

ORDINANCE NO. 02.23

**ORDINANCE AMENDING PORTIONS OF CHAPTER 61, "SEWERS"
AND CHAPTER 78, "WATER" OF THE BOROUGH CODE REGARDING
WATER AND SEWER RATES AND BILLING**

WHEREAS, Chapter 61 of the Code of the Borough of Paulsboro [Borough] regulates the installation, connection, maintenance, regulation, service and rate of the sewer system within the Borough; and

WHEREAS, Chapter 78 of the Code of the Borough of Paulsboro regulates the installation, maintenance, regulation, service and rate of the water system within the Borough; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor and the Council of the Borough have determined it is necessary, from time to time, to amend the Borough code for the purpose of regulating and maintaining the water and sewer system for the benefit of the general health, safety and welfare of the residents of the Borough; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Council of the Borough have determined, upon review of rate changes promulgated by the GCUA and recommendations of the Borough Engineer and the Head of the Borough's Water and Sewer Department, that the pertinent section(s) of the Borough Code regulating the rates of the water and sewer systems are in need of amendment.

WHEREAS, with the installation of water meters throughout the Borough, it has become necessary to set minimum usage rates and fees, overage fees, and other appropriate adjustments for the new water meter reading and processes; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED, by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Paulsboro, County of Gloucester, State of New Jersey, that Chapter 61 and Chapter 78 of the Borough code are hereby amended to replace, in their entirety, the listed sections as follows:

SEWERS

§61-16 Rates.

(A) Rates. The rates for the sewer services shall be as follows: The minimum rate shall be \$372 per year. The minimum rate is based upon the first 60,000 gallons of water used by the consumer per basic service unit, as defined herein, in those cases where the unit is described by a fraction, the users will be entitled to the appropriate fractional amount of 60,000 gallons. All amounts of water used over

the gallonage allowed in the minimum rates will be charged at a rate of \$4.50 per 1,000 gallons or part thereof.

(B) Definitions. As used in this section, the following terms have the meanings indicated:

BASIC SERVICE UNIT

For sewer rental purposes, a room, a group of rooms, house trailer or similar structure, or facility occupied or designed for occupancy as separate living quarters by a family or other group of persons living together or by a person living alone, where such structures and facilities are in addition to the initial sewer connection. The basic service unit will be allotted 15,000 gallons per quarter at a flat rate.

BILLING: Billing for sewer charges will be made on a quarterly basis. Billing shall be calculated on a "per unit" basis.

FLAT RATE CHARGE – Each unit shall be allotted 15,000 per quarter and shall be charged a flat rate of \$93.00 per the 15,000 per unit per quarter (\$324 per year; 60,000-gallon allotment)

BASIC SERVICE UNIT [BSU]: For water rental purposes, a room, group of rooms, house trailer or similar structure or facility occupied or designed for occupancy as separate living quarters by a family or other group of persons living together or by a person living alone is classified as a "basic service unit," where such structures and facilities are in addition to the initial water connection. One basic service unit will be allotted 15,000 gallon per quarter (60,000 gallons per year) and will be charged in accordance with §61-16 (A).

WATER

§78 – 3.1 Reduction of rates for senior citizens and disabled residents.

A. Pursuant to the provisions of N.J.S.A. 54:4-8.41, any person residing in the Borough of Paulsboro who is aged 65 and over or who is less than 65 years of age and who is permanently and totally disabled, said persons having an annual income not in excess of the limitations provided in N.J.S.A. 54:4-8.41, shall be entitled to a reduction of water rates in an amount equal to that which would be charged for the first quarter of each calendar year at the set

allowance of 15,000 gallons. Any water used in excess of the 15,000 gallons will be billed according to the overages set forth in §78-21.

§78 – 3.1 Payment of Bills (amended)

All of the above charges shall be billed and payable quarterly. All bills for water service shall be payable at the office of the Borough Collector. The water billing shall be based on water meter reading at the end of each quarter. If such bills are not paid on or before March 15 for the first quarter, June 15 for the second quarter, September 15 for the third quarter and December 15 for the fourth quarter, water service shall be shut off and not turned on except upon the payment of arrears, with interest of 18% per year, accrued on a daily basis (18/365) on the unpaid balance until such balance is paid in full, and a fee of \$50 for turning on the water. All unpaid property bills shall be rendered to the property owner. All unpaid water bills and other water charges shall become liens on the property benefiting from water services as provided by the New Jersey Revised Statutes.

§78-21 Water rates; turn-on and turn-off procedures.

A. (amended) The rates for the water service shall be as follows:

- (1) The minimum rate shall be \$324 per year per unit (\$81 per quarter), which minimum shall entitle the user to 60,000 gallons (15,000 gallons per quarter), per basic service unit, as defined herein, and amplified by the schedule contained herein, in those cases where the units are described by a fraction, the user will be entitled to the appropriate fractional amount of 60,000 gallons.
- (2) All amounts over the gallonage allowed in the minimum rates will be charged at \$6.00 per 1,000 gallons up to 30,000 gallons and \$8.50 per gallons in excess of 30,000 gallons per unit per quarter.

B. Definitions. As used in this section, the following terms have the meanings indicated

FLAT RATE CHARGE – Each unit shall be allotted 15,000 per quarter and shall be charged a flat rate of \$81.00 per the 15,000 per unit per quarter (\$324 per year; 60,000-gallon allotment)

All other Chapters, Sections and Sub-sections of the Borough Code shall remain valid and in effect, and are not amended by this Ordinance.

This Ordinance shall take effect immediately upon final passage, approval, and publication, as provided by law.

BOROUGH OF PAULSBORO

Gary C. Stevenson, Mayor

Kathy A. VanScoy, RMC/CMC/CMR
Borough Clerk

I hereby certify that the foregoing Ordinance was introduced and passed on first reading at a meeting of Mayor and Council of the Borough of Paulsboro, Gloucester County, New Jersey held on February 13, 2023 and will be considered for final passage after a public hearing to be held on February 28, 2023.

Kathy A. VanScoy, RMC/CMC/CMR
Borough Clerk