

RESOLUTION NO. 10498

**A RESOLUTION ESTABLISHING RESIDENTIAL AND COMMERCIAL
WATER, SEWER, AND STORM DRAIN UTILITY SERVICE RATES
EFFECTIVE JUNE 1, 2023**

WHEREAS, an annual review is performed of the water and wastewater cost of service for the municipal water and wastewater utilities, and rate and fee schedules prepared to generate sufficient revenue to pay all costs for the operation and maintenance, administration, and routine functions of the existing and such future facilities as may be established within the service area;

WHEREAS, the cost of service review indicates a need for extension, repair, improvement, and continued operation and maintenance of existing and proposed water and wastewater system facilities for the providing of water and wastewater services to the inhabitants of the City of Great Falls; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to Title 13 of the Official Code of the City of Great Falls, the City of Great Falls is authorized to regulate the City's municipal water and wastewater utility and to establish all rates, fees and charges for use of the utility systems or for permits, licenses, connections or inspections; and

WHEREAS, it is essential to the public health, welfare and safety of the inhabitants of the City of Great Falls to provide an adequate public water and wastewater system and to provide adequate funding to meet the cost of constructing, maintaining, and operating the same; and

WHEREAS, notice having been provided as required by law, the City Commission of the City of Great Falls conducted a public hearing on Tuesday, May 16, 2023, at the Civic Center, 2 Park Drive South, Commission Chambers Room 206, Great Falls, Montana, at 7:00 p.m., and did consider the cost of operation, equipment, facilities, debt service, and capital improvements for the Water, Sewer, and Storm Drain Utility systems.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF GREAT FALLS, MONTANA, that:

Water, Sewer, and Storm Drain Utility Service Rates are hereby established as set forth in Appendix A, attached hereto and made a part hereof.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the City Commission of the City of Great Falls, Montana, this 16th day of May, 2023.

Bob Kelly, Mayor

ATTEST:

Lisa Kunz, City Clerk

(SEAL OF CITY)

APPROVED FOR LEGAL CONTENT:

David Dennis, City Attorney

CITY OF GREAT FALLS, MONTANA

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Current Rates vs. Proposed Rates

Combined Water & Sewer	Quantity Charges CCF / Mo.			Monthly Service Charges											
				Not Meter Based	Meter Based - Service Line Size (inches)										
	1st 300 cf	Over 300 cf	Over 600 cf		(3/4")	1	1.25	1.50	2	3	4	6	see 6" if "na"		
RESIDENTIAL WATER															
2019 Regular Residential	1.76	1.76	2.95	7.79	9.23	14.61	14.61	20.03	63.04	86.44	148.30	216.74	306.47	452.25	na
2023 Regular Residential	1.94	1.94	3.25	8.57	10.15	16.07	16.07	22.03	69.34	95.08	163.13	238.41	337.12	497.48	na
2019 Low Income Residential	1.59	1.59	2.66	7.01	8.30	13.14	13.14	18.01	56.72	77.82	133.48	195.06	275.84	407.03	na
2023 Low Income Residential	1.75	1.75	2.93	7.71	9.13	14.45	14.45	19.81	62.39	85.60	146.83	214.57	303.42	447.73	na
(90 % of Regular Residential)															
Fire Hydrant															
2019 Monthly				2.70	3.73	8.56	8.56	13.29	37.51	56.02	116.52				
2023 Monthly				2.97	4.10	9.42	9.42	14.62	41.26	61.62	128.17				
2019 Annual				32.40	44.76	102.70	102.70	159.48	450.08	672.27	1,390.20				
2023 Annual				35.64	49.24	112.97	112.97	175.43	495.09	739.50	1,529.22				
SEWER															
2019 Regular Residential	2.48	2.48	2.48	9.02											
2023 Regular Residential	2.73	2.73	2.73	9.92											
2019 Low Income Residential	2.23	2.23	2.23	8.10											
2023 Low Income Residential	2.45	2.45	2.45	8.91											
(90 % of Regular Residential)															
COMMERCIAL WATER															
2019 Regular Commercial	2.01	2.01	2.01	7.79	9.23	14.61	14.61	20.03	63.04	86.44	148.30	216.74	306.47	452.25	na
2023 Regular Commercial	2.21	2.21	2.21	8.57	10.15	16.07	16.07	22.03	69.34	95.08	163.13	238.41	337.12	497.48	na
2019 Black Eagle	2.04	2.04	2.04	2 - 8" meters @ 216.74											
2023 Black Eagle	2.24	2.24	2.24	2 - 8" meters @ 238.41											
2019 Malmstrom AFB	2.32	2.32	2.32	1 - 8" plus 1 - 10" meter 216.74 plus 306.47											
2023 Malmstrom AFB	2.55	2.55	2.55	1 - 8" plus 1 - 10" meter 238.41 plus 337.12											
2019 Raw Water	0.35	0.35	0.35												
2023 Raw Water	0.39	0.39	0.39												
Fire Hydrant															
2019 Monthly				2.70	3.73	8.56	8.56	13.29	37.51	56.02	116.52				
2023 Monthly				2.97	4.10	9.42	9.42	14.62	41.26	61.62	128.17				
2019 Annual				32.40	44.76	102.70	102.70	159.48	450.08	672.27	1,390.20				
2023 Annual				35.64	49.24	112.97	112.97	175.43	495.09	739.50	1,529.22				
Fire Lines															
2019 Monthly	na	na	na	na	1.80	4.38	7.61	22.12	47.10	na	136.68	na			
2023 Monthly	na	na	na	na	1.98	4.82	8.37	24.33	51.81	na	150.35	320.39			
2019 Annual	na	na	na	na	21.60	52.53	91.32	265.44	565.20	na	1,640.16	na			
2023 Annual	na	na	na	na	23.76	57.78	100.45	291.98	621.72	na	1,804.18	3,844.68			
SEWER															
2019 Regular Commercial	2.80	2.80	2.80	9.02											
2023 Regular Commercial	3.08	3.08	3.08	9.92											
2019 Black Eagle	2.91	2.91	2.91	9.02											
2023 Black Eagle	3.20	3.20	3.20	9.92											
2019 Malmstrom AFB	2.49	2.49	2.49	9.02											
2023 Malmstrom AFB	2.74	2.74	2.74	9.92											
2019 MaltEurop	1.95	1.95	1.95	8.19											
2023 MaltEurop	2.15	2.15	2.15	9.01											

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**Current Fees vs. Proposed Fees
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PRE-TREATMENT SEWER CHARGES

2019 Regular Charges
2023 Regular Charges

2019 BOD > 0 mg/L
2023 BOD > 0 mg/L

2019 TSS > 0 mg/L
2023 TSS > 0 mg/L

Quantity Charges CCF / Mo.		Not Meter Based
1.42	1.42	9.02
1.56	1.56	9.92
per pound		0.339
per pound		0.373
per pound		0.500
per pound		0.550

SEWER EXTRA STRENGTH CHARGES

BOD > 200 mg/L

2019 Regular Commercial
2023 Regular Commercial
inc Malmstrom AFB & Black Eagle

2019 MaltEurop
2023 MaltEurop

per pound	0.339
per pound	0.373
per pound	0.339
per pound	0.373

TSS > 250 mg/L

2019 Regular Commercial
2023 Regular Commercial
inc Malmstrom AFB & Black Eagle

2019 MaltEurop
2023 MaltEurop

per pound	0.500
per pound	0.550
per pound	0.500
per pound	0.550

Water Service Line Size (inches)

CONNECTION FEES WATER	(3/4")	1.00	1.50	2.00	4.00	6.00	8.00	12.00
	2019	\$545	\$605	\$735	\$796	\$1,536	\$2,380	\$3,979
2023	\$599	\$665	\$809	\$875	\$1,690	\$2,618	\$4,377	\$8,775

Fee shall be ADDED TO: General Plumbing Permit for extension to new buildings; or, Inspection Permits for larger diameter pipe.

SEWER

Single Family Residential

2019 \$ 275 same as sewer increase 2%
2023 \$ 303 same as sewer increase 10%

Commercial & Multi Family Units

2019	\$ 275	\$ 514	\$ 1,009	\$ 2,116	\$ 7,269	\$ 10,504	\$ 16,114	\$ 31,001
2023	\$ 303	\$ 565	\$ 1,110	\$ 2,328	\$ 7,996	\$ 11,555	\$ 17,725	\$ 34,101

Connection Fees are for connection of service line to WATER AND SEWER mains, and do not include installation or general plumbing permits. There is no fee to connect to the STORM SEWER SYSTEM.

Call City of Great Falls Community Development for more information @ 406-453-8430

Inspections and the associated fees are for the inspection and approval of all water and sewer service work and connections under OCCGF, Title 13
Call City of Great Falls Engineering for more information @ 406-771-1258

Where one meter serves one multi-purpose development, either mobile home, multiple family housing units, local business, commercial, industrial, residential use zones or variance, the connection charge will be based upon the size of the water tap. If there is no water tap, the charge will be based upon the the sewage being discharged on the same ratio as for other sewer connections.

TAPPING FEES (Water)

Fee for any new or replacement tap being made on a water main.

1 to 5 taps	Fee per Tap:	(3/4")	1.00	1.50	2.00	4.00	6.00	8.00	12.00
		2019	\$ 584	\$ 613	\$ 924	\$ 1,166	\$ 550	\$ 574	\$ 598
2023	\$ 685	\$ 775	\$ 1,260	\$ 1,740	\$ 605	\$ 631	\$ 658	\$ 708	
6 or more taps	Fee per Tap:	2019	\$ 522	\$ 572	\$ 924	\$ 1,166	N/A	N/A	N/A
		2023	\$ 600	\$ 700	\$ 1,260	\$ 1,740	N/A	N/A	N/A

INCLUDED in this fee is installation of a corporation stop on the main, and furnishing of corporation stop, curb stop and box. NOT INCLUDED, and to be BILLED EXTRA, is the cost of saddles, clamps and other extraneous fitting required for the tap.

TURN ON/OFF

Flat fee of:

After Hours				After Hours				
2019	\$ 75	2019	\$ 100	REOCCURRENCE FOR NON-PAY	2019	\$ 150	2019	\$ 200
2023	\$ 75	2023	\$ 100	REOCCURRENCE FOR NON-PAY	2023	\$ 150	2023	\$ 200

WATER TREATMENT PLANT (WTP)

Laboratory Fees

	Alkalinity	Hardness	pH	Specific Conductance	Total Coliform & E. coli. P/A	Total Coliform & E. coli. MPN	Turbidity	HPC	Ammonia, Total as N	Ammonia, Free	Chlorine, Free Residual	Chlorine, Total Residual	Non-Compliance TOC Test	Trip Fee (contractors that schedule testing and aren't ready when lab tests show up to sample)
2019	\$ 22.00	\$ 28.50	\$ 12.00	N/A	\$ 24.00	N/A	\$ 14.00	\$ 45.00	N/A	\$ 20.25	\$ 12.50	\$ 14.00	\$ 30.00	\$ 25.00
2023	\$ 24.20	\$ 31.35	\$ 13.20	N/A	\$ 26.40	N/A	\$ 15.40	\$ 49.50	N/A	\$ 22.28	\$ 13.75	\$ 15.40	\$ 33.00	\$ 27.50

* Tests no longer performed at the Water Treatment Plant.

WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT (WWTP)

Industrial Discharge Permit Application Fees

(Based upon Wastewater Discharge Quantity)

Gallons per Day (GPD)

	0 to 10,000	10,001 to 25,000	25,001 to 100,000	Over 100,000	+PLUS	per 100,000 GPD, or portion thereof
2019	\$ 136	\$ 220	\$ 281	\$ 281	\$ 83	
2023	\$ 150	\$ 242	\$ 309	\$ 309	\$ 91	

Hauled Waste Disposal Fees

0 to 100 Gallons

2019 No Charge Disposal of wastes from holding tanks of privately owned recreational vehicles must be discharged directly from the recreational vehicle and must not exceed 100 gallons

2023 No Charge Disposal of wastes from holding tanks of privately owned recreational vehicles must be discharged directly from the recreational vehicle and must not exceed 100 gallons

2019 \$ 44.75 per 1,000 gallons, or portion thereof, for hauled waste. A minimum charge for 1000 gallons will be levied for each load delivered.

2023 \$ 49.23 per 1,000 gallons, or portion thereof, for hauled waste. A minimum charge for 1000 gallons will be levied for each load delivered.

Additional Fees

Additional fees may be charged for necessary testing prior to acceptance of wastes classified as non-domestic or industrial in nature. NSF Fee \$30.

Delinquent Penalty 1.5% after 30 days.

Shut off fees for disconnection will be charged if the account is not paid in full by 5 pm on the day prior to shut off, regardless of whether or not the services are disconnected.

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Current Rates vs. Proposed Rates

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STORM DRAIN

2019 5.00%
 2023 10.00%

		Sq Ft Cap	
A	Single Family Res.	15,000	
2019	Base	2.0290396757	Per Sq Ft 0.0006087119
2023	Base	2.2319436433	Per Sq Ft 0.0006695831
B	Multiple Residential	0	
2019	Base	2.0290396757	Per Sq Ft 0.0007608899
2023	Base	2.2319436433	Per Sq Ft 0.0008369789
C	Commercial	0	
2019	Base	2.0290396757	Per Sq Ft 0.0009891569
2023	Base	2.2319436433	Per Sq Ft 0.0010880726
D	Heavy Commercial	0	
2019	Base	2.0290396757	Per Sq Ft 0.0013696018
2023	Base	2.2319436433	Per Sq Ft 0.0015065620
E	Unimproved Areas	10,000	
2019	Base	2.0290396757	Per Sq Ft 0.0001521780
2023	Base	2.2319436433	Per Sq Ft 0.0001673958