



STAFF REPORT

CITY OF GREEN COVE SPRINGS, FLORIDA

TO: Regular Session **MEETING DATE:** June 6, 2023

FROM: L. J. Arnold III, City Attorney

SUBJECT: Approve on first reading as to form only City Ordinance No. O-19-2023 which increases the base charge and usage charge for the City stormwater utility.

BACKGROUND

The City created a stormwater utility in 2012 with a base charge per tax parcel. Then a usage charge was added based upon a formula set forth in 2020 per Ordinance No. O-01-2020. The City needs to increase the base charge and usage charge to reduce the shortfall in revenues it receives to operate this utility. The increase to the base charge will be from \$3.50 to \$6.00 and the usage charge will increase from \$10.42 to \$12.50 monthly per ESU.

FISCAL IMPACT

The City will receive an increase in revenues from the base charge and user fees of approximately 25% annually.

RECOMMENDATION

Approve Ordinance No. O-19-2023 as to form only on first reading.

ORDINANCE NO. O-19-2023

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF GREEN COVE SPRINGS, FLORIDA INCREASING THE BASE CHARGE RATE FOR THE STORMWATER UTILITY FROM \$3.50 TO \$6.00 MONTHLY PER PARCEL AND THE USAGE CHARGE FROM \$10.42 TO \$12.50 MONTHLY PER ESU; AMENDING CITY CODE SECTION 70-7 (C) AND SECTION 70-8(C); PROVIDING FOR CODIFICATION, REPEALER, SEVERABILITY AND SETTING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

WHEREAS, the City Council has determined that an increase in the base charge and usage charge for the stormwater utility is reasonable and necessary to protect the health, safety and welfare of the general public, and to offset the reasonable costs associated with the operation and maintenance of its stormwater utility system.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT ENACTED by the City Council of the City of Green Cove Springs as follows:

SECTION 1. City Code Section 70-7 Base Charge, Subsection (c), shall be amended to read as follows:

(c) For government property within the incorporated area of the city, the monthly base charge shall be ~~\$3.50~~ \$6.00 for each tax parcel of developed property and undeveloped property. The city manager or his or her designee will prepare a list of all tax parcels within the city. The monthly base charge may be amended from time to time by ordinance.

SECTION 2. The base charge for all non-governmental property shall be amended to the \$6.00 charge per month as provided in Article VII, Chapter 78 of the City Code.

SECTION 3. Section 70-8 Usage Charge, Subsection (c) of the City Code shall be amended to read as follows:

(c) Effective on October 1, 2020 and thereafter, for government property within the incorporated area of the city, the monthly usage charge shall be ~~\$10.42~~ \$12.50 per ESU. The city manager or his or her designee will prepare a list of all tax parcels within the city. The monthly usage charge may be amended from time to time by ordinance.

SECTION 4. The usage charge for all non-governmental property shall be amended to the \$12.50 level per month as provided in Article VII, Chapter 78 of the City Code.

SECTION 5. CODIFICATION. It is the intention of the City Council, and it is hereby ordained that the provisions of this ordinance shall become and be made part of the Code of the City of Green Cove Springs as amended; that the sections of this

ordinance may be renumbered or relettered to accomplish such intention; and that the word “ordinance” may be changed to “section” or other appropriate word.

SECTION 6. REPEALER. Any Ordinances or parts thereof in conflict with the provisions of this Ordinance are hereby repealed to the extent of such conflict.

SECTION 7. SEVERABILITY. The various parts, sections and clauses of this Ordinance are hereby declared severable. If any part, sentence, paragraph, section or clause is adjudged unconstitutional or invalid by a court of competent jurisdiction, the remainder of the Ordinance shall not be affected thereby.

SECTION 8. EFFECTIVE DATE. This Ordinance shall become effective October 1, 2023.

INTRODUCED AND APPROVED AS TO FORM ONLY ON THE FIRST READING BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF GREEN COVE SPRINGS, FLORIDA, ON THIS 6TH DAY OF JUNE, 2023.

CITY OF GREEN COVE SPRINGS, FLORIDA

Constance W. Butler, Mayor

ATTEST:

Erin West, City Clerk

PASSED ON SECOND AND FINAL READING BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF GREEN COVE SPRINGS, FLORIDA, THIS 20TH DAY OF JUNE, 2023.

CITY OF GREEN COVE SPRINGS, FLORIDA

Constance W. Butler, Mayor

ATTEST:

Erin West, City Clerk

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

L. J. Arnold, III, City Attorney