

ORDINANCE NO. 2019-57

ORDINANCE AMENDING ORDINANCE 2017-40, AS AMENDED, CHAPTER 687 PART 4 ARTICLE XVIII, SECTION 138 OF THE CODE OF THE CITY OF VINELAND ENTITLED RATE SCHEDULE.

WHEREAS, on June 26, 2018 City Council of the City of Vineland adopted Ordinance 2018-37 setting forth the rates and charges to be paid for water service in the City of Vineland; and

WHEREAS, the Director of the Municipal Utilities has recommended changes to be made regarding the rate schedule, after review of all present charges and cost associated with metered services rates, connection fees and all other charges; and

WHEREAS, the City Council of the City of Vineland finds in the best interest of the City of Vineland to amend the rate schedule in accordance with recommendations of the Director of the Municipal Utilities.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED by the City Council of the City of Vineland that Chapter 687, Part 4, Article XVIII, be deleted in its entirety and replaced as follows:

Section 687-138 Rate Schedules

The following rates shall be charged and paid for water services, effective July 1, 2019.

A. Schedule of flat water rates:

(1) Hydrants.

- (a) \$190.00 per year for the use of each hydrant for fire purposes only on private property; can be billed annually, biannually, or monthly at the utility's discretion.
- (b) \$27.50 per year for the use of each hydrant for fire purposes by the City on public highways; can be billed annually, biannually, or monthly at the utility's discretion.
- (c) \$300.00 per fire flow test . Procedures and Applications are obtained from the Water Utility. No test shall be conducted without prior Water Utility approval and a scheduled test appointment.
- (d) Automatic fire sprinkler service. For service connections to an automatic fire sprinkler system for fire protection only:

Meter Size (inches)	Rate per Year
2 & 3	\$375.00
4	\$450.00
6 and larger	\$525.00

B. Metered rates. The following rates shall be hereafter charged monthly for water supplied by metered measurement to consumers. The following rates apply on the consumption as registered by one or more meters. The consumption by multiple meters on an account will be combined in rendering the monthly statement of charges.

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Gallage per Month Rate per Thousand Gallons

First 25,000 gallons	\$2.81
Next 225,000 gallons	\$2.07
Next 2,250,000 gallons	\$1.60
Next 2,500,000 gallons	\$1.41

- (1) Metered service rates. The following shall be the rates at which water will be furnished, the allowance of water for the said minimum charge to be deducted from the quantities shown below under minimum charges.
- (2) Minimum charges. After a meter is installed, no bill will be rendered or payment accepted for less than the following minimum rates for each meter monthly:

**Meter Size
(inches) Gallage Included Monthly Rates**

Through 5/8	3,000	\$12.32
Through 1	10,000	\$32.94
Through 1 1/2	16,000	\$56.03
Through 2	21,000	\$69.22
Through 3	25,000	\$79.09
Through 4	30,000	\$107.07
Through 6	80,000	\$247.07
Through 8	107,000	\$329.42
Through 10	133,000	\$411.77

C. Additional consumer units.

- (1) There shall be a monthly consumer unit charge for each additional unit (multifamily dwelling) served through the same meter as follows:

Equivalent Units	Monthly Charge	
3 or more bedrooms	1	\$4.97
2 bedrooms	3/4	\$3.75
1 bedroom	1/2	\$2.52
Hotel/motel (per room)	1/4	\$1.23

- (2) Examples of multifamily dwellings: apartments, duplexes, mobile home parks, condominiums, senior complexes, townhouses, etc.
- (3) Service charge. The Water-Sewer Utility reserves the right to impose a service charge on all meters if deemed necessary.

D. Tapping fees.

- (1) Tapping, meter and meter pit fees (piping to curb line complete) shall be charged as follows:

Size of Tap (inches)	Fee
1	\$2,400
1 1/2	\$4,200
2	\$5,000

- (2) Taps, meters and meter pits larger than two inches in size shall be made only on special arrangement with the Water-Sewer Utility, and the applicant shall pay the full and actual cost of materials and installation. Excavation and required compactions shall be executed by a contractor per the specification sheet provided by the water Utility.

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(3) All charges incident to tap applications shall be due and payable in advance.

G. Street opening fees. A street opening fee in such amount as may be determined by ordinance or resolution of City Council shall be charged in addition to the above tap charges.

H. Missed appointment charge. A charge of \$37 shall be debited to the account of a Water-Sewer Utility customer who fails to keep a prescheduled appointment for services to be performed or readings to be taken.

I. Recovery clause. The Water-Sewer Utility reserves the right to impose a recovery clause to adjust for the escalation in energy and treatment costs associated with the supply and distribution of City water.

J. Connection Fee

(1) A Water Connection Fee is required from a new connector to the Water Utility representing a fair payment toward the total capital cost paid for developing the Water Utility System as determined by Ordinance or Resolution of City Council. Water Utility reserves the right to review the water usage of the established business for a period of one year from the time of activation. Multi-phase projects are subject to review upon completion of each phase.

K. Assessment fee.

(1) Assessment for water main extension shall be based on the number of properties in the project. The total cost for the project shall be divided by the number of properties that are serviceable by the water main extension.

(2) Each property that is serviceable by the water main extension shall be provided with a standard 5/8 inch water tap, meter and meter pit. The owner of the parcel shall determine the location of the tap on the frontage of the property. The cost for the tap/meter/pit shall be included in the assessment. Any additional taps, or taps of increased size, requested by the property owner, must conform to all zoning and other regulations set forth by the City of Vineland and the Vineland Water-Sewer Utility. If permitted, additional and/or larger taps will be charged to the property owner and will not be included in the assessment. A connection fee, as established by this chapter, shall be paid in advance before access is granted.

(3) Easements/rights-of-way: No assessments shall be levied upon government or public utility easements/rights-of-way.

(4) Properties that are owned by government, utilities, schools, and other tax exempt properties are assessable.

(5) Railroad property shall be exempt from assessment, with the exception of railroad properties that require a water tap.

(6) Unique situations may be exempted from assessment upon approval by the Water-Sewer Utility Superintendent and the Business Administrator.

(7) Any parcel that is subdivided to create a new parcel contained within the original project area and completed within the original period of the assessment shall be subject to payment of the same lot assessment as if it had existed at the time of the construction of the project. This assessment shall be paid in full during the period of the original assessment and may be charged in annual assessments. Installation of new taps shall not be permitted until the street-opening moratorium has expired.

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED that should any portion of this Ordinance be deemed unenforceable by a court of competent jurisdiction, that portion so determined to be unenforceable, shall be void and the balance hereof shall remain in full force and effect.

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BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED that should any Ordinance or portion thereof be inconsistent herewith, such Ordinance or portion thereof shall be void to the extent of such inconsistencies.

Passed first reading:

Passed final reading:

President of Council

Approved by the Mayor:

Mayor

ATTEST:

City Clerk