CITY OF PORT LAVACA

COUNCIL MEETING: SEPTEMBER 14, 2026

DATE: 09.09.2026

TO: HONORABLE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL MEMBERS

FROM: JODY WEAVER, CITY MANAGER

SUBJECT: **CONSIDER APPROVAL OF 2ND READING OF AMENDMENTS TO THE UTILITY ORDINANCE - DIVISON 2 WATER SERVICE**

BACKGROUND

There are no changes proposed since the 1st reading.

The proposed new water rate structure will transition to a meter-size-based base rate system with customers classes Residential, Commercial and Multifamily. As such there are a few definitions that we should include in our water service ordinance to correspond to the new rate structure.

We are adding Section 50-37 Definitions under Division 2 Water Service.

Commercial: a customer account where water is provided to businesses, institutions, and other non-residential facilities for varied operational needs including drinking, cleaning, processing and facility maintenance.

Connection: A single-family residential unit or each commercial or industrial establishment to which drinking water is supplied by a public water system, with each apartment unit or residential dwelling served by a common meter is counted as a separate connection.

Guadalupe-Blanco River Authority (GBRA) Raw Water Fee: The City of Port Lavaca contracts with the Guadalupe-Blanco River Authority (GBRA) for the delivery of up to 4,480 acre-feet of raw water per year, equivalent to approximately 4.0 million gallons per day (MGD). Pursuant to the water supply contract, GBRA may furnish the contracted quantity from any available source or combinations of sources. GBRA invoices the City for the annual contracted water supply based upon a unit cost per acre-foot, which is adjusted annually on September 1. The City recovers this cost by assessing a monthly Raw Water Fee, which is distributed equally among all City of Port Lavaca water service accounts.

Multifamily: a customer account or service connection where one (1) meter serves more than one residential connection

Residential: a customer account or service connection that provides water to a single-family home or other residential dwelling for domestic water use, such as drinking, cooking, bathing, laundry. Dishwashing, toilet flushing, watering lawns and gardens and other normal household needs.

The other change is under Section 50-49 Deposits.

(a) multifamily is added to the list of customers that require a deposit
(b) we are proposing to calculate the required deposit for multifamily in the same way we calculate commercial – "equal to the estimated water bill for the establishment for 60 days based upon prior experience with the same or similar establishments. This deposit may be adjusted up or down after a history of consumption is established.