

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 30 WATER, SEWERS, AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL, ARTICLE IV, DIVISION 1, OF THE OFFICIAL CODE OF ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF KILLEEN, TEXAS, PROVIDING FOR REVISIONS TO WATER METER AND TAP FEES; PROVIDING FOR THE REPEAL OF CONFLICTING PROVISIONS; PROVIDING A SAVINGS CLAUSE; PROVIDING A SEVERABILITY CLAUSE; AND PROVIDING FOR PUBLICATION AND AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

WHEREAS, the City of Killeen, Texas is a home-rule city acting under its charter adopted by the electorate pursuant to Article XI, Section 5 of the Texas Constitution and Chapter 9 of the Local Government Code; and,

WHEREAS, water meter and tap fees need to be updated from time to time to account for changes in service and operational costs;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF KILLEEN, TEXAS:

SECTION 1: That Chapter 30 of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Killeen is hereby amended to read as follows:

**Chapter 30**

**WATER, SEWERS AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL**

**ARTICLE IV. RATES AND CHARGES**

**DIVISION 1. - GENERALLY**

\*\*\*\*\*

Sec. 30-102. - Tap and water meter charges to be paid by applicant.

- (a) *When tap and water meter charges are due-*. The water meter and ~~sewer~~-tap charges shall be paid by the applicant at the time the application is made for a building or finish out permit, whichever occurs first. In addition to the water meter and ~~sewer~~-tap charges, the meter deposit shall be required before a certificate of occupancy is issued. However, no application for water meter installation and/or ~~sewer~~-taps shall be accepted until construction plans have been approved by the department of public works.
- (b) *How water meter and tap charges are assessed-*. Water meter and tap charges shall be assessed per connection, based upon the following classifications:

- (1) Residence: one (1) connection.
- (2) Multifamily: one (1) connection for each living unit.
- (3) Commercial: one (1) connection for each certificate of occupancy issued or meter, whichever is greater.
- (4) Industrial: as authorized by the city council.
- (5) Mobile home park and manufactured home subdivisions: one (1) connection for each one (1) living unit.

(c) *Irrigation meters* . Regardless of the connection classification, irrigation meters are subject only to water metertap fee charges.

Sec. 30-103. - Base charges for water meter, water tap, and sewer taps.

(a) The following base charges shall be made for water meter, water tap and sewer taps:

(1) Water base tap meter charges when City installs meter and meter box onto existing water service line:

- a. 3/4" tap..... ~~\$350~~200.00
- b. 1" \_ tap..... ~~\$477~~250.00
- c. 1-1/2" tap..... ~~\$862~~350.00
- d. 2" \_ tap..... ~~\$1,375~~1,400.00
- e. Construction tap, actual cost plus minimum rate of three hundred dollars (\$300.00) per month, with meter serviced by city every four (4) months.

(2) Water meter and tap charge when City installs water service line, meter, and box in an established subdivision:

|           | <u>Short Service</u> | <u>Long Service</u> |
|-----------|----------------------|---------------------|
| a. 3/4"   | \$500.00             | \$800.00            |
| b. 1"     | \$650.00             | \$950.00            |
| c. 1 1/2" | \$1200.00            | \$1500.00           |
| d. 2"     | \$2500.00            | \$2800.00           |

(3) The minimum size meter installation shall be three-quarters-inch service and three-quarters-inch by five-eighths-inch meter. All meter installation applications for meter and service larger than one (1) inch shall be sized by the water department. City will not install water lines or meters larger than 2". Applications for meters larger than one (1) inch shall be accompanied by information indicating fixtures by number and type to be serviced through each meter for proper meter sizing calculations.

(~~3~~4) All sewer base tap charges shall be three hundred fifty dollars (\$350.00).

(~~5~~4) Base tap charges for industrial establishments shall be determined by resolution of the city council.

(56) All applicants for water and sewer service located outside the city limits shall pay double the water meter and tap charges applicable within the city.

(b) Repealed by Ord. No. 97-13, § II, 2-11-97.

(c) In addition to tap charges, a meter deposit shall be required before certificate of occupancy.

**SECTION II.** That all ordinances or resolutions or parts of ordinances or resolutions in conflict with the provisions of this ordinance are hereby repealed to the extent of such conflict.

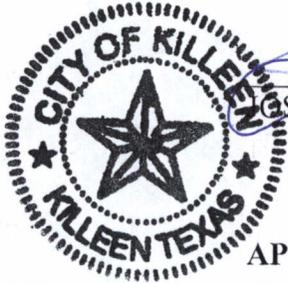
**SECTION III.** That should any section or part of any section, paragraph or clause of this ordinance be declared invalid or unconstitutional for any reason, it shall not invalidate or impair the validity, force or effect of any other section or sections or part of a section or paragraph of this ordinance.

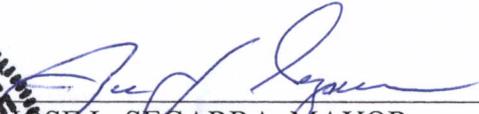
**SECTION IV.** That the Code of Ordinances of the City of Killeen, Texas, as amended, shall remain in full force and effect, save and except as amended by this ordinance.

**SECTION V.** That this ordinance shall be effective three months after its passage and publication according to law.

**PASSED AND APPROVED** at a regular meeting of the City Council of the City of Killeen, Texas, this 13 day of December, 2016, at which meeting a quorum was present, held in accordance with the provisions of V.T.C.A., Government Code, §551.001 *et seq.*

**APPROVED**

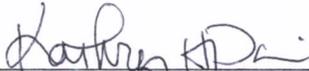


  
\_\_\_\_\_  
JOSE L. SEGARRA, MAYOR

**ATTEST:**

**APPROVED AS TO FORM:**

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Dianna Barker, CITY SECRETARY

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Kathryn H. Davis, CITY ATTORNEY

ORD 16-064  
Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**CITY COUNCIL MEMORANDUM FOR ORDINANCE**

**AGENDA ITEM**

**ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 30  
PROVIDING FOR REVISIONS TO WATER  
METER AND TAP FEES**

**ORIGINATING DEPARTMENT**

**Public Works - Water and Sewer**

**BACKGROUND INFORMATION**

Currently, a water service tap crew installs all the City's water services and meters at a cost to the builder of \$350 per service. Under this current policy, the City is losing \$184,000 per year. No neighboring or benchmark cities install their own water services. In these cities, the developers install the water services while the water line is being installed, and city employees install the water meters when the builder has paid the water meter fee. If a builder requests a water service and meter on a lot in an established neighborhood, the price in Killeen is also \$350 while in other cities the price ranges from \$600 to \$2400.

**DISCUSSION/CONCLUSION**

After extensive analysis of the City's current water service policy, staff has concluded that the following revisions to this policy are necessary:

1. Developer installs all new water services per City standards.
2. City Public Works inspectors monitor installations.
3. City water crew installs water meter and meter box.
4. Builder pays a \$200 meter connect fee for each service.
5. In established subdivisions, City water crew installs water service and meter after the builder has paid an \$800 fee for a long service or a \$500 fee for a short service 3/4" meter and increased fees for larger meters

The water service policy revisions will mean the following intangible benefits:

1. City water crew will be freed up to achieve TCEQ-mandated monthly flushing of all dead-end mains (TAC 30 Chapter 290.46(I)).
2. City water crew will be freed up to achieve AWWA recommendations for annual fire hydrant maintenance and flow testing (AWWA C502 & M17).
3. Annual fire hydrant inspection and flow testing will support continued high ISO ratings.
4. If developers install water services prior to laying of curb and asphalt, we are less likely to have failures behind the curb.
5. Developers will be responsible when contractors damage services.
6. The City's water service policy will mirror neighboring and benchmark cities.

## **FISCAL IMPACT**

Water meter fees will be revised to reflect the charges in the attached ordinance amendment. These revisions will result in an approximate annual revenue reduction of \$150,000 but will also reduce annual expenses by \$206,000; therefore, the Water and Sewer budget will benefit by a net of \$56,000 per year and the current water service crew will now concentrate their efforts on the maintenance of the existing water infrastructure.

## **RECOMMENDATION**

Staff recommends that City Council approve the amendment of Chapter 30 of the Code of Ordinances providing for revisions to water meter and tap fees, effective three months after its passage and publication according to law.