

STATE OF ALABAMA
GENEVA COUNTY
CITY OF SAMSON

AN ORDINANCE
ORDINANCE NUMBER 2015-001

ORDINANCE FURTHER AMENDING CITY OF SAMSON, ALABAMA

AMENDED ORDINANCE # 31-77,

ARTICLE VI, ESTABLISHMENT OF WATER RATES

ARTICLE VIII, ESTABLISHMENT OF SEWER RATES

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF SAMSON, ALABAMA, AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. That City of Samson, Alabama, amended Ordinance # 31-77, and further amended by Ordinance # 75-88, Ordinance # 12-5-00, Ordinance # 09-18-2001, Ordinance # 2005-2, # 2007-009, # 2009-015, # 2011-009, and # 2015-001 is an Ordinance establishing a schedule of rates and regulations for water furnished from the Water Works Plant Distribution System.

Section 2. That Article VI, Establishment of Water Rates, which is contained in the City of Samson, Alabama, amended Ordinance # 31-77, is hereby further amended and shall henceforth read as follows:

ARTICLE VI
ESTABLISHMENT OF WATER RATES

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SAMSON, ALABAMA THAT SAID ARTICLE VI, ESTABLISHMENT OF WATER RATES, OF ORDINANCE # 31-77 IS AMENDED AND SHALL READ AS FOLLOWS:

(A) The following is a schedule of monthly charges for water furnished to customers residing within the City Limits of Samson, Alabama from the Water Works Plant Distribution System:

<u>WATER RATES</u>	<u>CHARGE PER 1,000 GALLONS</u>
First 3,000 gallons	\$12.00 minimum
Next 7,000 gallons	\$3.75 per thousand gallons
Over 10,000 gallons	\$3.50 per thousand gallons

(B) The following is a schedule of monthly charges for water furnished to customers residing outside the city limits of Samson, Alabama from the Water Works Plant Distribution System:

WATER RATES

First 3,000 gallons
Next 7,000 gallons
Over 10,000 gallons

CHARGE PER 1,000 GALLONS

\$16.00 minimum
\$3.75 per thousand gallons
\$3.50 per thousand gallons

(C) Each establishment within 100 feet of a city water main shall pay a Five Hundred Dollar (\$500.00) water tap-on fee for a standard 3/4 inch water tap into the Water Works Plant Distribution System.

Each establishment located more than 100 feet from a city water main shall pay a Five Hundred Dollar (\$500.00) water tap-on fee for a standard 3/4 inch water tap into the main Water Works Plant Distribution System, plus costs of materials, equipment, and supplies used in laying the water line and tapping into Water Works Plant Distribution System.

Each establishment does not have to pay for the first three-quarter inch (3/4") radio read water meter. One additional three quarter inch (3/4") radio read meter is allowed for outside watering use only, at the same location. The customer shall pay for a radio read meter, supplies, equipment, and labor to install an additional radio read meter.

Each establishment shall pay a Five Hundred Dollar (\$500.00) water tap fee to connect to a water main for a one (1) inch meter or greater, plus costs of a radio read water meter, backflow preventer, materials, and equipment used in making a water main tap.

Master Radio Read Meter shall mean a radio read water meter used for the purposes of serving a building or a group of buildings. The property owners are responsible for all cost to install a new service and are responsible for any changes or upgrades to the existing radio read meter and backflow preventer.

All new water tap applications must be made in person or by a designated representative, and the water tap fee must be paid at the same time.

Other charges are as follows:

Each Home Owner shall pay a Fifty Dollar (\$50.00) water deposit to have water service connected during a normal work day plus a Ten Dollar (\$10.00) turn-on fee.

Each Renter shall pay a One Hundred Dollar (\$100.00) water deposit to have water service connected during a normal work day plus a Ten Dollar (\$10.00) turn-on fee. The Renter's Application form must be signed off by the Home Owner.

Each Home Owner or Renter who has an outstanding balance will pay a Two Hundred Dollar (\$200.00) water deposit, plus a Ten Dollar (\$10.00) turn on fee and outstanding balance before service will be connected.

Each Home Owner or Renter shall pay an additional after hour's fee of Twenty-five Dollars (\$25.00) to have service turned on after regular business hours. Regular business hours are Monday through Friday, 7 a.m. to 4 p.m., except Holidays.

Each establishment shall pay a Ten Dollar (\$10.00) transfer fee and a Ten Dollar (\$10.00) turn on fee, plus any balance due on the old account, when having water cut off at one establishment and water service connected at a different establishment.

A written Disconnect Form must be provided to the Water Billing Department to close an account. It is the customer's responsibility to notify the Billing Department in writing in advance of plans to terminate service, providing the last date on which services will be needed and a forwarding address. WE DO NOT TAKE DISCONNECTION REQUESTS OVER THE PHONE.

(D) There will be a Twenty Dollar (\$20.00) extension fee to extend a water bill payment until the 3rd of the following month. Each customer must fill out an Extension Form by the 25th of each month to extend their monthly payment until the 3rd of the next month. The customer must pay the extended water bill account, plus all arrearage on or before the 3rd of the following month. No extension will be allowed after the 25th of each month. If the 25th falls on a weekend or holiday, the customer will have until the following business day after the 25th to apply for an extension. If the 3rd falls on a weekend or holiday, the customer will have until the following business day after the 3rd to pay the water bill and extension fee.

(E) Each residential customer will be allowed one (1) adjustment a year for a water leak or for filling a pool. The adjustment will be on the sewer charges and will be based on a 6-month average usage. If a customer has less than a 6-month average or if it is a "Water Only" account, the sewer or water charges for that month will be split between the City and the customer for the water bill that had the leak or filled the pool. A customer must fill out an Application for Adjustment of Water, Sewer, or Fill Pool Form, before credit can be applied to customer's account.

(F) The customer shall not cause intentional damage, or wanton acts, with the meter, backflow, or any parts in the meter box. The customer is responsible for all cost to repair the damages to City property.

(G) If water service is disconnected for non-payment of a water bill, each establishment shall pay during regular working hours a Twenty-five Dollar (\$25.00) re-connection fee, plus bill arrearage to have water cut back on the same day that payment is made. Payment must be made before 3:30 p.m. or service will be reconnected on the following work day. If water service is disconnected for non-payment of water bill and the customer has not paid the Twenty-five Dollar (\$25.00) re-connection fee, plus bill arrearage during the normal work hours and the customer requests to have water turned back on after regular working hours, the establishment shall pay a Twenty-five Dollar (\$25.00) re-connection fee, plus the after-hours fee of Twenty-five Dollars (\$25.00).

(H) Bills are due when rendered, and are delinquent after the 15th of each month. A ten percent (10%) penalty shall automatically be added to such bills if not paid within said period. The penalty will be added the first business day after the 15th of each month, unless the 15th falls on the weekend or holiday, in which case customers will have the 1st business day after the 15th to pay, before the penalty is added. Any account not paid by 4:00 p.m. on the payment due date will be assessed the penalty fee. Any payment dropped in the night deposit box after 4:00 p.m. on any day is not posted until the following business day. Payment of your bill and/or late fees will not be waived due to failure to receive, or the late receipt of a bill.

(I) Failure to receive a bill or notice shall not prevent such bills from becoming delinquent nor relieve the customer from payment.

(J) There is a \$200.00 boring fee plus any additional fees for labor, equipment and supplies for the City to bore under the road, or if a sub-contractor is used, then you must pay what it cost the City. The customer will be given an itemized statement of all cost to bore under the road and this cost must be paid to the City before work can begin.

(K) Backhoe fee for water service shall be \$130.00 per hour.

(L) Application for water service must be made in person and water deposit must be paid at the same time, along with a copy of applicant's driver license or photo identification card.

Section 3. That Article VIII, Establishment of Sewer Rates, which is contained in the City of Samson, Alabama, amended Ordinance # 31-77 is hereby further amended and shall henceforth read as follows:

ARTICLE VIII
ESTABLISHMENT OF SEWER RATES

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SAMSON, ALABAMA, THAT SAID ARTICLE VIII, ESTABLISHMENT OF SEWER RATES, OF ORDINANCE # 31-77, IS AMENDED AND SHALL READ AS FOLLOWS:

(A) The Sanitary Sewer System regulates the use of public and private sewers, drains, private sewage disposal, installation or connection of a sewer pumping station, and the discharge of wastewaters into the public sewer system.

(B) The following shall be the schedule of monthly charges for sanitary sewer services rendered by the Sewer System with such charges being based on the quality of water discharged into the Sewer System. The quantity of water discharged into the Sewer System will be determined in the manner provided in Article XIV Ordinance # 31-77.

SEWER RATES
First 3,000 gallons
Next 7,000 gallons
Over 10,000 gallons

CHARGE PER 1,000 GALLONS
\$13.00 minimum
\$3.75 per thousand gallons
\$3.50 per thousand gallons

(C) All restaurants, delicatessens, or any other food-service establishment located within the City Limits of the City of Samson, Alabama are required to have, install and properly maintain a commercial grease trap.

(D) There shall be a One Hundred and Fifty Dollar (\$150.00) per hour fee plus materials, if any are used, charged to the business, per occurrence, for cleaning out lines when the backup is due to the business not having and properly maintaining a commercial grease trap.

(E) There shall be a Seven Hundred Dollar (\$700.00) tap fee, plus cost of supplies, to tap into the main line. There shall be a One Thousand Dollar (\$1,000.00) tap fee, plus cost of supplies, to tap into a manhole.

All new sewer tap applications must be made in person or by a designated representative, and the sewer tap fee must be paid at the same time.

There shall be a charge of Four Hundred Dollars (\$400.00) to bore under the road, or if a sub-contractor is used then you must pay what it cost the City.

Backhoe fee for sewer service shall be \$130.00 per hour.

There shall be a Fifteen Dollar (\$15.00) service charge to check on problems within a customer's sewer line.

Section 4. It shall be unlawful for any person to dig, drill, bore, construct, enlarge or repair any well for the withdrawal of water in the City Limits of Samson without written approval from the Mayor and City Council, and a permit must be issued by the City Clerk. Before a permit can be issued by the City Clerk the property owner must provide documentation that all permits required by Alabama State Law, Federal Law, and any other government entity that may be required have been obtained. It is the sole responsibility of the property owner to obtain all required permits.

Any person or persons violating Section 4 of this Ordinance shall be guilty of a misdemeanor, and upon conviction shall be punished for such violation by fine not exceeding Five Hundred Dollars (\$500.00) and may be imprisoned in the County Jail for a period not exceeding six (6) months or both at the discretion of the Municipal Court for the City of Samson, Alabama.

Section 5. It shall be unlawful for any person to dig, construct, enlarge or repair any septic tank for the disposal of wastewater within the City Limits of Samson without written approval from the Mayor and City Council, and a permit must be issued by the City Clerk. Before a permit can be issued by the City Clerk the property owner must provide documentation that all permits required by Alabama State Law, Federal Law, and any other government entity that may be required have been obtained. It is the sole responsibility of the property owner to obtain all required permits.

Any person or persons violating Section 5 of this Ordinance shall be guilty of a misdemeanor, and upon conviction shall be punished for such violation by fine not exceeding Five Hundred Dollars (\$500.00) and may be imprisoned in the County Jail for a period not exceeding six (6) months or both at the discretion of the Municipal Court for the City of Samson, Alabama.

Section 6. It shall be unlawful to obtain a water account through deception or fraud. An account assigned to a property shall not be transferred to another family member or relative until full payment of any past due balances are paid. The account holder must fill out a name change form along with a photo identification of the person that the account is going to be changed to. When unrelated persons reside in a household, any member of that household may not make a new account until any balance owed is paid in full. The intent of this section is to prevent the closing of an account with money owed and to establish a new account in a different name.

Section 7. If any article, clause, sentence, section or provision of this Ordinance is held invalid or inoperative, the remainder of the Ordinance shall not be affected thereby.

Section 8. All Ordinances or parts of Ordinance in conflict with the provisions of this Ordinance are hereby repealed.

Section 9. This Ordinance shall become effective upon its adoption of publications.

Section 10. The City Clerk is hereby directed to cause this Ordinance to be published one time in the Samson Ledger, a newspaper of general circulation in the City of Samson, Alabama.

ADOPTED and APPROVED on this the 2nd day of June, 2015.

ATTEST

Hazel McGowan
Hazel McGowan, City Clerk

City Seal

CITY OF SAMSON, ALABAMA

Clay King
Clay King, Mayor

Roger Baine
Roger Baine, Council

Ronald E. Davis
Ronald Davis, Council

Queen Fitzpatrick
Queen Fitzpatrick, Council

Hazel G. Odom
Hazel Odom, Council

Lavonne Stromenger
Lavonne Stromenger, Council

CERTIFICATION

I, Hazel McGowan, City Clerk, in and for said City of Samson, Alabama, hereby certify the within and foregoing is a true, correct, and exact copy of the Ordinance passed by the City Council of Samson, Alabama.

Hazel McGowan
City Clerk

City Seal