



STAFF REPORT

CITY OF GREEN COVE SPRINGS, FLORIDA

TO: City Council Regular Session **MEETING DATE:** November 7, 2023
FROM: Scott Schultz, Assistant Water Utilities Director
SUBJECT: City Council approval on First Reading of Ordinance O-32-2023 authorizing water rate changes for Fiscal Year 2024.

BACKGROUND

Sec. 90-253. Water usage and monthly minimum charges.

- (a) *Rates schedule.* The rates, fees and charges for water service furnished by the water system of the city, referred to as a water charge, shall be based upon the quantity of water, determined by metering, furnished to each user's premises each month. The owner, occupant or tenant of each lot or parcel of land connected with or using the water system shall pay for the use of, and for the services furnished by the water system, a water charge according to the following schedule:

Base Charges for all water meters are as follows:

Meter Size	Monthly Base Charge*
¾"	\$13.43 <u>\$13.83</u>
1"	\$19.94 <u>\$20.54</u>
1-½"	\$28.39 <u>\$29.24</u>
2"	\$39.28 <u>\$40.46</u>
3"	\$53.71 <u>\$55.32</u>
4"	\$214.82 <u>\$221.26</u>
6"	\$396.12 <u>\$408.00</u>
8"	\$563.97 <u>\$580.89</u>
10"	\$738.53 <u>\$760.69</u>

* Base charge does not include any usage.

Residential Potable	Monthly Charge per 1,000 Gallon of use					
	Block Size	<3,000 Gallons	3,001—10,000 gallons	10,001—15,000 gallons	15,001—20,000 gallons	>20,001 gallons

Rate (\$/1,000 gal)	\$0.70 <u>\$0.72</u>	\$2.28 <u>\$2.35</u>	\$2.34 <u>\$2.41</u>	\$2.42 <u>\$2.49</u>	\$2.49 <u>\$2.56</u>
Residential Irrigation	Monthly Charge per 1,000 Gallon of use				
Block Size	<10,000 gallons	10,001—15,000 gallons	15,001—20,000 gallons	>20,001 gallons	
Rate (\$/1,000 gal)	\$2.34 <u>\$2.41</u>	\$2.41 <u>\$2.49</u>	\$3.08 <u>\$3.17</u>	\$4.03 <u>\$4.15</u>	
Commercial Potable	Monthly Charge per 1,000 Gallon of use				
Block Size	<10,000 gallons	10,001—15,000 gallons	15,001—20,000 gallons	>20,001 gallons	
Rate (\$/1,000 gal)	\$2.28 <u>\$2.35</u>	\$2.34 <u>\$2.41</u>	\$2.42 <u>\$2.49</u>	\$2.49 <u>\$2.56</u>	
Commercial Irrigation	Monthly Charge per 1,000 Gallon of use				
Block Size	<10,000 gallons	10,001—15,000 gallons	15,001—20,000 gallons	>20,001 gallons	
Rate (\$/1,000 gal)	\$2.34 <u>\$2.41</u>	\$2.41 <u>\$2.49</u>	\$3.08 <u>\$3.17</u>	\$4.03 <u>\$4.15</u>	

- (b) *Water utility users outside the city limits.* All water users outside the city limits shall pay 125 percent of the equivalent rate charged to those users within the city limits.
- (c) *Application of charges.* The charges in this section shall apply to all classes of users, including residential and commercial (industrial, institutional, charitable or otherwise), except as otherwise provided in this Code.
- (d) *Maximum monthly bill.* There shall be no maximum charge per month.
- (e) *Minimum monthly bill.* The minimum residential and commercial charge shall be the base charge based on the user's potable water meter size. The base charge does not include any usage.
- (f) *Bulk water rates.* Bulk or wholesale water rates shall be calculated to reflect the city's cost of providing water service to those entities entering into an agreement with the city. Such rates will be determined on an individual basis by the city.
- (g) *Commercial* as defined within this section, includes all uses other than residential.
- (h) *Annual rate increase.* The City Manager shall issue a written report to the City Council during the annual budget process recommending any necessary water rate adjustments.
- (i) *Computation of use.* A consumption of a fraction of any 1,000 gallons shall be the same as using the entire 1,000 gallons.

FISCAL IMPACT

3% increase in the Water Fund Operating Budget

RECOMMENDATION

Approve First Reading of Ordinance O-32-2023 authorizing water rate changes for Fiscal Year 2024.

ORDINANCE NO. O-32-2023

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF GREEN COVE SPRINGS, FLORIDA, MODIFYING WATER RATES BY AMENDING CITY CODE CHAPTER 90 UTILITIES, ARTICLE III - WATER SERVICE, DIVISION 3 - RATES AND CHARGES, SECTION 90-253 ENTITLED "WATER USAGE AND MONTHLY MINIMUM CHARGES"; PROVIDING FOR CONFLICTS, SEVERABILITY, CODIFICATION, AND SETTING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

WHEREAS, On September 19th, 2023 the City Council approved the full budget which included the proposed water rate increases, and on October 3rd, 2023, authorized the notice of a proposed Water Rate Increase; and

WHEREAS, public notices have been sent to all utility customers in accordance with FSS Chapter 180.136.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ENACTED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF GREEN COVE SPRINGS, FLORIDA AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. City Code Section 90-253, entitled "Water usage and monthly minimum charges," which establishes water rates, is hereby amended to read as follows, effective on December 5, 2023:

Sec. 90-253. Water usage and monthly minimum charges.

- (a) *Rates schedule.* The rates, fees and charges for water service furnished by the water system of the city, referred to as a water charge, shall be based upon the quantity of water, determined by metering, furnished to each user's premises each month. The owner, occupant or tenant of each lot or parcel of land connected with or using the water system shall pay for the use of, and for the services furnished by the water system, a water charge according to the following schedule:

Base Charges for all water meters are as follows:

Meter Size	Monthly Base Charge*
3/4"	\$13.43 <u>\$13.83</u>
1"	\$19.94 <u>\$20.54</u>
1-1/2"	\$28.39 <u>\$29.24</u>
2"	\$39.28 <u>\$40.46</u>
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10"	\$738.53 <u>\$760.69</u>
* Base charge does not include any usage.	

Residential Potable	Monthly Charge per 1,000 Gallon of use				
Block Size	<3,000 Gallons	3,001—10,000 gallons	10,001—15,000 gallons	15,001—20,000 gallons	>20,001 gallons
Rate (\$/1,000 gal)	\$0.70 <u>\$0.72</u>	\$2.28 <u>\$2.35</u>	\$2.34 <u>\$2.41</u>	\$2.42 <u>\$2.49</u>	\$2.49 <u>\$2.56</u>
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Block Size	<10,000 gallons	10,001—15,000 gallons	15,001—20,000 gallons	>20,001 gallons	
Rate (\$/1,000 gal)	\$2.34 <u>\$2.41</u>	\$2.41 <u>\$2.49</u>	\$3.08 <u>\$3.17</u>	\$4.03 <u>\$4.15</u>	
Commercial Potable	Monthly Charge per 1,000 Gallon of use				
Block Size	<10,000 gallons	10,001—15,000 gallons	15,001—20,000 gallons	>20,001 gallons	
Rate (\$/1,000 gal)	\$2.28 <u>\$2.35</u>	\$2.34 <u>\$2.41</u>	\$2.42 <u>\$2.49</u>	\$2.49 <u>\$2.56</u>	
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- (b) *Water utility users outside the city limits.* All water users outside the city limits shall pay 125 percent of the equivalent rate charged to those users within the city limits.
- (c) *Application of charges.* The charges in this section shall apply to all classes of users, including residential and commercial (industrial, institutional, charitable or otherwise), except as otherwise provided in this Code.
- (d) *Maximum monthly bill.* There shall be no maximum charge per month.

- (e) *Minimum monthly bill.* The minimum residential and commercial charge shall be the base charge based on the user's potable water meter size. The base charge does not include any usage.
 - (f) *Bulk water rates.* Bulk or wholesale water rates shall be calculated to reflect the city's cost of providing water service to those entities entering into an agreement with the city. Such rates will be determined on an individual basis by the city.
 - (g) *Commercial* as defined within this section, includes all uses other than residential.
 - (h) *Annual rate increase.* The City Manager shall issue a written report to the City Council during the annual budget process recommending any necessary water rate adjustments.
 - (i) *Computation of use.* A consumption of a fraction of any 1,000 gallons shall be the same as using the entire 1,000 gallons.
-
- (e) *Minimum monthly bill.* The minimum residential and commercial charge shall be the base charge based on the user's potable water meter size. The base charge does not include any usage.
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 - (g) *Commercial* as defined within this section, includes all uses other than residential.
 - (h) *Annual rate increase.* The City Manager shall issue a written report to the City Council during the annual budget process recommending any necessary water rate adjustments.
 - (i) *Computation of use.* A consumption of a fraction of any 1,000 gallons shall be the same as using the entire 1,000 gallons.

Section 2. CODIFICATION. It is the intention of the City Council, and it is hereby ordained that the provisions of this ordinance shall become and be made part of the Code of the City of Green Cove Springs as amended; that the sections of this ordinance may be renumbered or relettered to accomplish such intention; and that the word “ordinance” may be changed to “section” or other appropriate word.

Section 3. REPEALER. Any Ordinances or parts thereof in conflict with the provisions of this Ordinance are hereby repealed to the extent of such conflict.

Section 4. SEVERABILITY. The various parts, sections and clauses of this Ordinance are hereby declared severable. If any part, sentence, paragraph, section or clause is adjudged unconstitutional or invalid by a court of competent jurisdiction, the remainder of the Ordinance

shall not be affected thereby.

Section 5. EFFECTIVE DATE. This Ordinance shall become effective immediately upon adoption.

INTRODUCED AND APPROVED AS TO FORM ONLY ON THE FIRST READING BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF GREEN COVE SPRINGS, FLORIDA, ON THIS 7th DAY OF NOVEMBER, 2023.

CITY OF GREEN COVE SPRINGS, FLORIDA

Constance W. Butler, Mayor

ATTEST:

Erin West, City Clerk

PASSED ON SECOND AND FINAL READING BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF GREEN COVE SPRINGS, FLORIDA, THIS 5TH DAY OF DECEMBER, 2023.

CITY OF GREEN COVE SPRINGS, FLORIDA

Constance W. Butler, Mayor

ATTEST:

Erin West, City Clerk

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

L. J. Arnold, III, City Attorney

LEGAL NOTICE

CITY OF GREEN COVE SPRINGS - 321 WALNUT STREET - GREEN COVE SPRINGS, FLORIDA 32043
TEL. (904) 297-7500 - FAX (904) 284-8118

For Immediate Release/Run Once In Legal Section of Newspaper
Furnish Proof of Publication to the City Clerk

Bill to: City of Green Cove Springs
321 Walnut Street, Green Cove Springs, FL 32043
Attn: Erin West

Date: October 26, 2023

Contact: Erin West, CMC, City Clerk

Phone: (904) 297-7500, ext. 3307 **Fax:** (904) 284-8118

Run Twice: **Legal Ad Section on November 2, 2023 – Furnish Affidavit**
 Legal Ad Section on November 30, 2023 – Furnish Affidavit

PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE

The City of Green Cove Springs proposes to adopt the following Ordinance:

ORDINANCE NO. O-32-2023

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF GREEN COVE SPRINGS, FLORIDA, MODIFYING WATER RATES BY AMENDING CITY CODE CHAPTER 90 UTILITIES, ARTICLE IV - WATER SERVICE, DIVISION 3 - RATES AND CHARGES, SECTION 90-253 ENTITLED “WATER USAGE AND MONTHLY MINIMUM CHARGES”; PROVIDING FOR CONFLICTS, SEVERABILITY, CODIFICATION, AND SETTING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

The following public hearing has been scheduled and will be held in the City Council Chambers, 321 Walnut Street, Green Cove Springs, to hear comments, if any, regarding said Ordinance:

City Council: First Reading on Tuesday, November 7, 2023 at 7:00 p.m. or shortly thereafter
City Council: Second & Final Reading on Tuesday, December 5, 2023 at 7:00 p.m. or shortly thereafter

Please be advised that if a person decides to appeal any decision made by the City Council with respect to any matter considered at this scheduled public hearing, he will need to ensure that a verbatim record of the proceedings is made, which record includes the testimony and evidence upon which the appeal is to be based.

In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, any person needing a special accommodation to participate in this matter should contact City Hall at (904) 297-7500 at least three (3) days prior to the meeting. Hearing impaired persons may access through (904) 284-4849 (TDD).

Said Ordinance is available at City Hall for review during the hours of 7:30 AM to 5:00 PM, Monday through Thursday.

All interested individuals are invited to attend this public hearing.

City of Green Cove Springs

Erin West, City Clerk
321 Walnut Street
Green Cove Springs, FL 32043

Steve Kennedy, City Manager



STAFF REPORT

CITY OF GREEN COVE SPRINGS, FLORIDA

TO: City Council Regular Session **MEETING DATE:** November 7, 2023
FROM: Scott Schultz, Assistant Water Utilities Director
SUBJECT: City Council approval on First Reading of Ordinance O-33-2023 authorizing wastewater rate changes for Fiscal Year 2024.

BACKGROUND

City Code Section 90-376, entitled "Wastewater Rates" which establishes wastewater rates, is hereby amended to read as follows, effective on December 5, 2023:

Sec. 90-376. – Wastewater rates.

- (a) *Rates schedule.* The rates, fees and charges for wastewater service furnished by the wastewater system of the city, referred to as a "wastewater charge," shall be based upon the quantity of potable water, determined by metering, furnished to each user's premises each month. The owner, occupant or tenant of each lot or parcel of land which is connected with or uses the wastewater system shall pay for the use of, and for the services and facilities furnished by the wastewater system, a wastewater charge according to the following schedule.

Base charges for all wastewater accounts are as follows:

Meter Size	Monthly Base Charge*
¾"	\$34.78 <u>\$35.82</u>
1"	\$61.61 <u>\$63.46</u>
1-½"	\$120.95 <u>\$124.58</u>
2"	\$173.43 <u>\$178.63</u>
3"	\$228.24 <u>\$235.09</u>
4"	\$604.81 <u>\$622.95</u>
6"	\$1,141.13 <u>\$1,175.36</u>
8"	\$1,917.10 <u>\$1,974.61</u>
10"	\$2,738.69 <u>\$2,820.85</u>
* Base charge does not include any usage.	

- (b) *Wastewater utility users outside the city limits.* All wastewater utility users outside the city limits shall pay 125 percent of the equivalent rate charged to those users within the city limits.
- (c) *Application of charges.* The charges in this section shall apply to all classes of users, including residential and commercial (industrial, institutional, charitable or otherwise), except as otherwise provided in this Code.
- (d) *Maximum monthly bill.* The maximum monthly residential bill shall be ~~\$100.00~~ \$200.00. There shall be no maximum commercial charge per month.
- (e) *Minimum monthly bill.* The minimum residential and commercial charge shall be the base charge based on the user's potable water meter size. The base charge does not include any usage.
- (f) *Bulk wastewater rates.* Bulk or wholesale wastewater rates shall be calculated to reflect the city's cost of providing wastewater service to those entities entering into an agreement with the city. Such rates will be determined on an individual basis by the city.

Residential		Monthly Charge per 1,000 Gallon of use				
Block Size	<3,000 gallons	3,001—10,000 gallons	10,001—15,000 gallons	15,001—20,000 gallons	>20,001 gallons	
Rate (\$/1,000 gal)	\$0.66 <u>\$0.68</u>	\$6.32 <u>\$6.51</u>	\$6.51 <u>\$6.71</u>	\$6.73 <u>\$6.93</u>	\$6.97 <u>\$7.18</u>	
Commercial		Monthly Charge per 1,000 Gallon of use				
Block Size	<3,000 gallons	3,001—10,000 gallons	10,001—15,000 gallons	15,001—20,000 gallons	20,001—50,000 gallons	>50,001 gallons
Rate (\$/1,000 gal)	\$0.66 <u>\$0.68</u>	\$6.32 <u>\$6.51</u>	\$6.51 <u>\$6.71</u>	\$6.73 <u>\$6.93</u>	\$6.97 <u>\$7.18</u>	\$7.18 <u>\$7.40</u>

- (g) *Commercial* as defined within this section, includes all uses other than residential.
- (h) *Annual rate increase.* The City Manager shall issue a written report to the City Council during the annual budget process recommending any necessary wastewater rate adjustments.
- (i) *Computation of use.* A consumption of a fraction of any 1,000 gallons shall be the same as using the entire 1,000 gallons.

FISCAL IMPACT

3% increase in the Wastewater Fund Operating Budget

RECOMMENDATION

Approve First Reading of Ordinance O-33-2023 authorizing water rate changes for Fiscal Year 2024.

ORDINANCE NO. O-33-2023

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF GREEN COVE SPRINGS, FLORIDA, MODIFYING WASTEWATER RATES BY AMENDING CITY CODE CHAPTER 90 - UTILITIES, ARTICLE IV - SEWERS AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL, DIVISION 3 - RATES AND CHARGES, SECTION 90-376 ENTITLED "WASTEWATER RATES"; PROVIDING FOR CONFLICT, SEVERABILITY, CODIFICATION, AND SETTING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

WHEREAS, On September 19, 2023 the City Council approved the full budget which included the proposed wastewater rate increases, and on October 3, 2023, authorized the notice of a proposed Wastewater Rate Increase; and

WHEREAS, public notices have been sent to all utility customers in accordance with FSS Chapter 180.136.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ENACTED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF GREEN COVE SPRINGS, FLORIDA AS FOLLOWS:

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- (c) *Application of charges.* The charges in this section shall apply to all classes of users, including residential and commercial (industrial, institutional, charitable or otherwise), except as otherwise provided in this Code.
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- (g) *Commercial* as defined within this section, includes all uses other than residential.

- (h) *Annual rate increase.* The City Manager shall issue a written report to the City Council during the annual budget process recommending any necessary wastewater rate adjustments.
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CITY OF GREEN COVE SPRINGS, FLORIDA

Constance W. Butler, Mayor

ATTEST:

Erin West, City Clerk

PASSED ON SECOND AND FINAL READING BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF GREEN COVE SPRINGS, FLORIDA, THIS 5TH DAY OF DECEMBER, 2023.

CITY OF GREEN COVE SPRINGS, FLORIDA

Constance W. Butler, Mayor

ATTEST:

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APPROVED AS TO FORM:

L. J. Arnold, III, City Attorney

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321 Walnut Street
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