
Ordinance amending Corpus Christi Code, Sections 55-70 and 55-71 to update water and wastewater utility tap fees as follows: to require payment in full upon application; to provide that commercial taps will be installed by contractor; to provide that right-of-way fees and street cut costs are not included and are separately charged from the tap fee; to establish meter set fees when the developer has installed the service line; to provide that water and wastewater utility tap fees will be determined based upon time, cost of work and materials, effective January 1, 2026.

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF CORPUS CHRISTI, TEXAS:

SECTION 1. Section 55-70 of the Corpus Christi Code of Ordinances is amended to delete the struck-through text and insert the underlined text shown as follows:

Sec. 55-70. Adoption of rules, regulations and water and gas fees.

The rules and regulations concerning the control, operation and administration of utility taps or service connections of water, gas and sewer utilities owned by the city and the regulations prescribing fees for utility taps or service connections performed by the City are hereby adopted and approved as follows:

- (1) *Utility tap applications.* Applications for water, gas or sewer taps may be accepted from anyone who has properly applied for a building or plumbing permit for taps to be made inside or outside the city, and the fees for such taps shall be paid before the permit is issued. ~~Impact fees have been adopted in accordance with the Texas Local Government Code, Chapter 395 for certain areas of the city. The fee schedule and map for such fees is contained in Appendix A of the Platting Ordinances of the City of Corpus Christi.~~
- (2) *Utility tap fee payment.* Utility tap fees will be paid in cash upon determination of tap fee after receipt of application of for utility taps. ~~Where applicant has requested a water line extension and water tap, he may make payment upon an installment basis as hereto set forth. Water tap charge and water line extension charge may be paid upon an installment basis with the owner being furnished the necessary forms for execution including a promissory note and mechanic's and materialman's lien contract. If a cash payment is made at the time of delivery of the executed note and mechanic's lien paper, the note shall be for the balance of the installation charges. If no cash payment is made, the note shall be for the total amount of the installation charges applicable to the property to be served. There shall be a carrying charge on any balance of five (5) per cent per annum for the period covered by all of the installation payment, with such total payable in monthly installments not exceeding twenty-four (24) installments. All monthly installments will be made at the accounting office of the city department of public utilities and will be due and payable monthly on the same due date as the regular utility bill applicable to the property. Such installment note and contract shall contain a provision to the effect that the property owner agrees to make the monthly payments as therein set forth and further that the owner's water meter deposit can be applied to any payment becoming delinquent. Such contract shall also provide that the city shall have the right to discontinue water service to the property in the event any of the installment payments become delinquent.~~
- (3) *Utility tap fees ~~defined~~ excluded services.* Utility tap fees are separate and distinct from any right-of-way fees, street cut costs, plumbing permit or inspection fees and will not be construed as being a part of or as including such fees. Right-of-way fees, street cut costs, plumbing permit fees and inspection fees will be assessed separately to the applicant and/or property owner in accordance with City ordinance.

- (4) *Utility tap fees extra charges.* ~~No charges will be made in addition to utility tap fees for street cuts; however, for~~ For taps outside the city, which cannot be readily made to existing lateral lines provided for such services or for taps which involve major highway crossings or taps to major mains or trunk lines and similar cases, charges will be made to cover the entire cost of all work and material, including meters, if any, as estimated by the city.

- (5) *Fee schedule, gas:*

- (a) *Inside city limits:*

	Street Fee	Easement Fee
Gas—Residential, 1 and 2-family dwelling	\$200.00	\$200.00
Commercial up to eight inch in size	1,600.00	1,600.00
	Fee	
Loops	20.00	
Meter moves	200.00	

- (b) *Outside city limits:*

	Street Fee	Easement Fee
Gas—Residential, 1 and 2-family dwelling	\$200.00	\$200.00
Commercial up to two inch in size	1,600.00	1,600.00
	Fee	
Loops	20.00	
Meter moves	200.00	

- (6) *Definition of street taps and easement taps.*

- (a) Street tap fees will apply to all taps made to laterals or mains in front or at the side of property to be served, regardless of whether the line to be tapped is in the street, behind the curb or in some similar position.
- (b) Easement tap fees will apply to all taps made to mains or laterals in the rear of the property to be served, where such lines are in dedicated or established easements or alleys.
- (7) *Service to be provided for fees.* Gas, sewer and water taps will be made and services installed to a standard location. Necessary meters and regulators will be installed. The entire installation will remain the property of the city and will ~~be~~ be maintained by the city for as long as services available from the city are desired on the property by the occupant. Maintenance of privately-owned service lines, or parts of service lines, on private property will be the responsibility of the owner, occupant or consumer. Failure to maintain such service lines will subject the service in question to discontinuance by the city. Commercial water utility taps and commercial sewer utility taps will be performed by contractor. City water utility department work schedules may necessitate that the requested residential water utility taps be completed by a contractor in times when City work crews are not available to provide the tap as requested due to emergency response elsewhere or other work needs of the City. Services for commercial water utility taps and commercial sewer utility taps are not provided by the City.
- (8) *Availability of service.* The existence of mains or trunk lines, or even lateral lines, near a property will not constitute an obligation for ~~the~~ the city to ~~cap~~ tap such lines on request for taps, where such lines are inaccessible due to necessary crossings of major highways or major streets or due to excessive cost or excessive distance. These special cases must be arranged for with the director ~~of public utilities of water~~ of public utilities of water

utilities, well in advance of the desired service date, to permit necessary extensions, crossings or similar construction.

(9) Fees schedule, water:

- (a) Inside city limits: Fees for the following street and easement taps will be specified by the director of water utilities based on time and costs of all work and materials.

<u>Meter</u> Size	Street Fee	Easement Fee
½ inch x ¾ inch	\$617.19	\$515.90
¾ inch	—633.00	—532.40
1 inch	—807.40	—705.10
Over 1 inch	—Special*	—Special*
Loops*, minimum	—275.00	—275.00
Meter moves*, minimum	—66.00	—66.00

~~*Denotes costs to be specified by the director of water utilities based on circumstances.~~

- (b) Fees inside the city limits in subdivision in which the developer has installed the service lines when the subdivision was constructed and requiring only a meter to be set by Corpus Christi Water department.

<u>Meter</u> Size	Fee
½ inch x ¾ inch	\$185.90
¾ inch	201.30 <u>\$369.34</u>
1 inch	250.80 <u>\$439.74</u>
<u>1 ½ inch</u>	<u>\$687.74</u>
<u>2 inches</u>	<u>\$858.74</u>
<u>>2 inches</u>	<u>* Special</u>

*Greater than 2 inches requires a quote determined by the director of water utilities based on time and cost of service and materials.

- (c) Outside city limits: Fees for the following street and easement taps will be specified by the director of water utilities based on time and costs of all work and materials.

<u>Meter</u> Size	Street Fee	Easement Fee
½ inch x ¾ inch	\$839.30	\$657.80
¾ inch	—860.20	—675.40
1 inch	1,125.30	—900.90
Over 1 inch <u>Special*</u>	<u>Special*</u>	<u>Special*</u>
Loops*, minimum	—411.40	—411.40
Meter moves*, minimum	—97.90	—97.90

~~*Denotes cost to be specified by the director of water utilities based on circumstances.~~

- (d) Fees outside the city limits in subdivision in which the developer has installed the service lines when the subdivision was constructed and requiring only a meter to be set by Corpus Christi Water department.

Size	Fee
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$\frac{3}{4}$ inch x $\frac{3}{4}$ inch	\$185.90
$\frac{3}{4}$ inch	201.30 <u>\$369.34</u>
1 inch	250.80 <u>\$439.74</u>
<u>1 $\frac{1}{2}$ inch</u>	<u>\$687.74</u>
<u>2 inches</u>	<u>\$858.74</u>
<u>>2 inches</u>	<u>*Special</u>

*Greater than 2 inches requires a quote determined by the director of water utilities based on time and cost of service and materials.

(1966 Supp., § 38-26; Ord. No. 10083, § 1, 1-20-1971; Ord. No. 16383, § 1, 7-15-1981; Ord. No. 16447, § 1, 8-12-1981; Ord. No. 16453, § 1, 8-12-1981; Ord. No. 22913, § 10, 4-22-1997; Ord. No. 026369, § 2, 7-26-2005; Ord. No. 027395, § 2, 8-28-2007; Ord. No. 027854, § 2, 9-16-2008; Ord. No. 028260, § 1, 7-28-2009; Ord. No. 028326, § 2, 9-29-2009; Ord. No. 028686, § 5, 7-20-2010; Ord. No. 028792, § 2, 9-28-2010; Ord. No. 029624, § 2, 10-25-2011; Ord. No. 029917, § 5, 7-30-2013; Ord. No. 030295, § 4, 9-23-2014)

SECTION 2. Section 55-71 of the Corpus Christi Code of Ordinances is amended to delete the struck-through text and insert the underlined text shown as follows:

Sec. 55-71. Sewer tapping fees.

- (a) The city or an authorized contractor shall install and maintain all house service lines for the city sewer mains to the nearest property or easement lines, both inside and outside the city, in accordance with plans approved by the City. and The city shall charge a tap fee for the work performed by the city for the installation of any house lateral in a sum sufficient to cover the average cost thereof. ~~Such fee shall be indexed to the August Construction Index published in the Engineering News-Record and adjusted September 1 of each year. The fees shall be reviewed periodically by the department of public utilities to ensure they are equitable. The public utilities department shall collect fees in accord with the following schedule:~~
- (b) House service line tap charge:
 - (1) House service connections applied for after ~~January 1, 1985~~ January 1, 2026 shall be charged ~~at a rate of two hundred fifty dollars (\$250.00)~~ on the basis of quotes determined by the wastewater services division except as otherwise herein provided.
 - (2) House sewer connections to be constructed in easements shall be charged ~~at a rate of eight hundred seventy three dollars (\$873.00)~~ on the basis of quotes determined by the wastewater services division except as otherwise herein provided.
 - ~~(3)~~ (4) House service connections to be constructed in streets shall be charged ~~at a rate of one thousand three hundred eighty five dollars (\$1,385.00)~~ except as otherwise herein provided.
 - ~~(4)~~ (3) Taps constructed ~~for commercial buildings and taps constructed~~ where unusual conditions are involved shall be charged on the basis of estimates determined by the wastewater services division. Such estimated costs must be deposited with the department of public utilities paid before work is ~~done~~ begun. Unusual conditions shall include but not be limited to the following: sewer tapping depths greater than fourteen (14) feet; lateral line links lengths greater than sixty (60) feet; obstructions other than normal walks, curbs, and paving; or services requiring an eight-inch or greater diameter pipe.
 - ~~(5)~~ (4) For sewers in streets of new subdivisions in which house services are already installed to the property line and where final connection is to be made by a plumber, a fee of one hundred eleven dollars (\$111.00). This fee is to cover the cost of recording and inspecting the sewer tap.

~~(6)(5)~~ House service connections for houses currently served by septic tanks and where sewer service is currently available shall be charged ~~one hundred fifty dollars (\$150.00)~~ on the basis of quotes determined by the wastewater services division effective ~~January 1, 1985~~ January 1, 2026. If connection is not made to the sewer system by ~~July 1, 1985~~, the standard tapping fees provided herein shall be charged.

~~(7)(6)~~ Effective ~~July 1, 1985~~, service connections to houses on septic tanks where sewer service is currently not available shall be charged one hundred fifty dollars (\$150.00), provided connection is effected within six ~~(6)~~ months of sewer service being available. If connection is not made to the sewer system within six ~~(6)~~ months from the time sewer service is made available, the standard tapping fees provided herein shall be charged.

- (c) The above charges, fees, and quotes shall include the cost of tapping the sewer main, the installation of wyes and placing house service lines to the nearest street right-of-way or utility line. They shall do not include all additional costs incident to the necessary repairs to pavement of any kind or character involved in making the house service line connection. Where sanitary sewer house service lines have been installed ahead of paving, the above cost for such shall include extension of the line to the nearest property line, if not already thus extended. ~~The department of engineering and physical development shall make the pavement repairs as part of the installation job.~~ Costs as set out herein shall apply for connections to property inside the city- and for ~~For~~ connections to property outside the city, ~~the actual costs of construction shall govern, with a minimum charge according to the above schedule.~~

~~(d) The pro rata charges fixed on the basis hereinabove provided shall be collected at the time of collecting tap fees applicable to the specific property for all extensions made, for which cost is chargeable on a front-foot basis under the provisions of this section.~~

(Code 1958, § 38-27; Ord. No. 11611, § 1, 8-8-1973; Ord. No. 16449, § 1, 8-12-1981; Ord. No. 18352, § 2, 7-24-1984; Ord. No. 027395, § 3, 8-28-2007; Ord. No. 027854, § 3, 9-16-2008; Ord. No. 028326, § 3, 9-29-2009; Ord. No. 028792, § 3, 9-28-2010; Ord. No. 029264, § 3, 10-25-2011)

SECTION 2. If for any reason any section, paragraph, subdivision, clause, phrase, word, or provision of this ordinance shall be held invalid or unconstitutional by final judgment of a court of competent jurisdiction, it shall not affect any other section, paragraph, subdivision, clause, phrase, word, or provision of this ordinance, for it is the definite intent of this City Council that every section, paragraph, subdivision, clause, phrase, word, or provision hereof be given full force and effect for its purpose.

SECTION 3. Publication will be made in the official publication of the City of Corpus Christi as required by the City Charter of the City of Corpus Christi. This Ordinance takes effect on January 1, 2026.

Introduced and voted on the _____ day of _____, 2025.

PASSED and APPROVED on the _____ day of _____, 2025.

ATTEST:

Paulette Guajardo, Mayor

Rebecca Huerta, City Secretary