

## ORDINANCE AMENDING CITY CODE SECTIONS 55-70 THROUGH 55-72 REGARDING UTILITY TAPS AND CONNECTIONS

**SECTION 1.** That City Code of Ordinances, Sections 55-70 through 55-72 regarding water, wastewater and gas utility taps is amended to read as follows:

“Sec. 55-70. - Adoption of rules, regulations and fees for water, wastewater and gas tapsfees.

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

- (1) *Utility tap applications.* Applications for water, gas or ~~sewer~~ wastewater 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 at Development Services Department. These fees shall be reviewed annually to ensure they are equitable. 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 in contained in Appendix A of the Platting Ordinances of the City Corpus Christi.
- (2) *Utility tap fee payment.* Utility tap fees ~~will must~~ be paid-in-full upon application of utility taps. in cash upon application of 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.* Utility tap fees are separate and distinct from any plumbing permit or inspection fees and will not be construed as being a part of or as including such fees.
- (4) *Utility tap fees extra charges.* ~~No charges will be made in addition to utility tap fees for street cuts; however, f~~ For taps ~~outside the city~~, which cannot be readily made to existing main 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)(5)~~ Definition of street taps and easement taps.

- (a) Street tap fees will apply to all taps made ~~to laterals or to~~ 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)(6)~~ Service to be provided for fees. ~~Gas, sewer and water, wastewater and gas~~ taps will be made and services installed ~~to a standard location the nearest property or easement lines. Water meters will be installed per applicant's request and subsequent~~

city review and approval. Gas meters and regulator will be installed once the customer has opened a gas account. Necessary meters and regulators will be installed. The entire installation will remain the property of the city and will ~~he~~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.

~~(8)~~(7) *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 ~~et~~ap 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 Executive ~~D~~director or designee of ~~public Water U~~utilities well in advance of the desired service date, to permit necessary extensions, crossings or similar construction.

~~(9)~~ *Fee schedule, water:*

~~(a)~~ *Inside city limits:*

Size	Street Fee	Easement Fee
<del>5/8 inch x 3/4 inch</del>	<del>\$617.19</del>	<del>\$515.90</del>
<del>3/4 inch</del>	<del>—633.00</del>	<del>—532.40</del>
<del>1 inch</del>	<del>—807.40</del>	<del>—705.10</del>
<del>Over 1 inch</del>	<del>—Special*</del>	<del>—Special*</del>
<del>Loops*, minimum</del>	<del>—275.00</del>	<del>—275.00</del>
<del>Meter moves*, minimum</del>	<del>—66.00</del>	<del>—66.00</del>

~~\*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.*

Size	Fee
<del>5/8 inch x 3/4 inch</del>	<del>\$185.90</del>
<del>3/4 inch</del>	<del>—201.30</del>

1-inch	—250.80
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~~(c) — Outside city limits:~~

Size	Street Fee	Easement Fee
5/8-inch x 3/4-inch	\$839.30	\$657.80
3/4-inch	—860.20	—675.40
1-inch	1,125.30	—900.90
Over 1-inch-Special*	Special*	Special*
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.~~

Size	Fee
5/8-inch x 3/4-inch	\$185.90
3/4-inch	—201.30
1-inch	—250.80

**Sec. 55-71. - Utility tapping fees.**

**(a) Water fee schedule:**

**Inside/outside city limits:**

<b><u>Tapping Fee</u></b>	<b><u>Street Fee (\$)</u></b>	<b><u>Easement Fee (\$)</u></b>
<b><u>3/4 inch - 1 inch</u></b>	<b><u>\$ 2,700.00</u></b>	<b><u>\$ 900.00</u></b>
<b><u>Over 1 inch Special*</u></b>	<b><u>Special*</u></b>	<b><u>Special*</u></b>
<b><u>Meter move**, up to 10 feet</u></b>	<b><u>\$ 250.00</u></b>	<b><u>\$ 250.00</u></b>

**Each tap comes with one city water meter.**

**\* Denotes cost to be specified by the Water Utility Department based on circumstances**

**\*\* Denotes \$ 75.00 additional cost for each additional 5 feet of meter move.**

<b><u>Meter Set (Pre-Tap)</u></b>	<b><u>Fee (\$)</u></b>
<b><u>3/4 inch</u></b>	<b><u>\$540.00</u></b>
<b><u>1 inch</u></b>	<b><u>\$630.00</u></b>
<b><u>Over 1 inch Special*</u></b>	<b><u>Special*</u></b>

**\* Denotes cost to be specified by the Water Utility Department based on circumstances**

- (1) Meter Set (Pre-Tap) fees are applicable to inside and outside city limits in subdivision in which the developer has installed the service lines when the subdivision was constructed or built.**
- (2) Water taps are to be made by city or city approved utility contractor. Water tap greater than 2 inch must be installed by city approved water utility contractor. City does not install water taps greater than 2 inch. The tapping fees stated herein refer to services provided by city.**
- (3) The tapping services shall include tapping the water main, the installation of service lines to the nearest property or easement lines, and necessary pavement repairs.**

- (4) Taps where unusual conditions are involved shall be charged on the basis of estimates provided by Water Utility Department. Such estimated costs must be deposited with the Development Services before work begins. Unusual conditions shall include but not be limited to the following: water service connection greater than sixty (60) feet; obstructions other than normal walks, curbs, and paving.
- (5) The pro- rata charges 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. The pro-rata fee schedule for fees is contained in City Code of Ordinances City of Corpus Christi, Texas, Chapter 14-Development Services, Article XIII.- Development Service Fees, Sec. 14-1341-Unified Development Code fees.

(b) Wastewater fee schedule:

Inside/outside city limits:

<b><u>Residential (Single-family) Wastewater Tap Fees</u></b>	
<b><u>Type</u></b>	<b><u>Service Connection Depth up to 10 feet Fee (\$)</u></b>
<b><u>Pre-Tap</u></b>	<b><u>\$ 310.00</u></b>
<b><u>Easement Tap</u></b>	<b><u>\$ 1,400.00</u></b>
<b><u>Street Tap</u></b>	<b><u>\$ 3,750.00</u></b>

- (1) Residential wastewater service connections must be installed by city or a utility contractor. The fees stated herein refer to services provided by city.
- (2) Commercial and Industrial wastewater service connections must be installed by a utility contractor.
- (3) The city shall install only residential (single-family) service connection less than 10 feet in depth from the city wastewater mains to the nearest property or easement lines, both inside and outside the city limits.
- (4) Residential wastewater service connections greater than 10 feet in depth from the city wastewater mains to the nearest property or easement lines must be installed by a utility contractor
- (5) The above wastewater tap services shall include tapping the wastewater main, the installation of wyes/city cleanout, placing residential service lines to the nearest property or easement lines, and necessary pavement repairs.

- (6) Taps constructed where unusual conditions are involved shall be charged costs on the basis of estimates provided by Utility Department. Such estimated costs must be deposited with the Development Services before work begins. Unusual conditions shall include but are not limited to the following: wastewater lateral lines greater than sixty (60) feet; or obstructions other than normal walks, curbs, and paving;
- (7) The pro rata charges 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. The pro-rata fee schedule for fees is contained in City Code of Ordinances City of Corpus Christi, Texas, Chapter 14-Development Services, Article XIII.- Development Service Fees, Sec. 14-1341- Unified Development Code fees.

(c) Gas fee schedule:

Inside/outside city limits:

	<u><b>Street Fee (\$)</b></u>	<u><b>Easement Fee (\$)</b></u>
<u>Gas—Residential, 1 and 2-family dwelling</u>	<u>\$ 200.00</u>	<u>\$ 200.00</u>
<u>Commercial up to two inch in size</u>	<u>\$ 1,600.00</u>	<u>\$ 1,600.00</u>
	<u><b>Fee</b></u>	
<u>Loop</u>	<u>20.00</u>	
<u>Meter move</u>	<u>200.00</u>	

Gas fees for commercial line greater than two inches in size shall be charged on the basis of estimates provided by Gas Department.

~~Sec. 55-71. Sewer tapping fees.~~

- (a) ~~The city 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, and shall charge a tap fee 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 shall be charged at a rate of two hundred fifty dollars (\$250.00) 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) except as otherwise herein provided.~~
- ~~(3) 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) 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 before work is done. Unusual conditions shall include but not be limited to the following: sewer tapping depths greater than fourteen (14) feet; lateral line links greater than sixty (60) feet; obstructions other than normal walks, curbs, and paving; or services requiring an eight-inch or greater diameter pipe.~~
- ~~(5) 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) 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) effective January 1, 1985. If connection is not made to the sewer system by July 1, 1985, the standard tapping fees provided herein shall be charged.~~
- ~~(7) 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 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 include all 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. 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.~~

~~Sec. 55-72. Penalty for delinquency as to sewers; payment of charges.~~

~~In the event sanitary sewer laterals or house service lines have been installed under the provisions of this article, and the pro rata payments for connection to such sanitary sewer mains have not been paid, then the owners of such property to be served by such sanitary sewer~~



~~mains shall within sixty (60) days after completion of such lines pay such pro rata payments at the rate or rates which existed at the time of the application for service, and any person not making such payments within the time so specified shall thereafter be required to pay a collection fee of an additional ten (10) per cent of such charges.~~

**Section 2.** Every section, paragraph, subdivision, clause, phrase, word or provision hereof shall be given full force and effect for its purpose. Therefore, if any section, paragraph, subdivision, clause, phrase, word or provision of this ordinance is held invalid or unconstitutional by final judgment of a court of jurisdiction, that judgment shall not affect any other section, paragraph, subdivision, clause, phrase, word or provision of this ordinance.

**Section 3.** Publication shall be made in the City of Corpus Christi's official publication as required by the City Charter. This Ordinance shall take effect on January 01, 2019.

That the foregoing ordinance was read for the first time and passed to its second reading on this the \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2018, by the following vote:

Joe McComb	_____	Ben Molina	_____
Rudy Garza	_____	Everett Roy	_____
Paulette Guajardo	_____	Lucy Rubio	_____
Michael Hunter	_____	Greg Smith	_____
Debbie Lindsey-Opel	_____		

That the foregoing ordinance was read for the second time and passed finally on this the \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2018, by the following vote:

Joe McComb	_____	Ben Molina	_____
Rudy Garza	_____	Everett Roy	_____
Paulette Guajardo	_____	Lucy Rubio	_____
Michael Hunter	_____	Greg Smith	_____
Debbie Lindsey-Opel	_____		

PASSED AND APPROVED on this the \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2018.  
ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Rebecca Huerta  
City Secretary

\_\_\_\_\_  
Joe McComb  
Mayor