

**First Reading: 11/12/2024**  
**Bill No.: 24-58**

**Second Reading: 11/25/2024**  
**Ordinance No.: 241112**

### **An Ordinance of the City of Willard Establishing a Water Advisory Board**

**WHEREAS**, the City of Willard is committed to providing reliable and transparent water services to all customers within its service area, including both incorporated and non-incorporated areas; and

**WHEREAS**, community engagement and public input are essential to ensuring that water services meet the needs of all residents and customers served by the City of Willard; and

**WHEREAS**, establishing a Water Advisory Board will provide a formal mechanism for residents to share concerns, offer recommendations, and promote continuous improvement in the delivery of water services; and

**WHEREAS**, it is in the public interest to include representation for non-incorporated customers to ensure that all segments of the City's service area are fairly represented;

**NOW, THEREFORE**, be it ordained by the Board of Aldermen of the City of Willard:

#### **Section 1: Creation and Purpose**

A Water Advisory Board is hereby established to advise the Board of Alders of the City of Willard on matters related to the management and operation of the city's sewer and water system. The Board shall provide a forum for customers to voice concerns, recommend improvements, and support the efficient and sound operation of Willard's sewer and water services.

#### **Section 2: Membership**

The Board shall consist of five members appointed by the Board of Aldermen. At least one member shall be an at-large member, representing non-incorporated customers of the City of Willard's water system. All members of the board shall be customers of the Willard water system, with at least one member, and no more than 2 members, being at-large members of the City of Willard sewer and/or water system.

#### **Section 3: Qualifications and Terms**

Members of the Board must be qualified customers or residents of the Willard sewer and/or water system and must demonstrate an interest in the effective management of the sewer and water system. Each member shall serve a term of four (4) years, with terms staggered so that approximately one member's term expires each year. Initial appointments shall vary in length to create this staggering.

#### **Section 4: Powers and Duties**

The Water Advisory Board shall:

1. Review and advise on policies, practices, and issues concerning the operation of the City's sewer and water system.
2. Gather and report customer feedback regarding sewer and water services and provide recommendations for improvements.
3. Serve as a liaison between the public and the City to ensure transparent and efficient sewer and water services.
4. Submit an annual report to the Board of Aldermen summarizing its activities, findings, and recommendations.

#### **Section 5: Meetings**

The Water Advisory Board shall meet at least quarterly and shall conduct its meetings in accordance with applicable open meeting laws. Meetings shall provide an opportunity for public comment, and all residents and customers of the Willard sewer and/or water system shall be encouraged to attend.

#### **Section 6: Compensation and Reimbursement**

Board members shall serve without compensation but may be reimbursed for actual expenses incurred in the performance of their duties, subject to approval by the Board of Aldermen.

#### **Section 7: Effective Date**

This ordinance shall become effective immediately upon adoption.

Read two times and passed at a meeting of the Board of Aldermen of the City of Willard, Missouri, on the **25<sup>th</sup> day of November 2024**.

Approved as to Form:



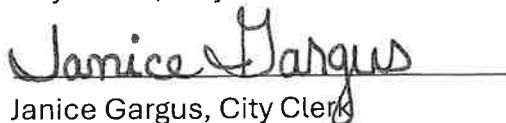
Nate Dally, City Attorney

Approved By:



Troy Smith, Mayor

Attested By:



Janice Gargus, City Clerk