

**AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 175 (SEWERS AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL)
IMPLEMENTING REVISED SEWER FEES AND PAYMENT SCHEDULE**

WHEREAS, the Township of Bridgewater has not revised sewer rates since 2008; and

WHEREAS, the Township desires to revise sewer rates in accordance with the financial requirements of the Township’s Sewer Utility; 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 175-3 is hereby amended as follows:

A. Every user connected, directly or indirectly, to the sanitary sewerage system of the Township or to any part thereof shall pay, as hereinafter specified, to the Treasurer of the Township an annual sewer use charge hereby established, at the rates and in the manner hereinbelow specified, effective January 1, ~~2008~~ **2022**.

B. The rate and charge per unit user and the rate charge per metered volume user effective January 1, ~~2008~~ **2022**, shall be as follows:

(1) Unit charges for unmetered church, nonprofit civil associations and residential users:

(a) ~~Three hundred ninety nine dollars~~ **Four Hundred and Seventy-Two (\$472) dollars** per year for each unit or major fraction of a unit over one unit where the user is either serviced directly by the Township with treatment at Somerset-Raritan Valley Sewerage Authority or the Plainfield Area Regional Sewerage Authority, which said sum shall include the costs of treatment, operation and maintenance.

(2) Unit charges for unmetered commercial, institutional, industrial and nonresidential users: ~~\$399~~ **\$472** per year for each unit or major fraction of a unit over one unit, regardless of where the user is serviced, based upon 3,000 square feet of gross building area calculated per the Township of Bridgewater Municipal Land Use Code per basic unit (some uses have two minimum billing units per business).

Section II

Chapter 175-7 is hereby amended as follows:

A. **Effective January 1, 2023**, ~~the~~ annual sewer use charges hereby established shall be payable **as follows: one-half of the annual sewer use charge on the first business day of March, and one-half of the annual sewer use charge on the first business day in September**, ~~on the first business day of June~~, as provided on the bill form to be prepared by the Chief Financial Officer of the Township. **Any user shall have the option to pay their sewer use charge in one lump sum.** Any use charge remaining unpaid after the time when the same shall have been due and payable shall be subject to an interest charge in the same manner as past-due real property taxes in the Township.

- B. Effective January 1, 2022 through December 31, 2022, the annual sewer use charges hereby established shall be payable as follows: one-half of the annual sewer use charge on the first business day of September, and one half of the annual sewer use charge on the first business day of December, as provided on the bill form to be prepared by the Chief Financial Officer of the Township. Any user shall have the option to pay their sewer use charge in one lump sum Any use charge remaining unpaid after the time when the same shall have been due and payable shall be subject to an interest charge in the same manner as past-due real property taxes in the Township.

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 IV

This ordinance shall take effect upon adoption and publication in the manner required by New Jersey general law but, in no event, less than 20 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: June 23, 2022

Effective: July 14, 2022