed 3-8-2004; Am. Ord. 05-32 passed 10-10-2005; Am. Ord 06-06, passed 3-27-2006; Am. Ord. 06-24, passed 10-9-2006; Am. Ord 09-08 passed 09-28-2009; Am. Ord 10-12 passed 09-09-10)

***Cross-reference:***

*Water rates, see § 51.02*

(7) *Bulk water rate.*

Bulk water rate schedule	Minimum
First 2,000 gallons	\$75
All over 2,000 gallons	\$20.00 per 1000 gallons

(Ord. 02-44, passed 11-11-2002; Am. Ord. 06-24, passed 10-9-2006))

(8) *Fire hydrant.*

Fire hydrant meter deposit	\$2,000
Late Fee	\$40

(Am. Ord. 06-24, passed 10-9-2006)

(B) *Establishing wastewater rates.* The monthly wastewater rates to be charged and collected by the Town of Ponder, Texas from all customers obtaining services from the sanitary system of the town shall be and are hereby fixed as follows:

(1) *Residential wastewater rate schedule.*

<i>Quantity</i>	<i>Per Month</i>
First 1,000 gallons or any part thereof	\$30.45
1,001-2,000 gallons	\$4.85 per 1000 gallons
2,001-10,000 gallons	\$5.20 per 1000 gallons
All over 10,001 gallons (cap at 15,000 gallons)	\$6.00 per 1000 gallons

(2) *Commercial wastewater rate schedule.*

<i>Quantity</i>	<i>Per Month</i>
First 1,000 gallons or any part thereof	\$40.70
1,001-2,000 gallons	\$5.40 per 1000 gallons
2,001-10,000 gallons	\$6.95 per 1000 gallons
All over 10,001 gallons (no cap)	\$7.15 per 1000 gallons

(3) *Connections.*

<i>Connection fee - Residential</i>	
For each connection (Developed)*	\$800
For each connection (Undeveloped)*	\$1,400 + Street Bore Costs*
<i>Connection fee - Commercial</i>	
For each connection (Developed)	\$1,200
For each connection (Undeveloped)	\$1,900 + Street Bore Costs
* <i>Additional costs incurred by Town for street crossing (i.e. street bore costs) above connection fee shall be responsibility of customer</i>	
* <i>Developed – water main tap, service line and meter box are in place</i>	
* <i>Undeveloped – water main tap, service line and meter box are not in place or require relocation</i>	

(2000 Code, § 4.200) (Ord. 240, passed 8-5-1999; Am. Ord. passed 9-9-2002; Am. Ord. 03-34, passed 6-9-2003; Am. Ord. 05-32, passed 10-10-2005; Am. Ord. 06-24, passed 10-9-2006; Am. Ord 09-08 passed 09-28-2009)

***Cross-reference:***

*Sewer rates, see § 51.03*

(C) *Establishing water rates for rural customers.* The monthly water rates to be charged and collected by the Town of Ponder, Texas from all rural customers obtaining service from the water system of the town shall be and are hereby fixed as follows:

(1) *Rural water rate schedule.*

<i>Quantity</i>	<i>Per Month</i>
First 1,000 gallons or any part thereof	\$66.80
1,001-2,000 gallons	\$5.15 per 1000 gallons
2,001-10,000 gallons	\$5.60 per 1000 gallons
All over 10,001 gallons	\$6.60 per 1000 gallons

(2) Rural customers are required to pay the minimum whether they use the water or not.

(3) All other requirements same as for the customers within the town limits. (2000 Code, § 4.300) (Ord. 240, passed 8-5-1999; Am. Ord. passed 9-9-2002; Am. Ord. 03-34, passed 6-9-2003; Am. Ord. 05-32, passed 10-10-2005; Am. Ord. 06-24, passed 10-9-2006; Am. Ord 08-22, passed 10-13-2008; Am. Ord 09-08 passed 09-28-2009; Am. Ord 10-12 passed 09-09-10; Am Ord 11-15 passed 09-08-2011)

***Cross-reference:***

*Water rates, rural customers, see § 51.04*

(D) *Prorata charges.* A charge, which shall be known as the prorata, shall be applied against the owner of each lot, tract or parcel of land, whose water and sewer lines, constructed after the effective date of this section, and connected with any water or sanitary sewer main of the Town of Ponder, and shall be set at the following rates based on the proportion of the total cost of the water and sewer mains:

(1) Charge of \$12.25 per front foot of the lot, tract or parcel of land to which water connections may be made. If the tract of land lies on both sides of the water line, the front foot charge will be \$24.50. This front foot charge shall be reviewed on an annual basis by the Town Commission, and shall be subject to revision.

(2) Prorata charges for sewer main extension shall be based on actual construction costs, and area of land served by the sewer facilities. The prorata charge for a lot, tract or parcel of land served by the facility will be calculated by dividing the tract of land area (acres) by total land area (acres) served by the sewer facility multiplied by the total construction, engineering, administrative, easement acquisition, and interest costs related to constructing the facility.

(2000 Code, § 4.400) (Ord. 153, passed 9-14-1992)

***Cross-reference:***

*Rules for extension, see § 51.15*

(E) *Well drilling and operation permit fee.* Every permit application shall be accompanied by a filing fee of \$2,000.

(2000 Code Appendix A, § 4.500) (Ord. 251, passed 9-2-1999; Am. Ord. 00-48, passed 1-4-2001; Am. Ord. passed 2- -2002)

(F) *Establishing additional rates and fees related to water and wastewater.*(1) *Septic tanks.*

Septic tank installation inspection rate schedule	\$260 plus
Septic tank inspection administrative rate	\$240

(2) *Non-compliance, tampering.*

Meter tampering fine/Septic tank non-compliance	First offense	\$250/up to \$2,000
	Second offense	\$500/up to \$2,000
	Third offense	\$750/up tp \$2,000

(3) *Discontinuance of service.* The Town of Ponder, or its designee, shall discontinue service to any person found defrauding the Utilities Department by tampering with any water or wastewater line or meter. Service disconnected for any such reason shall not be restored until the Town of Ponder is satisfied that all loss to the Utilities Department has either been repaid, or is financed for repayment, and that service may be restored without undue risk of further loss through such acts or nonpayment.

(Am. Ord. 06-24, passed 10-9-2006)

***Cross-reference:***

*Oil and gas wells, definitions, see § 50.16*

(4) *Unauthorized usage penalty.*

Unauthorized usage penalty	\$100
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(5) *Meter Reading Charge.*

Meter Reading Charge	\$50
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(6) *Meter Testing Charge.*

Meter Testing Charge	\$50
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(7) *Meter inaccessibility Charge.*

Meter inaccessibility Charge	\$50
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(Ord. No. 240, 8-5-1999) (Amended 9-9-02) (Amended 10/10/05) (Amended 03/27/06)  
(Amended 10/09/06) (Amended 03-24-2008, Ord 08-09)

