

PROPOSED
(To be Considered by the Union County Board of
Commissioners
at its February 6, 2012, Regular Meeting)

AN ORDINANCE SETTING CHARGES, FEES, RATES
AND DEPOSITS FOR CUSTOMERS SERVED BY THE
UNION COUNTY WATER AND SEWER SYSTEM

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF UNION COUNTY,
NORTH CAROLINA, that

SECTION I. The following charges, fees, deposits, and monthly rates shall apply on and after the Effective Date of this Ordinance. For purposes of this Ordinance, FY 2012 shall mean March 15, 2012, to March 14, 2013; FY 2013 shall mean March 15, 2013, to March 14, 2014; and FY 2014 shall mean March 15, 2014, to March 14, 2015; provided that this Ordinance may extend beyond March 14, 2015, in accordance with the provisions of Section IV.

1. WATER RATES

A. Base Facility Fee – monthly fixed charge for residential and non-residential water customers.

METER SIZE	FY 2012	FY 2013	FY 2014
3/4"	\$6.00	\$6.05	\$6.10
1"	\$15.15	\$15.20	\$15.35
1 1/2"	\$30.05	\$30.20	\$30.50
2"	\$48.05	\$48.30	\$48.75
3"	\$135.25	\$135.90	\$137.15
4"	\$300.55	\$302.05	\$304.75
6"	\$420.75	\$422.80	\$426.65

B. Volumetric Rates – charge for water per 1,000 gallons of usage based on current Drought Stage as declared by the County Manager.

i. **Residential Rates** – applies to non-commercial accounts.

- ii. **Irrigation Rates** – applies to residential and non-residential customers with a separate irrigation meter for in-ground irrigation systems.
- iii. **Non-residential Rates** – applies to accounts classified as commercial, industrial or institutional as deemed by Union County Public Works.

		Stage I Drought			Stage II Drought			Stage III Drought			Stage IV Drought		
		2012	2013	2014	2012	2013	2014	2012	2013	2014	2012	2013	2014
<u>Residential</u>													
Tier 1	0 - 3,000 gallons	\$1.90	\$1.95	\$1.95	\$1.90	\$1.95	\$1.95	\$1.90	\$1.95	\$1.95	\$2.55	\$2.60	\$2.65
Tier 2	3,001 - 7,000 gallons	2.55	2.60	2.65	2.55	2.60	2.65	2.55	2.60	2.65	3.80	3.95	4.00
Tier 3	7,001 - 10,000 gallons	3.60	3.65	3.75	3.60	3.65	3.75	7.45	7.45	7.50	8.05	8.35	8.40
Tier 4	10,001 - 15,000 gallons	5.70	5.75	5.85	9.20	9.25	9.35	15.70	15.80	15.95	16.95	17.10	17.25
Tier 5	> 15,000 gallons	9.85	10.00	10.10	15.95	16.00	16.15	27.25	27.35	27.60	29.45	29.60	29.85
<u>Irrigation</u>													
Tier 1	0 - 3,000 gallons	\$3.60	\$3.65	\$3.75	\$3.60	\$3.65	\$3.75	\$7.45	\$7.45	\$7.50	\$8.05	\$8.35	\$8.40
Tier 2	3,001 - 7,000 gallons	3.60	3.65	3.75	3.60	3.65	3.75	7.45	7.45	7.50	8.05	8.35	8.40
Tier 3	7,001 - 10,000 gallons	3.60	3.65	3.75	3.60	3.65	3.75	7.45	7.45	7.50	8.05	8.35	8.40
Tier 4	10,001 - 15,000 gallons	5.70	5.75	5.85	9.20	9.25	9.35	15.70	15.80	15.95	16.95	17.10	17.25
Tier 5	> 15,000 gallons	9.85	10.00	10.10	15.95	16.00	16.15	27.25	27.35	27.60	29.45	29.60	29.85
<u>Non-Residential</u>													
	Flat Rate	\$2.60	\$2.70	\$2.70	\$2.75	\$2.85	\$2.85	\$3.00	\$3.10	\$3.10	\$3.60	\$3.70	\$3.70

C. Hydrant Meters

- i. **Temporary Hydrant Meters** – requires a \$300 deposit. Monthly usage will be billed at the Non-Residential rate and a base facility fee is charged for each month (or partial month) the meter is used.
- ii. **Hydrant Permit Fee** – \$100 annual fee per vessel for permitted water service vehicles to obtain water from approved County hydrants. Monthly usage will be billed at the Non-Residential rate plus a monthly ¾” meter base facility fee.

D. Fire Meter Base Facility Fee – customers with fire service/sprinkler connections will be charged a **\$100 base facility fee annually**. *Actual usage, if any, is charged at the Non-Residential rate.*

2. SEWER RATES

A. Base Facility Fee – monthly fixed charge for residential and non-residential sewer customers.

METER SIZE	FY 2012	FY 2013	FY 2014
3/4"	\$9.25	\$9.25	\$9.25
1"	\$23.31	\$23.31	\$23.31
1 1/2"	\$46.34	\$46.34	\$46.34
2"	\$74.09	\$74.09	\$74.09
3"	\$208.50	\$208.50	\$208.50
4"	\$463.33	\$463.33	\$463.33
6"	\$648.61	\$648.61	\$648.61
Flat Rate (Unmetered)	\$28.00	\$29.75	\$31.75

Unmetered Sewer – customers who have an unmetered water source.

B. Volumetric Rates – charge for sewer per 1,000 gallons of water usage.

	FY 2012	FY 2013	FY 2014
<u>Residential</u>			
0 - 12,000 gallons	\$3.75	\$4.05	\$4.40
<u>Non-Residential</u>			
All Usage	\$3.75	\$4.05	\$4.40

Irrigation meters are excluded from being assessed a sewer charge.

3. CAPACITY FEES

A. Water Capacity Fees – one-time charges, based on water meter size, to new service connections (or increases in service by an existing customer) specifically designed to pay for the costs associated with serving new customers.

METER SIZE	FEE
3/4"	\$1,200
1"	\$2,900
1 1/2"	\$5,800
2"	\$9,300
> 2"	SEE NOTE
Fire Connection	NO FEE

Note: Fees for meter sizes greater than 2" is determined based on anticipated usage with each new service.

B. Sewer Capacity Fees - one-time charges, based on water meter size, to new service connections (or increases in service by an existing customer) specifically designed to pay for the costs associated with serving new customers.

METER SIZE	FEE
3/4"	\$3,090
1"	\$7,720
1 1/2"	\$15,440
2"	\$24,710
> 2"	SEE NOTE
Fire Connection	NO FEE

Note: Fees for meter sizes greater than 2" are determined based on anticipated usage with each new service.

Sewer capacity fees are not charged for irrigation meters. Water capacity fees are not charged for residential irrigation meters when installed in conjunction with a domestic meter.

4. TAP FEES

A. Water Tap Fees – amount charged for installing a new water tap.

METER SIZE	FEE
3/4"	\$400
1"	\$525
≥ 1 1/2"	COST
Fire Connection	COST

B. Sewer Tap Fees - amount charged for installing a new sewer tap.

SIZE OF LINE	FEE
4"	\$630
6"	\$825
>6"	COST

5. MISCELLANEOUS FEES

- A. Account Setup Fee** – a fee charged for establishing a new account or transferring an account. **\$25.00**
- B. Deposit Fee** – amount collected when service is established for a customer who does not own the property. The deposit, less the final bill amount, is returned to the customer when service is terminated. **\$50.00**
- C. Late Payment Fee** – applied when customer has not paid monthly bill by due date. **\$5.00 or 5% of current bill, whichever is higher**
- D. Disconnect Processing Fee** – applied when customer has two outstanding bills and has not paid the balance by the due date of the 2nd bill. Fee is applied on the day disconnect is scheduled whether disconnected or not. **\$50.00**
- E. Returned Check Fee** – fee charged when checks are returned, automatic drafts are rejected or credit/debit card transactions are reversed after payment has been credited to a customer’s account. **\$25.00**
- F. Meter Verification Fee** – fee charged if customer requests a meter test and the meter is found to be registering correctly. If the meter is registering incorrectly, this fee is not charged. **\$25.00**
- G. Meter Removal Fee** – fee charged for the removal of a meter whether at the request of the customer or initiated by UCPW for meter tampering. **\$25.00**
- H. Meter Reset Fee** – fee charged for resetting a meter. **\$25.00**
- I. Meter Tampering Fee** – fee charged for damage to a meter or for bypassing the meter. **\$50.00**
- J. Damaged Lock Fee** – fee charged when a meter has been locked and the lock has been cut. **\$10.00**
- K. Plan Review Fees** – fee charged for review and approval of engineering plans submitted for new development.
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|-----------------|--|
| Residential | \$100 plus \$20 per lot |
| Non-residential | \$100 plus \$10 per 1,000 sq ft of building(s) area |

SECTION II. Partial payments will be applied first to late charges or fees, then to sewer charges, and then to water charges.

SECTION III. This Ordinance shall supersede Section XIII of the Fiscal Year 2011-2012 Adopted Budget Ordinance. This Ordinance shall also supersede the portions of any other ordinance(s) that conflict with this Ordinance. Except as superseded, such other ordinance(s) shall continue in full force and effect.

SECTION IV. This Ordinance shall become effective as of the 15th day of March, 2012 (the "Effective Date"), and shall continue until amended or repealed. In the event this Ordinance is not amended or repealed for that period following March 14, 2015, the provisions of this Ordinance (including the charges, fees, rates, and deposits established for FY 2014) shall continue to apply until this Ordinance is amended or repealed.