

RESOLUTION

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING TWL TO PETITION THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION (PSC) TO RAISE WATER AND SEWER RATES FOR BLUEBIRD UTILITIES TO PASS ON NORTHEAST MISSISSIPPI REGIONAL WATER SUPPLY DISTRICT (NMRWSD) INCREASE AND CONFORM BLUEBIRD UTILITIES TO WATER AND SEWER RATES PAID BY INSIDE AND OUTSIDE CITY CUSTOMERS.

WHEREAS, on November 3, 2009, before the Mississippi Public Service Commission (MPSC) (Docket Number 2008-UA-198), MPSC approved the sale from the Community Development Foundation (CDF) of a portion of its certificated utility, Bluebird Utilities (WC 003019100), to the City of Tupelo (WC 0030043001) for the provision of water and wastewater services, operations and maintenance by Tupelo to the Tupelo Lee Industrial Park South (TULIPS); and

WHEREAS, Bluebird Utility lies outside one (1) mile but within five (5) miles of the city limits of Tupelo; and

WHEREAS, statutory authority allows the provision of services by the city, but subjected the city to rate review by MPSC; and

WHEREAS, additionally, a provision of the approved transfer included the provision limiting Tupelo to the “same rates currently charged until such time as Notice of Intent to Change Rates is approved by the Commission”; and

WHEREAS, twenty-three (23) years later, that time has long since come; and; and

WHEREAS, Tupelo needs to increase rates for two reasons; and

WHEREAS, the first and obvious reason is that over the passage of time, the costs to supply water and sewer services has increased beyond the rate charged to this area; and

WHEREAS, the second reason is that Tupelo purchases its water supply from the Northeast Mississippi Regional Water Supply District (NMRWSD), which from time to time raises its costs for water supplied—such an increase to become effective February 1, 2023; and

WHEREAS, supplying water and sewer services to this area at 2009 rates is unsustainable and unfair to other customers in Tupelo’s service area; and

WHEREAS, Tupelo needs a mechanism to pass on wholesale water cost increases from NMWSD and needs to update the retail costs of providing water and wastewater services and operations in this area to conform to rates paid by other customers it serves.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that City Council of the City of Tupelo, Mississippi, finds the following, to wit:

1. The Mayor and Tupelo Water and Light Director are authorized and directed to file a petition before the Mississippi Public Service Commission expressing its Notice of Intent to Change Rates in the Bluebird certificated area.

2. The purposes of this petition are to provide a recurring mechanism for passing on wholesale water costs from NMRWSD and to update the retail costs of providing water and wastewater services and operations in this area to conform to rates paid by other customers it serves.

After a full discussion of this matter, Council Member _____ moved that the foregoing Resolution be adopted and said motion was seconded by Council Member _____ and upon the question being put to a vote, the results were as follows:

Councilmember Mims voted	_____
Councilmember L. Bryan voted	_____
Councilmember Beard voted	_____
Councilmember Davis voted	_____
Councilmember Palmer voted	_____
Councilmember Gaston voted	_____
Councilmember Jones voted	_____

The motion having received the affirmative vote of a majority of the members present, the President declared the motion carried and the resolution adopted.

WHEREUPON, the foregoing Resolution was declared, passed and adopted at a regular meeting of the Council on this the _____ day of _____, 2022.

CITY OF TUPELO, MISSISSIPPI

By: _____
LYNN BRYAN
City Council President

ATTEST:

MISSY SHELTON
Clerk of the Council

APPROVED:

TODD JORDAN, Mayor

DATE