An Ordinance amending Ordinance 174-A relative to

Sewer and Water Rates.

WHEREAS on February 21**,** 2017, the Town of Pearl River Board of Aldermen established rates for usage of sewer and water; and

WHEREAS the Town of Pearl River Board of Aldermen desire to implement a metered water usage system and set the water rates according to a metered usage; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Aldermen desire to repeal all previous water and sewer rates and amend water and sewer rates as follows:

1. Residential rates for Town shall be:
   * One dollar ($1.00) per month per connection water fee for the State of Louisiana Office of Public Health Safe Drinking Water Fee enacted by ACT 605; and
   * Twelve dollars ($12.00) per connection initial fee for the first two-thousand (2,000) gallons of water used as measured by the metering system; and
   * Three dollars ($3.00) additional fee for water used in **EACH** one-thousand gallon tier above two-thousand gallons as measured by the metering system; a one-thousand-gallon tier ranges from gallon one through and including gallon one-thousand as measured by the metering system. Furthermore, the metering system utilizes a quarter (1/4) measuring system so that the one-thousand gallon tier can be measured in quarters (0-250, 251-500, 501-750,751-1000 gallons) of the one-thousand gallons used. The user would be charged a prorated fee aligned with the quarter of usage they fall within.
     + Example- water usage measured from 2,251 to 2,500 gallons would be assessed a $1.00, a $12.00 and a $1.50 (3.00 \* .5) fee = $14.50 water assessment; and
   * Multiple non-rental residential living dwellings serviced by a single meter shall be assessed the initial fee for each residential living dwelling located on the property.
     + non-rental residential living dwellings would exist for example when a family has a grand-mother suite in the back yard, or a single family has multiple trailers sharing the same piece of property but no rent is charged.
     + However, when rent is charged and the residential living dwellings share a single metered connection, the “rental” residential living dwelling shall be classified as commercial for the purposes of this ordinance and shall follow the commercial fee rates for usage.
     + Example - a double, or 2 non-rental trailers on same lot with a single meter measuring usage for both non-rental living dwellings at 7,983 gallons of water usage would be assessed a $1.00 \* 2 water fee, a 12.00 \* 2 initial fee for the first four-thousand gallons, and a $3.00 additional fee for each one-thousand gallon tier used. 7,983 gallons = $38.00 ($2.00 + $24.00 + $12.00) water assessment.
   * Any residential property not within the limits of the Town of Pearl River who is connected to the Town of Pearl River water system shall pay an additional water service fee of two dollars and fifty cents ($2.50) per month for water usage; and shall be responsible for all costs associated with connections to, and metering of the water used from the Town of Pearl River.
2. Commercial rates shall be:
   * Commercial rates shall be applied to a property with a single metered connection that services multiple rental residential living dwellings. If each rental residential living dwelling has its own metered connection, the rental residential living dwelling shall be assessed under the previously described residential rates.
   * One dollar ($1.00) per month per connection water fee for the State of Louisiana Office of Public Health Safe Drinking Water Fee enacted by ACT 605; and
   * Fifty dollars ($50.00) per connection initial fee for the first five-thousand (5,000) gallons of water used as measured by the metering system; and
   * Three dollar ($3.00) additional fee for water used in **EACH** one-thousand gallon tier above five-thousand gallons as measured by the metering system; a one-thousand-gallon tier ranges from gallon one through and including gallon one-thousand as measured by the metering system. Furthermore, the metering system utilizes a quarter (1/4) measuring system so that the one-thousand gallon tier can be measured in quarters (0-250, 251-500, 501-750,751-1000 gallons) of the one-thousand gallons used. The user would be charged a prorated fee aligned with the quarter of usage they fall within.
     + Example- water usage measured from 5,751 to 6,000 gallons would be assessed a $1.00, a $50.00 and a $3.00 fee; and
   * Any commercial establishment not within the limits of the Town of Pearl River who is connected to the Town of Pearl River water system shall pay an additional water service fee of five dollars ($5.00) per month for water usage; and shall be responsible for all costs associated with connections to, and metering of the water used from the Town of Pearl River.
3. Water purchased from hydrant shall be twenty-two cents ($.25) per gallon. Furthermore, there shall be no charge for water used from a fire hydrant by the fire department when the use is associated with the response to an emergency situation.
4. Application & Processing Fee for Sewer & Water connection shall be fifty dollars ($50.00) for newly constructed structure and forty dollars ($40.00) for an existing structure.
5. Tap Fee for Residential or Commercial connection to Water System shall be at three-hundred dollars ($300.00).
6. Residential Water Meter for new construction or existing construction, shall be at three-hundred dollars ($300.00). If 1” upgrade is requested, add one-hundred dollars ($100.00).
7. Commercial Water meter for new construction or existing construction, shall be at four-hundred dollars ($400.00). If 1” upgrade is requested, add one-hundred dollars ($100.00).
8. Fire hydrants for new development plus labor to install hydrant shall be at

Two-thousand eight-hundred dollars ($2,800.00).

1. A Meter Tampering Fee shall be assessed when there is damage to a meter which is determined by the Town of Pearl River to be caused by tampering with the metering unit. The Meter Tampering Fee shall be dependent upon the Town of Pearl River’s total cost of repair or replacement of the metering unit plus an additional punitive fee to be determined by the Mayor for the Town of Pearl River. The additional punitive fee shall not exceed a one-hundred and fifty dollar ($150.00) amount.
2. Tap Fee for Residential or Commercial connection to the Town of Pearl River Sewer System shall be at five-hundred dollars ($500.00).
3. Residential Sewer System usage fee shall be twenty-four dollars and twenty-five cents ($24.25) per month.
4. Any residential property not within the limits of the Town of Pearl River who is connected to the Town of Pearl River Sewer System shall pay an additional sewer service fee of two dollars and fifty cents ($2.50) per month for sewer usage; and shall be responsible for all costs associated with connections to and usage of the sewer system for the Town of Pearl River.
5. Commercial Sewer System usage fee shall be thirty-four dollars and twenty-five cents ($34.25) per month.
6. Any commercial establishment not within the limits of the Town of Pearl River who is connected to the Town of Pearl River Sewer System shall pay an additional sewer service fee of five dollars ($5.00) per month for sewer usage; and shall be responsible for all costs associated with connections to and usage of the sewer system for the Town of Pearl River.
7. Delinquent flat rate charge for water and sewer bills shall be at three dollars ($3.00) per delinquent month.
8. Payment for all fees and charges assessed / imposed for water and sewer usage under this ordinance shall be owed by the owner and / or the renter of the property involved and shall constitute a lien on the immovable property involved, and this lien shall be enforceable by the town by action in any court of competent jurisdiction whether the property is residential or commercial in nature.
9. At the time of application for a new residential connection for service, the land owner in conjunction with any renters if applicable shall apply for a new connection, execute a utility service agreement, and pay a one-hundred dollars ($100.00) meter deposit per connection for water and sewer services. At the time of application for a new commercial connection for service, the land owner in conjunction with any renters if applicable shall apply for a new connection, execute a utility service agreement, and pay a two-hundred dollars ($200.00) meter deposit per connection for water and sewer services. Upon termination of services, deposit monies are to be used to reduce/eliminate any unpaid balance and any remaining amount, if any, is to be refunded to the customer.
10. Upon the passage of at least sixty-two (62) days from the payment due date for Water & Sewer services, a customer will be disconnected from the Town’s Water & Sewer systems for non-payment.
    * The Town of Pearl River Water & Sewer Department generates a report of all delinquent payments of sixty (60) days.
    * A Forty-Eight (48) Hour Notice of Instant Shut-Off door hanger is completed and given to the Department foreman to be placed on the door of the delinquent address.
    * The delinquent customer must contact the Town of Pearl River Water & Sewer Department to make the full payment or payment arrangements.
    * If no attempt to contact the Town of Pearl River Water & Sewer Department is made by the customer within the Forty-Eight (48) Hour Notice, the Water & Sewer Department Clerk generates a Shut-Off List and presents it to the Mayor for approval.
    * Upon approval of the Shut-Off List by the Mayor, the Water & Sewer Department disconnects the customers from the Town of Pearl Rivers system.
    * Upon disconnection, the customer will receive a final bill of the amount due and fees associated with re-connection. A copy may be sent to the land owner.
11. Re-connect fee, if disconnected for non-payment, shall be thirty dollars ($30.00) when the re-connection takes place on a non-holiday, Monday through Friday between the hours of 8:00am and 5:00pm. If a re-connection takes place on a holiday, a weekend day, or outside of the previously list hours, the re-connect fee, if disconnected for non-payment, shall be sixty dollars ($60.00). Prior to the customer being eligible for re-connection to the Town of Pearl River’s Water & Sewer system, the customer must pay in full all delinquent bills or have entered into payment arrangements with the Town of Pearl River for full payment of all delinquent bills.

THEREFORE, on the 6th day of August, 2018, SEWER AND WATER USE ORDINANCE #174-A was amended at a council town meeting and shall become effective December 1, 2018.

Motion was made by Alderman McGregor and seconded by Alderman Bennett.

**VOTING:**

**YEAS: ( 3 )** Alderman Walsh, Alderman Bennett, Alderman McGregor

**NAYS: ( 2 )** Alderman Phillips, Alderman Cutrer

**ABSENT: ( 0 )**

**ABSTAINING: ( 0 )**

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Madeline B Campbell, Town Clerk Clarence David McQueen, Mayor