

CITY OF GRANITE FALLS

ORDINANCE NO. 555

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING AND ESTABLISHING CHARGES FOR WATER SERVICE WITHIN AND ABOUT THE CITY OF GRANITE FALLS, AND REPEALING ALL OTHER ORDINANCES AND SECTIONS OF ORDINANCES IN CONFLICT THEREWITH.

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF GRANITE FALLS:

**SECTION 1.** Ordinance Nos. 65, 181, 239, 287, 342, 356, 382, 417, 418, 432 and 459 are hereby amended as the same refer to rates charged for water service.

**SECTION 2.** Classifications, rates, charges and rules for water service. The classification, rates and charges for water service and the rules governing such service are fixed as follows:

- a. Single Residence Unit: A single residence unit consists of any residential unit, whether a separate structure, or part of a duplex, triplex, apartment or motel, such residential unit having at least one room and cooking facilities (with sink and bathroom facilities for the exclusive use of the occupants of such unit). Each single Section 11. unit shall be charged one basic rate, as hereinafter defined.
- b. Trailer or Mobile Home Park Unit: Any tract of land which is so designed as to accommodate or which is being used for the purpose of providing space and utilities for three or more house trailers or mobile homes, shall be considered and classified hereunder as a trailer or mobile home park. Each trailer or mobile home in such park shall be deemed a trail or mobile home park unit. Each trailer or mobile home park unit shall be charged a basic rate and additional unit charge per home, as hereinafter defined.
- c. Schools: The number of units for each service connection shall be determined as follows: Divide the minimum cubic foot consumption (based on the size of service meter as defined in Section 4 (a) by the residential equivalent of 600 cubic feet. Each service connection shall be charged a basic rate, as hereinafter defined, or as negotiated with the City of Granite Falls.

- d. Churches and other Non-Profit Public Meeting Places:  
All churches and other non-profit public meeting places shall be considered one unit and charged one basic rate per month, as hereinafter defined.
  
- e. Commercial Units: A commercial unit consists of any public or private premise not heretofore defined and as hereinafter further defined. The number of units for each service connection shall be determined as follows: Divide the minimum cubic foot consumption (based on the size of service meter as defined in Section 4 (a), by the residential equivalent of 600 cubic feet. Each service connection shall be charged a basic rate, as hereinafter defined, or as negotiated with the City of Granite Falls.

Section 3 : Basic Rate Defined: The basic rate shall be a minimum monthly charge schedule and the monthly rate schedule based on consumption (if applicable) as set forth in Section 4 of this Ordinance.

Section 4: Basic Rates and Charges: Basic rates and charges shall be as follows:

- a. Metered Water Users: The following rates will apply to all metered water users:
  - \$26.00 per month for 3/4 inch service meter for first unit, minimum of 600 cubic feet; \$1.16 per 100 foot excess; plus \$15.00, with additional 400 cubic feet of consumption allowed for each additional unit.
  
  - \$32.50 per month for 3/4 inch service meter for out-of-town customers for the first unit; minimum of 600 cubic feet; \$1.16 per 100 foot excess; plus \$15.00, with an additional 400 cubic feet of consumption allowed for each additional unit.
  
  - \$43.00 per month for 1-inch service meter for the first unit, minimum of 1100 cubic feet; \$1.16 for 100 foot excess, plus \$15.00, with an additional 400 cubic feet of consumption allowed for each additional unit.

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| \$100.00 | per month for 1-1/2 inch service meter for the first unit, minimum of 3500 cubic feet; \$1.16 per 100 foot excess; plus \$15.00, with an additional 400 cubic feet of consumption allowed, for each additional unit.        |
| \$180.00 | per month for 2-inch service meter for the first unit, minimum of 6500 cubic feet; \$1.16 per 100 foot excess; plus \$15.00, with an additional 400 cubic feet of consumption allowed for each additional unit.             |
| \$274.00 | per month for 2-1/2 inch service meter for the first unit, minimum of 10,750 cubic feet; \$1.16 per 100 cubic foot excess; plus \$15.00, with an additional 400 cubic feet of consumption allowed for each additional unit. |
| \$392.00 | per month for 3 inch service meter for the first unit, minimum of 15,000 cubic feet; \$1.16 per 100 foot excess; plus \$15.00, with an additional 400 cubic feet of consumption allowed for each additional unit.           |
- b. Non-Metered Water Users: The following rates will apply to all non-metered water users:
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| \$30.00  | per month for 3/4 inch line or less service line for the first unit; plus \$25.00 for each additional unit. |
| \$52.00  | per month for 1 inch service line for the first unit; plus \$25.00 for each additional unit.                |
| \$151.00 | per month for 1-1/2 inch service line for the first unit; plus \$25.00 for each additional unit.            |
| \$255.00 | per month for 2-inch service line for the first unit; plus \$25.00 for each additional unit.                |
| \$581.00 | per month for 3-inch service line for the first unit; plus \$25.00 for each additional unit.                |

**Section 5: Billing of Charges:** All charges for water service shall be billed to the property owners rather than the tenant for collection, or to the property owner in care of the tenant but having the owner the responsible party for collection.

**Section 6: Delinquency charges:** If a water bill is unpaid for 90 days, it shall be considered delinquent and water service may be terminated. Payment in full and a charge of \$100.00 will be assessed to turn on water service which has been disconnected for failure to pay.

**Section 7: Late Charges:** There is established a late charge of \$4.00 per month to be assessed to utility accounts which are 90 days in arrears per Ordinance No. 417.

**Section 8: Vacant Unit Credit:** A vacant credit shall not be allowable. If the owner of said vacant unit wishes water service to be discontinued, it shall be his/her responsibility to contact the City of Granite Falls to have said water service discontinued. If, at a future date, the owner wishes to resume water service, said water shall be reconnected for a nominal fee of \$87.00.

**Section 9: Connection and Tap-In Charges:** In addition to the foregoing rates and charges, the City of Granite Falls shall charge, prior to the issuance of a building permit, tap fee charges that are established in a separate Capital Improvement Fund/Water. In addition, all labor and material costs incurred by the city installing water lines to the new service shall be paid by the property owner.

All tap fees shall be deposited into the Capital Improvement Fund/Water. All material and labor cost for running the new water service shall be deposited into the Water Fund.

The above charges are to make a service connection from the utility main to the customer's property line.

A unit which has previously been connected to the City Water System but has not been connected or paying water charges continuously during the five (5) years preceding application for connection, will be deemed to be a new water connection and shall pay the current tap fee charge.

An application for water connection, available in the office of the City Clerk, shall be completed and tap fees paid in full at the time of issuance

of a building permit. Application for out-of-town water service will be reviewed and approved by City Council.

The Water Superintendent of the City of Granite Falls shall determine the size of the service line needed for all new construction.

All water connections shall be approved by the Water Superintendent of the City of Granite Falls prior to covering. A fine of \$1080.00 will be assessed and water turned off for any unauthorized hook-ups to the Granite Falls Water System.

Section 10. Meters: Installation of meters shall be required as follows:

- a. All new construction or additions shall require a meter as adopted under Ordinance No. 342.
- b. All new businesses that will be occupying an existing building shall require installation of a meter if the water service is not metered. A commercial building that partitions floor space creating two or more separate businesses shall have the number of additional units created added to their water bill.
- c. The water Superintendent of the City of Granite Falls shall determine the size and the make of the meter that is needed. The cost of the meter shall be borne by the owner of the property.

Section 11. Reduced Water Rates for Low Income Senior Citizens: Owners of single family residences who have or would qualify for the senior citizen real estate property tax exemption under state law shall present proof thereof to the City of Granite Falls Treasurer and shall qualify and be entitled to a reduction in water rates as set forth in Section 4, in the amount of \$10.00 per month from the applicable rates.

Section 12: All ordinances or parts of ordinances in conflict herewith are hereby repealed.

SECTION 13: This Ordinance shall become effective on the 1st day of January, 1996.

Ordinance No. 555  
Page 6

Said Ordinance was passed in open session by the City Council of the City of Granite Falls on the 27 day of December, 1995.

Approved by the Mayor this 27 day of December, 1995.

Greta R. Morris  
MAYOR

Attest:

Gerry James  
City Clerk

Approved as to form:

Cheryl S. Buyer  
City Attorney

DATE OF FIRST READING:  
DATE OF SECOND READING:  
DATE OF PUBLICATION:  
EFFECTIVE DATE:

December 13, 1995  
December 27, 1995  
December 29, 1995  
January 1, 1996