

CITY OF WEST LINN

ORDINANCE NO. 1390

AN ORDINANCE TO BE APPROVED BY THE VOTERS OF THE CITY OF WEST LINN SETTING WATER RATES AND AMENDING THE WEST LINN CODE REGARDING WATER REGULATIONS

WHEREAS, the West Linn Water Rate Review Task Force, composed of 19 citizens selected by neighborhood associations and local organizations, was asked by the City Council to carry out a thorough review of the West Linn water system and to recommend to the council "a financial plan which addresses the needs of the city's water system"; and

WHEREAS, the West Linn Water Rate Review Task Force examined the West Linn water system, including service levels, policies, rates and financing in detail over a period of 18 weeks; and

WHEREAS, after examining all costs associated with operating and maintaining the city's water system, the West Linn Water Rate Review Task Force concluded that a revenue increase was necessary; and

WHEREAS, the task force developed a water rate structure with the following elements: (1) A customer charge - this charge recovers costs associated with serving customers levied against each meter regardless of size, water used or units served by the meter; (2) A capacity charge - this charge recovers costs associated with meter repair, maintenance, replacement, inspection, service and other water capacity improvements related to water meters; and (3) A commodity charge - a per unit charge based on the amount of water used to recover costs such as wholesale purchase of water, repairing, replacing and maintaining water mains and fire hydrants, and the pumping, storing, transmitting and distributing of water, and

WHEREAS, the City Council concurs with the conclusion of the West Linn Water Rate Review Task Force; and

WHEREAS, Section 44 of the West Linn Charter provides that "water rates may only be increased in each instance by an ordinance approved by the voters"; now, therefore;

THE CITY OF WEST LINN ORDAINS AS FOLLOWS:

SECTION 1: Section 4.155 of the West Linn Code is amended to read as follows:

(1) **Monthly Rates.** The monthly rates for users of water from the West Linn water system shall be structured as follows and shall include the following elements:

(a) A customer charge of \$1.19 per month, which shall be a uniform charge for all customers.

(b) A graduated capacity charge based on meter size per month as follows:

<u>METER SIZE</u>	<u>MONTHLY CAPACITY CHARGE</u>
.75 (5/8" X 3/4")	\$2.60
3/4" X 3/4"	\$3.89
1.00"	\$6.49
1.50"	\$12.98
2.00"	\$20.77
3.00"	\$41.53
4.00"	\$64.90
6.00"	\$129.79
8.00"	\$207.57
10.00"	\$298.53

(c) A commodity charge of \$1.32 per 100 cu. ft..

2. **Reduced Water Service Charges for Low Income Citizens.** The monthly water service charges for water service to the principal residence of a low income person shall be as follows:

(a) The monthly customer charge shall be \$1.19.

(b) For a 5/8 X 3/4 inch meter or a 3/4 X 3/4 inch meter, the capacity charge shall be \$2.60 and shall include the first seven hundred cubic feet of water use.

(c) Water used in excess of seven hundred cubic feet shall be charged a commodity charge of \$1.32 per 100 cu. ft..

There shall be no reduced water service charge for water meters in excess of those described above. Each year, the City shall adopt by administrative policy the annual income amounts to be used to establish eligibility for the low income water service program. The annual income amounts shall be in effect for one year as of July 1 of each year. In order to be eligible for the low income water service charge, the applicant must be the person to whom, or the head of the household where, the water service charge is billed, and he/she must complete and file with the City an application for the reduced water service charges on a form supplied by the City. An approved application shall entitle the applicant to reduced billing for a period not to exceed one year. At least ten days prior to July 1 of each year, the person must submit a new application to continue the reduced billing rate in the subsequent year.

(3) Bulk Water Charges. A special bulk water charge shall be charged to bulk users, such as commercial cleaning services, commercial spraying businesses, contractors and other commercial bulk users of water recognized by the City. Bulk water users shall pay at the rate of three dollars per one thousand gallons. Each bulk user shall obtain a permit from the public works department, which permit shall be free of charge. The user may be required to pay a refundable cash deposit in an amount established by resolution of the city council before the permit is granted. To acquire the permit, the applicant's tankers shall be inspected by the city public work's department personnel for cross connection control devices and valve compliance. The permit shall specify exactly the location of the hydrant to which the connection is permitted and shall include a tally sheet to log consumption. The permit holder shall submit the tally sheet to the City at the first of each month showing usage for the past month for billing purposes. Failure of the bulk user to fulfill these conditions shall be justification for the City to cancel the permit and keep the refundable deposit.

(4) Water meter size requirements. All services shall have the proper size meters as designated and approved by the public works director on existing and future installations.

SECTION 2: This ordinance shall take effect with the first full period billing date following the approval of this ordinance by the voters of the City of West Linn, and the City's receipt of certification of said election results from Clackamas County.

REFERRED TO THE VOTERS FOR THEIR APPROVAL this 8th day of July, 1996.



Jill Thorn, Mayor

ATTEST:



Mary Walsh, City Recorder