

ORDINANCE NO. 2025-05

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF GULFPORT, FLORIDA, AMENDING ARTICLE IV OF CHAPTER 11 OF THE CODE OF ORDINANCES PERTAINING TO WATER SERVICE; PROVIDING FOR AMENDMENT OF SUBSECTION (c) OF SECTION 11-48, WATER SERVICE RATES- ESTABLISHED, RESPONSIBILITY FOR PAYMENT; PROVIDING FOR APPLICABLE RATES OVER A MULTI-YEAR PERIOD; PROVIDING FOR THE REPEAL OF ORDINANCES OR PARTS OF ORDINANCES IN CONFLICT HERewith, TO THE EXTENT OF SUCH CONFLICT; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

WHEREAS, the City commissioned a Water and Sewer Rate Sufficiency Analysis wherein adjustments in the water rates are being recommended over a multi-year period; and

WHEREAS, the City Council finds it necessary to adjust and/or increase the utility rates to offset additional costs of providing utility services; and

WHEREAS, the City Council has reviewed the proposed changes to the rates and found this ordinance to be in the best interest, safety, and welfare of the residents and citizens of the City; and

WHEREAS, notice of this ordinance has been provided in accordance with applicable law.

NOW, THEREFORE, THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF GULFPORT, FLORIDA, HEREBY ORDAINS:

Section 1.

Subsection (c) Section 11-48 of Chapter 11 of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Gulfport, pertaining to water service rates, responsibility for payment is hereby amended as follows:

(c) Charges. The monthly water service charge and other charges shall be as follows:

(1) *Base Charges*: City water customers will be charged a monthly base rate per living unit, whether the water is on or off. Base Charges shall be prorated by calculating the number of days a customer's account is active in the respective month. Base charges are effective for the fiscal period beginning October 1st and ending September 30th as follows:

Base Charge per month:

FY 22/23 <u>25/26</u>	FY 23/24 <u>26/27</u>	FY 24/25 <u>27/28</u>
\$17.74 <u>\$22.35</u>	\$19.16 <u>\$24.14</u>	\$20.69 <u>\$25.35</u>

Volumetric Charges: Additionally, City water customers will be charged volume charges per one thousand (1,000) gallons or fraction thereof of water consumed as shown by the water meter reading monthly. The following subsection reflects volumetric charges ~~are~~ effective for the fiscal period beginning October 1st and ending September 30th as follows:

Volumetric Charges per 1,000 gallons of water usage:

Water consumption (gallons)	FY 22/23 <u>25/26</u>	FY 23/24 <u>26/27</u>	FY 24/25 <u>27/28</u>
0—2,000	\$ 1.00 <u>26</u>	\$ 1.08 <u>36</u>	\$ 1.17 <u>43</u>
	9.88	10.67	11.52
2,001—3,000	12.44 <u>12.44</u>	13.44 <u>13.44</u>	14.11 <u>14.11</u>
	11.18	12.07	13.04
3,001—5,000	14.08 <u>14.08</u>	15.21 <u>15.21</u>	15.97 <u>15.97</u>
	12.51	13.51	14.59
5,001—10,000	15.76 <u>15.76</u>	17.02 <u>17.02</u>	17.87 <u>17.87</u>
	13.81	14.91	16.10
10,001—15,000	17.39 <u>17.39</u>	18.78 <u>18.78</u>	19.72 <u>19.72</u>
	15.13	16.34	17.65
15,001—20,000	19.06 <u>19.06</u>	20.58 <u>20.58</u>	21.61 <u>21.61</u>
	24.82	26.81	28.95
20,001+	31.27 <u>31.27</u>	33.77 <u>33.77</u>	35.46 <u>35.46</u>

(2) Other fees shall be as follows:

Turn-on fee (during working hours)	\$15.00
Turn-on fee (after working hours)	42.00
Pool reading (includes before and after)	22.00
Turn-off charge (during working hours)	15.00
Turn-off charge (after working hours)	42.00
Re-inspection fee due to covered meter	25.00
Utility lien recording and releasing fee	35.00
New account activation charges	30.00

(3) A surcharge of twenty-five (25%) percent shall be levied on service charges for system customers located outside the city limits.

Section 2.

All Ordinances, or parts of Ordinances, in conflict herewith are hereby repealed to the extent of any conflict with this Ordinance.

Section 3.

If any portion or part of this ordinance is declared invalid by a court of competent jurisdiction, the valid remainder hereof shall remain in full force and effect.

Section 4.

The rates and charges established by this Ordinance shall be utilized in calculating customers' bills beginning on October 1, 2025.

Section 5.

Water rates and charges established by this Ordinance beginning in Fiscal Year 2026 shall be utilized in calculating customers' bills beginning on October 1, 2025, for services utilized during the preceding month.

Section 6.

Water rates and charges established by this Ordinance beginning in Fiscal Year 2027 shall be utilized in calculating customers' bills beginning on October 1, 2026, for services utilized during the preceding month.

Section 7.

Water rates and charges established by this Ordinance beginning in Fiscal Year 2028 shall be utilized in calculating customers' bills beginning on October 1, 2027, for services utilized during the preceding month.

Section 8.

This Ordinance shall become effective immediately upon final passage.

FIRST READING : August 5, 2025

PUBLISHED : _____

SECOND READING/
PUBLIC HEARING : _____

Karen Love, Mayor

I, Theresa M. Carrico, City Clerk of the City of Gulfport, Florida, do hereby certify that the foregoing Ordinance was duly adopted in accordance with the provisions of law and the City Charter this ____ day of _____ 2025.

ATTEST:

Theresa M. Carrico, City Clerk