



## ENGINEERING SERVICES

**To: Mayor and Town Council**

**From: Hulon T. Webb, Jr., Interim Executive Director of Development and Infrastructure Services**

**Through: Ron K. Patterson, Interim Town Manager**

**Re: Comprehensive Fee Ordinance Amendment**

**Town Council Meeting – December 13, 2022**

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### **Agenda Item:**

Consider and act upon adopting an ordinance amending certain Water and Wastewater Fees contained in Subsection (d), "Water/wastewater connection/tap fee" of Section XIV, "Public Works Fee Schedule," contained in Appendix A "Fee Schedule", the to the Town's Code of Ordinances.

### **Description of Agenda Item:**

At the November 8, 2022, Town Council meeting, the Town Council approved an ordinance amending the fees that were discussed at the July 26, 2022, work session. Shortly after the adoption of the ordinance on November 8, 2022, it was discovered that between the draft version and adoption version of the ordinance, the numbering within one section of the fees inadvertently deleted a section not intended to be deleted. The section that was inadvertently deleted is included in the attached ordinance under paragraph (3) Wastewater (lots without existing wastewater service line). The fee amounts in paragraph (3) are the same as before the November 8, 2022, amendment.

In addition, while staff was entering the various fees into the new EnerGov permitting software, a discrepancy between the water connection/tap fee in the Fee Schedule versus the fees that should be charged for a lot with an existing water service line was identified. While the current Fee Schedule includes a cost for connecting water service of \$800 based on a 5/8" water meter, and the Town charges \$925 for a 1" water meter and \$1,050 for a 2" water meter regardless of the type of meter, upon researching the current costs associated with connecting water service, staff determined that the actual costs were lower in nearly all instances. Since the Fee Schedule needs to be updated to include additional water connection fees for each water meter size and type the Town provides, it is recommended that the costs associated with the connection also be updated to reflect current costs to be consistent with the methodology used in Section XIV, "Public Works Fee Schedule". Paragraph (2) of the attached ordinance provides the details on the proposed water connection fees for lots with an existing water service line, and are summarized as follows:

- (2) Water (lots with existing water service line/meter box).
  - (A) Water connection fee is based on water meter size, does not include impact fees, and shall be paid when a building permit is sought:

- (i) 5/8-inch water meter: \$475.00.
- (ii) 3/4-inch water meter: \$660.00.
- (iii) 1-inch water meter: \$575.00.
- (iv) 1-½-inch water meter: \$875.00.
- (v) 1-½-inch-inch water meter (turbine): \$1,125.00.
- (vi) 2-inch water meter: \$1,000.00.
- (vii) 2-inch water meter (turbine): \$1,075.00.

Lastly, the \$400 wastewater connection/tap fee for lots with an existing wastewater service line in the Fee Schedule is currently in a standalone separate section of the Fee Schedule under Development Fees (Other Fees). The attached ordinance moves the location of the wastewater connection/tap fee from the Development Fees (Other Fees) to Subsection (d) under paragraph (4). Paragraph (4) also includes additional information to clarify that an existing lot with a 4" or 6" wastewater service line is to be charged \$400. The Town currently charges \$600 for a wastewater connection to an existing 6" wastewater line. It is recommended that \$400 be the cost for both wastewater service line connections since the labor associated with the connection is the same.

**Budget Impact:**

Proposed fees have been incorporated into the budget.

**Legal Obligations and Review:**

Terrence Welch of Brown & Hofmeister, L.L.P., has reviewed the ordinance as to form and legality.

**Attachments:**

1. Ordinance

**Town Staff Recommendation:**

Town staff recommends that the Town Council adopt an ordinance amending certain Water and Wastewater Fees contained in Subsection (d), "Water/wastewater connection/tap fee" of Section XIV, "Public Works Fee Schedule," contained in Appendix A "Fee Schedule", the to the Town's Code of Ordinances.

**Proposed Motion:**

I move to adopt an ordinance amending certain Water and Wastewater Fees contained in Subsection (d), "Water/wastewater connection/tap fee" of Section XIV, "Public Works Fee Schedule," contained in Appendix A "Fee Schedule", the to the Town's Code of Ordinances.