

ORDINANCE 20-04

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF WHITE HOUSE, TENNESSEE AMENDING THE MUNICIPAL CODE TITLE 18, CHAPTER 3 SEWER RATES, FEES AND CHARGES.

WHEREAS, the Board of Mayor and Aldermen desire to update the Municipal Code regarding the sewer rates, fees, and charges;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED by the Board of Mayor and Aldermen that the White House Municipal Code Title 18, Chapter 3 SEWER RATES, FEES AND CHARGES be amended from the Municipal Code as follows:

TITLE 18: MUNICIPAL PERSONNEL  
CHAPTER 3: SEWER RATES, FEES AND CHARGES  
SECTIONS: Multiple sections edited  
*\*Amendments are made in bold, italics, and underlined text.*

**18-301. Rates.** (3) Wastewater consumption adjustments. Users may be entitled to an adjustment to their wastewater consumption charges for the use of water not being discharged into the wastewater system and the gallons exceed the account's average consumption by 100% or greater. Users wishing to have their wastewater consumption charges adjusted must fill out a wastewater adjustment request form and submit it along with documentation that the leak was repaired to the City of White House Finance Department. Each adjustment will be reviewed on a case-by-case basis by the finance director or designee, then the user will be notified in writing of the city's decision. When an adjustment is granted, the user charges will be changed to reflect an average consumption based on the previous twelve (12) months of water consumption billing, or the water consumption billing that is available if it is less than twelve (12) months, or the average consumption for all residential users that month if requested by customers who do not meet the other criteria. Wastewater user rates in effect at the time of the adjustment request will be applied to the adjusted consumption figure. Wastewater consumption adjustments may be granted according to the following schedule:

Time frame	Situation
Once per calendar year	Filling of swimming pool.
Anytime <u>Once per calendar year (not to exceed 3 consecutive billing cycles)</u>	Water leak that does not enter the municipal sewer system in the sole judgment of the city

(2) Delinquent payments. ~~Wastewater~~ Utility usage charges shall be paid by the due date. The city may discontinue utility service to any ~~wastewater utility~~ user who fails or refuses to pay the ~~wastewater utility~~ charges. The city may discontinue utility services for (i) ~~wastewater utility~~ user accounts with no payment activity for ninety (90) days and a past due balance or (ii) ~~wastewater utility~~ user accounts with total combined utility charges (wastewater, stormwater, sanitation) in excess of five hundred dollars (\$500.00) if such combined utility charges are thirty (30) days past due. The City of White House shall be entitled to recover costs incurred in collecting delinquent wastewater usage charges. Utility service can only be re-established on closed accounts through the application process for such utility service. (1979 Code, § 8-301, as replaced by Ord. #06-51, Jan. 2007, Ord. #07-21, July 2007, Ord. #08-01, Feb. 2008, and Ord. #08-22, Dec. 2008, and amended by Ord. #1011, July 2010, Ord. #12-12, Oct. 2012, Ord. #15-11, June 2015, Ord. #16-03, Feb. 2016, Ord. #16-11, June 2016, Ord. #16-18, Oct. 2016, and Ord. #17-04, March 2017)

**18-302. Fees and charges.** (8) Deposits. Refundable deposits shall be required as follows prior to service being connected or reconnected after service disconnection to the wastewater system:

(a) A maximum deposit of one hundred fifty dollars (\$150.00) shall be required for residential property (the "maximum residential deposit"), and

(b) A maximum deposit of two hundred fifty dollars (\$250.00) shall be required on all commercial property (the "maximum commercial deposit").

Customers requesting connection or *non-delinquent* reconnection shall have the option of authorizing the city to check such customer's prior utility payment history through a third party provider. Based on the results of such inquiry,

- (i) Residential and commercial customers designated by the third party provider as having a minimum risk of non-payment will not be charged a deposit;
- (ii) Residential customers who are designated by the third party provider as having a moderate risk of non-payment shall pay a refundable deposit of seventy-five dollars (\$75.00) for residential property, and commercial customers who are designated by the third party provider as having a moderate risk of non-payment shall pay a refundable deposit of one hundred fifty dollars (\$150.00) for commercial property; and
- (iii) Residential and commercial customers designated by the third party provider as having a high risk of non-payment shall pay the maximum residential deposit and/or the maximum commercial deposit, as applicable. Upon termination of service, any existing deposit will be applied against any unpaid balance of the customer. If any portion of the deposit remains after the payment of any such unpaid balance, such amount shall be refunded to the customer.

**(c) Customers requesting reconnection after being disconnected for delinquent payments are required to pay a moderate risk deposit prior to reconnection. This additional deposit will be added to any existing customer deposit and is subject to all other deposit restrictions and procedures.**

(9) Returned payment charge. ~~A charge of twenty dollars (\$20.00) or the amount of the payment, whichever is lesser will be applied to any user or potential user whose payment of any rates, fees, or charges related to wastewater service is returned to the city due to insufficient funds. If a payment is returned for any other reason, charging of this fee will be determined by the city's finance director on a case by case basis.~~ **Refer to Municipal Code § 5-103.**

This ordinance shall become effective upon its final reading and adoption by the Board of Mayor and Aldermen, and publication, the public welfare requiring it.

First Reading:                      March 19, 2020                      PASSED

Second Reading:                      April 16, 2020                      PASSED

  
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Michael Arnold, Mayor

ATTEST:

  
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Derek Watson, City Recorder