

**ORDINANCE 527**

**AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ORDINANCE NO. 471 ADJUSTING THE CURRENT RATES TO BE CHARGED FOR THE USE OF THE MUNICIPAL WATER/SEWER SYSTEM FOR SERVICE INSIDE AND OUTSIDE THE CITY LIMITS OF MEXICO BEACH, ALLOWING FOR A SENIOR CITIZEN DISCOUNT AND VACANT LOT RATES, REPEALING ORDINANCES AND ORDINANCE OR PARTS OF ORDINANCES IN CONFLICT WITH THIS ORDINANCE AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.**

**WHEREAS**, the City Council of the City of Mexico Beach has determined that it is in the best interest of the City that this ordinance be enacted, therefore, be it ordained by the City Council of Mexico Beach, Florida that:

**SECTION 1. CHARGE FOR RATE FOR WATER SERVICE**

A. Any user of the services of the water utility system shall pay therefore a monthly charge or rate as indicated by the appropriate category of this section.

B. Residential Accounts:

<u>Rates</u>	<u>Monthly</u>	<u>Basis</u>
¾ " 4,000 gallons	\$25.45	excess 1.97 per 1,000 gallons
1" 6,000 gallons	\$38.48	excess 1.97 per 1,000 gallons
Hydrant usage		\$1.97 per 1,000 gallons

¾ " – 4,000 gallons (irrigation meter) \$25.45; excess \$1.97 per 1,000 gallons

No sewer fees will be charged on irrigation meters

A utility tax will be charged on all water usage in accordance with local law.

C. Duplex dwellings or multi-family (MDS) on the same building site serviced by one service connection, prior to the passage of this ordinance, shall pay the minimum charge of \$25.45 per additional unit in the dwelling. The base allowance will be the 4,000 gallons for each unit in the building. All excess usage will be charged at the rate of \$1.97 per 1,000 gallons.

D. Commercial Accounts:

<u>Rates</u>	<u>Monthly</u>	<u>Basis</u>
1" 6,000 Gallons	\$38.48	excess \$1.97 per 1,000 gallons
1 ½ " 9,000 Gallons	\$53.87	excess \$1.97 per 1,000 gallons
2" 12,000 Gallons	\$71.84	excess \$1.97 per 1,000 gallons
3" 18,000 Gallons	\$105.25	excess \$1.97 per 1,000 gallons
4" 24,000 Gallons	\$140.33	excess \$1.97 per 1,000 gallons

- E. Temporary construction meters, (3/4") can be purchased by the customer upon request for construction purposes. The monthly rate will be \$25.45 for 0-4,000 gallons/excess \$1.97 per 1,000 gallons, not to exceed three (3) months unless approved by the City Administrator.

**SECTION 2. CHARGE FOR RATE FOR SEWER SERVICE**

- A. Any user of the services of the sewer utility system shall pay therefore a monthly charge or rate as indicated by the appropriate category of this section.
- B. Residential Accounts:
  - Base Monthly Charge: \$35.04 (4,000 gallons base usage)
  - Volumetric Charge: \$2.35 excess per 1,000 gallons
- C. Commercial Accounts:
  - Base Monthly Charge: \$35.04 (4,000 gallons base usage)
  - Volumetric Charge: \$2.35 excess per 1,000 gallons

All commercial accounts will be charged a separate basic commercial charge, at the appropriate commercial rate, plus volumetric excess charges set forth herein, for each business activity conducted on its premises. (E.g. restaurant with 60 seats and a gift shop will be charged a base rate of \$70.08 – restaurant portion- and \$35.04 – gift shop portion – for a total of \$105.12 plus any volumetric charges that may apply.)

Special Category Section

(1) Restaurants/Bars/Eateries

<u>Seating</u>	<u>Monthly Base Rate</u>	<u>Base Usage</u>
0 to 25	\$35.04	4,000 gal.
26 to 50	\$52.56	6,000 gal.
51 to 75	\$70.08	8,000 gal.
76 to 100	\$87.60	10,000 gal.
101 to 125	\$105.12	16,000 gal.
126 to 150	\$122.64	22,000 gal.
151 to 175	\$140.16	24,000 gal.
176 to 200	\$157.68	26,000 gal.
201 to 250	\$192.72	30,000 gal.
251 to 300	\$227.76	34,000 gal.
Above 300	Add \$35.04 per 50 seats/Add 4,000 gal. per 50 seats	

All restaurants/bars/eateries shall be charged \$2.35 per 1,000 gallons processed in excess of the establishment's base usage amount.

(2) Convenience Stores/Gasoline Stations

Basic Monthly Charge	\$105.12 (12,000 gallons base usage)
Volumetric Charge	\$2.35 excess per 1,000 gallons

(3) Large Retail (12,000 square feet and above)

Volumetric Charge	\$140.16 (16,000 gallons base usage)
	\$2.35 excess per 1,000 gallons

(4) Private Recreational Facility

Up to .50 acre ground coverage	\$52.56 (6,000 gallons base usage)
.51 to 10 acres ground coverage	\$70.08 (8,000 gallons base usage)
10.01 acres and above	\$105.12 (12,000 gallons base usage)

(5) Hotel/Motel Rooms and Recreational Vehicles (RV) Sites

\$9.85 per each hotel/motel room and \$9.85 per each RV site(Base usage = Monthly base rate/\$35.04 x 4,000)
( E.g.10 rooms/RV sites: 10 x \$9.85= \$98.50/\$35.04=2.8125 x 4,000= 11,250 gal as the base rate.)

- D. Duplex dwellings or multi-family (MDS) on the same building site serviced by one service connection; prior to the passage of this ordinance shall pay the minimum of \$35.04 for the first unit and \$35.04 per additional unit in the dwelling. All usage over the first 4,000 gallons will have a volumetric charge of \$2.35 per thousand.

**SECTION 3. SECONDARY WATER METERS FOR NON-SEWER CONNECTED ACTIVITIES**

- A. A monthly minimum fee for the secondary meter is hereby established at \$25.45 per month. The secondary meter billing will reflect the monthly minimum fee (\$25.45), water consumption billing and all applicable taxes.

#### **SECTION 4. USE OF THE MUNICIPAL WATER/SEWER SYSTEM OUTSIDE THE CITY LIMITS**

- A. Where water and sewer are afforded a customer outside the city limits, the customer shall pay monthly fees in accordance with the prevailing rate schedule plus a surcharge of 25 percent thereof.

**State law references:** Limitation on rates charged consumers outside city limits, F.S. § 180.191.

#### **SECTION 5. SENIOR CITIZEN DISCOUNT FOR MONTHLY WATER/SEWER CUSTOMERS**

- A) Any person that is a customer of the City of Mexico Beach water/sewer system that qualifies for and receives homestead exemption pursuant to section 6(a), Article VII of the Florida Constitution and who meets the following criteria will receive this discount:
1. Must be a full time year round resident of the City of Mexico Beach or our service area
  2. Be at least 65 years of age as of October 1, of the year to file
  3. Have a total household adjusted gross income that does not exceed the limit announced by the State of Florida each January. (Note: the 2005 limit is \$23,463)

(Household Adjusted Gross Income: The sum of income for all members of the household. For the purposes of applying for this exemption, it is the adjusted gross income figure that is calculated and reported on the Federal Income Tax return of all household members.)

- B) Customers qualifying for this discount shall be charged the following:

- (a) Water - \$25.45 up to 6,000 gallons
- (b) Sewer - \$35.04 up to 6,000 gallons
- (c) All applicable taxes will be included

#### **SECTION 6. VACANT LOTS**

- A) Customers with vacant lots will be charged the following rates:
- (a) Water - \$23.24
  - (b) Excess consumption charges shall be at the prevailing per thousand gallon rate (in excess of 4,000 gallons)
  - (c) All applicable taxes will be included

This Section was effective April 1, 1997 when the City of Mexico Beach implemented this policy and discussed this waiver during a public meeting on January 23, 1997 and only applies to those customers paying base rates since April 1, 1997 on vacant

land. Customers that have vacant lots and pay the base rates without interruption will be exempt from paying Water and Sewer impact fees at the time of construction. Upon the sale of the property, this waiver will pass to the new property owner(s) providing there is no interruption in payment of fees.

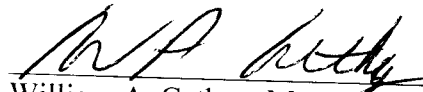
**SECTION 7. FUTURE AMENDMENTS**

All subsequent amendments to this ordinance may be made by resolution.


**SECTION 8. EFFECTIVE DATE.**

This ordinance shall become effective as provided by law.

CITY OF MEXICO BEACH, FLORIDA

  
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William A. Cathey, Mayor

ATTEST:

  
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City Clerk

Passed and adopted at City of Mexico Beach Special Meeting, October 19, 2006.