

**AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 175 (SEWERS AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL)
TO UPDATE CONNECTION FEES**

WHEREAS, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:26A-11, the Township may charge connection fees such that the revenues of sewerage facilities shall be adequate to pay the expenses of operation and maintenance of the sewerage facilities, including improvements, extensions, enlargements and replacements to sewerage facilities, reserves, insurance, principal and interest on any bonds, and to maintain reserves or sinking funds therefor as may be required under the bond covenants or any contracts, or as may be deemed necessary or desirable, and;

WHEREAS, the Township of Bridgewater has commissioned a study which recommended a connection fee of \$4,539.00 per residential unit or 300 gallons per day of flow; and

WHEREAS, in consideration thereof, the Mayor and Council of the Township of Bridgewater desire to amend Chapter 175, titled Sewers and Sewage Disposal; and

BE IT THEREFORE ORDAINED, by the Township Council of the Township of Bridgewater in the County of Somerset and State of New Jersey that Chapter 175 of the Municipal Code of the Township of Bridgewater, County of Somerset, State of New Jersey are amended pursuant to the provisions hereof (additions are noted thusly and deletions are noted ~~thusly~~):

Section I

Chapter 175-1 is hereby amended as follows:

A. For every direct or indirect connection to the sanitary sewerage system of the Township or to any part thereof, the following capacity-rate trunk-connection charges are established at the following rates:

(1) Residential user: ~~\$550~~ \$4,539.00 for each single-family dwelling or unit.

(2) All other users: ~~\$1.833 per gallon per day of total daily average flow~~ \$4,539.00 for each 300 gallons per day as determined by the Township on the basis of certain factors, including but not limited to the factors contained in N.J.S.A. 40:14A-8, N.J.A.C. 7:14A-23.3, the data and information made available to the Township, and the results of its investigation and on studies of meter readings

B. The capacity-rate trunk-connection charge above specified shall be in addition to any annual sewer use charge, Code Enforcement sewer tie-in connection permit fee, Township street opening permit fee, direct trunk tap-in charge, all other such fees and any special inspection fees that may be required in unusual cases to absorb the cost of inspections over and above that required under any other ordinance and in addition to any municipal sewer assessment for sanitary collecting sewers that may be constructed as local improvements by the Township Council.

C. The capacity-rate trunk-connection charge above specified shall be paid to the Treasurer of the Township as follows:

(1) On application for a building permit for new construction, the entire charge shall be paid in one lump sum.

(2) On application to Code Enforcement Division for a sewer tie-in connection permit for a connection to an existing structure, at least 1/5 of the charge shall be paid at the time of such application, and the balance of the charge shall be payable in four equal annual installments, together with interest on the unpaid portions computed at the rate of 8% per annum with an option to pay such unpaid balance with interest to payment date at an accelerated date.

D. For all uses other than a single-family dwelling, the capacity-rate trunk-connection charge for each individual connection shall always be subject to an upward revision in accordance with rates herein prescribed and then prevailing, when any enlargement of the connected structure or when any addition to the connected structure occurs or when any increase in the use of the connected structure occurs which increases the service demand upon the trunk lines and upon the capacity of the sanitary sewerage facilities of the Township. No such revision shall be made except after reasonable notice has been given to the user and an opportunity has been given to the user to be heard on the matter.

E. The capacity-rate trunk-connection charge shall also be applicable to any connection made in any other municipality, where such connection would flow through the Middle Brook Trunk or North Branch Trunk.

Section II

Chapter 175-2(A) is hereby amended as follows:

A. For every direct connection to a trunk built or owned by the Township, the following direct trunk tap-in charges are established at the following rates:

(1) Residential user: ~~\$1,000~~ **\$4,539.00** for each single-family dwelling or unit.

(2) All other users: ~~\$1,000 for the first 300 gallons of estimated annual daily average flow, plus \$1,000~~ **\$4,539.00** for each ~~additional~~ 300 gallons of estimated annual daily average flow or major fraction thereof as determined by the Township on the basis of the factors specified in N.J.S.A. 40:14A-8, **N.J.A.C. 7:14A-23.3, and** the data and information made available to this Township, the results of Township investigation and on meter reading studies.

Section III

All ordinances or parts of Ordinances inconsistent with this Ordinance are hereby repealed to the extent of such inconsistency.

Section IV

If any section, paragraph, subdivision, clause or provision of this Ordinance shall be adjudged invalid, such adjudication shall apply only to this section, paragraph, subdivision, clause or provision and the remainder of this Ordinance shall be deemed valid and effective.

Section V

This ordinance shall take effect upon adoption and publication in the manner required by New Jersey general law but, in no event, less than 60 days after its final passage by the Township Council and approval by the Mayor, where such approval is required pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40:69A-181(b).

Adopted: May 2, 2022

Effective: July 1, 2022