

ORDINANCE NO. 27-2020

AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING WATER RATES AND  
CHARGE AND SYSTEM DEVELOPMENT CHARGES FOR  
WATER SERVICE IN THE CITY OF LAPORTE

WHEREAS, PURSUANT TO Ind. Code Art. 8-1.5 (the "Act"), the City of LaPorte, LaPorte County, Indiana (the "City") owns, operates, manages and Controls a water system (the "Water System"); and

WHEREAS, the Common Council now finds that the existing rates and charges for use of and services rendered by the water utility of said City are too low and not adequate to provide sufficient funds to maintain the utility property in a sound physical and financial condition to render adequate and efficient service and to service outstanding revenue bonds; and,

WHEREAS, Indiana Code 8-1.5-3-8(c) requires that all rates be reasonable and charges for service must produce sufficient revenue to pay maintenance costs, operating charges, upkeep, repairs, depreciation, interest charges on bonds or other obligations, provide for a sinking fund, provide for debt service reserve for bonds or other obligations, provide for payment of any lease, provide money for adequate working capital, provide money for making extensions and replacement to the extent not provided for through depreciation and provide money for the payment of taxes that may be assessed against the utility. All rates and charges must produce an income sufficient to maintain the utility property in sound physical and financial condition to render adequate and efficient service; and,

WHEREAS, the Common Council of the City of LaPorte now determines that the rates and charges for the use of and services rendered by the municipally owned water utility should be sufficient to include a reasonable return on the utility plant in service, should include an amount sufficient to compensate the City for taxes, which would otherwise be due to the City, and which would be paid on the utility property in service were it privately owned; and,

WHEREAS, there is a need to provide for an ongoing capital improvement and maintenance program within the LaPorte water utility; and,

WHEREAS, the City's existing schedule of rates and charges for water service contains a New Custom Tapping Fee and System Development Charge, as more particularly described in prior ordinances of the Common Council, to be paid by new customers of the Water System; and

WHEREAS, existing customers have, through rates and charges, paid for the capital costs of the Water System; and

WHEREAS, it is necessary and advisable for new customers to pay, upon connection, a fee by which they can pay their proportionate share paid by or on behalf of existing customers so

as to finance further improvements and extensions to the Water System and other lawful revenue requirements; and

WHEREAS, the Common Council of the City of LaPorte, Indiana, hereby determines that the following water rates and charges are in the best interests of the public served by the water utility;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED by the Common Council of the City of LaPorte, Indiana:

**SECTION 1.** That the following schedules of rates and charges are hereby adopted and approved and are in the best interests of the public served by the City of LaPorte, Indiana.

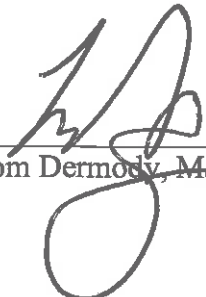
**SEE ATTACHED EXHIBIT "A"**

**SECTION 2.** That pursuant to Indiana Code 8-1.5-3-8.1, a public hearing on rates and charges is now scheduled for the second day of November 2020 at 6:00 p.m. at the LaPorte Council Chambers, 801 Michigan Avenue, LaPorte, Indiana. The Clerk-Treasurer will provide notice of such hearing pursuant to statute and will make all documents concerning such rate increase with the need for such rate increases available for inspection at the office of the Clerk-Treasurer.

**SECTION 3.** All ordinances and parts of ordinances in conflict herewith are hereby repealed.

**SECTION 4.** That this Ordinance shall be in full force and effect from and after its passage and signing by the Mayor, and that the 2nd day of November, 2020 shall be the effective date for the implementation of rates contained herein.


Passed by the Common Council of the City of LaPorte, Indiana this 2nd day of November, 2020.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Tom Dermody, Mayor

ATTEST:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Courtney Parthun, Clerk-Treasurer

This ordinance presented by me, the Clerk-Treasurer of the City of LaPorte, Indiana to the Mayor for his approval this 2nd day of November, 2020.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Courtney Parthun, Clerk-Treasurer

This ordinance signed and approved by me, the Mayor of the City of LaPorte, Indiana, this 2nd day of November, 2020.

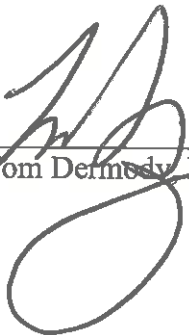
  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Tom Dermody, Mayor

Exhibit A

**LAPORTE (INDIANA) MUNICIPAL WATER UTILITY**  
**SCHEDULE OF WATER RATES AND CHARGES**

**PHASES I, II, III, IV**

**SCHEDULE OF WATER RATES AND CHARGES**

**METERED USER BLOCK SCHEDULE – ALL USERS:**

(Outside corporate City boundaries rates and charges are approximately 14.9% higher than the rates and charges for customers inside corporate City boundaries)

**Inside Corporate City Boundaries**

<b>GALLONS PER MONTH</b>	<b>RATE PER 1,000 GALLONS</b>	<b>RATE PER 1,000 GALLONS</b>	<b>RATE PER 1,000 GALLONS</b>	<b>RATE PER 1,000 GALLONS</b>
<i>Effective Date</i>	<i>1/1/2021</i>	<i>1/1/2022</i>	<i>1/1/2023</i>	<i>1/1/2024</i>
First 5,000	\$3.60	\$3.92	\$4.27	\$4.65
Next 10,000	3.30	3.60	3.92	4.27
Next 35,000	3.08	3.36	3.66	3.99
Next 50,000	2.56	2.79	3.04	3.31
Over 100,000	1.97	2.15	2.34	2.55

**Outside Corporate City Boundaries**

<b>GALLONS PER MONTH</b>	<b>RATE PER 1,000 GALLONS</b>	<b>RATE PER 1,000 GALLONS</b>	<b>RATE PER 1,000 GALLONS</b>	<b>RATE PER 1,000 GALLONS</b>
<i>Effective Date</i>	<i>1/1/2021</i>	<i>1/1/2022</i>	<i>1/1/2023</i>	<i>1/1/2024</i>
First 5,000	\$4.14	\$4.50	\$4.91	\$5.34
Next 10,000	3.79	4.14	4.50	4.91
Next 35,000	3.54	3.86	4.21	4.58
Next 50,000	2.94	3.21	3.49	3.80
Over 100,000	2.26	2.47	2.69	2.93

**MINIMUM CHARGE PER MONTH:**

(Outside corporate City boundaries rates and charges are approximately 14.9% higher than the rates and charges for customers inside corporate City boundaries)

Each user shall pay a minimum charge in accordance with the following applicable size of meter installed, for which the user will be entitled to the quantity of water set out in the above schedule of rates. On all metered water service:

**Inside Corporate City Boundaries**

METER SIZE	GALLONS	MONTHLY MINIMUM	MONTHLY MINIMUM	MONTHLY MINIMUM	MONTHLY MINIMUM
<i>Effective Date</i>		<i>1/1/2021</i>	<i>1/1/2022</i>	<i>1/1/2023</i>	<i>1/1/2024</i>
5/8"	5,000	\$18.00	\$19.60	\$21.35	\$23.25
3/4"	7,000	24.60	26.80	29.19	31.79
1"	13,000	44.40	48.40	52.71	57.41
1- 1/2"	28,000	91.04	99.28	108.13	117.82
2"	42,000	134.16	146.32	159.37	173.68
3"	85,000	248.40	270.85	295.05	321.45
4"	175,000	434.55	473.95	516.15	562.35
6"	390,000	858.10	936.20	1,019.25	1,110.60
8"	600,000	1,271.80	1,387.70	1,510.65	1,646.10

**Outside Corporate City Boundaries**

METER SIZE	GALLONS	MONTHLY MINIMUM	MONTHLY MINIMUM	MONTHLY MINIMUM	MONTHLY MINIMUM
<i>Effective Date</i>		<i>1/1/2021</i>	<i>1/1/2022</i>	<i>1/1/2023</i>	<i>1/1/2024</i>
5/8"	5,000	\$20.68	\$22.52	\$24.53	\$26.71
3/4"	7,000	28.27	30.79	33.54	36.53
1"	13,000	51.02	55.61	60.56	65.96
1- 1/2"	28,000	104.60	114.07	124.24	135.38
2"	42,000	154.15	168.12	183.12	199.56
3"	85,000	285.41	311.21	339.01	369.35
4"	175,000	499.30	544.57	593.06	646.14
6"	390,000	985.96	1,075.69	1,171.12	1,276.08
8"	600,000	1,461.30	1,594.47	1,735.74	1,891.37

**MULTIPLE DWELLING UNITS:**

(Outside corporate City boundaries rates and charges are approximately 14.9% higher than the rates and charges for customers inside corporate City boundaries)

The minimum charge for multiple dwelling units served by one meter connection, having five or more family units, shall not be less than that shown in the table directly below this paragraph for each dwelling unit served by such connection; provided, however, that the monthly minimum charge calculated by the foregoing method shall be not be less than the published minimum charge above for such sized meter connection.

**Inside Corporate City Boundaries**

<i>Effective Date</i>	<i>1/1/2021</i>	<i>1/1/2022</i>	<i>1/1/2023</i>	<i>1/1/2024</i>
MULTIPLE DWELLING UNIT CHARGE	\$13.49	\$14.70	\$16.02	\$17.46

**Outside Corporate City Boundaries**

<i>Effective Date</i>	<i>1/1/2021</i>	<i>1/1/2022</i>	<i>1/1/2023</i>	<i>1/1/2024</i>
MULTIPLE DWELLING UNIT CHARGE	\$15.50	\$16.89	\$18.41	\$20.06

**PUBLIC FIRE PROTECTION**

(Outside corporate City boundaries rates and charges are approximately 14.9% higher than the rates and charges for customers inside corporate City boundaries)

**PUBLIC HYDRANTS:**

Charges\* for the production, storage, transmission, and delivery of water for public fire protection purposes shall be billed according to the following schedule:

**Inside Corporate City Boundaries**

METER SIZE	MONTHLY CHARGE	MONTHLY CHARGE	MONTHLY CHARGE	MONTHLY CHARGE
<i>Effective Date</i>	<i>1/1/2021</i>	<i>1/1/2022</i>	<i>1/1/2023</i>	<i>1/1/2024</i>
5/8"	\$2.21	\$2.41	\$2.63	\$2.87
3/4"	2.21	2.41	2.63	2.87
1"	5.53	6.03	6.57	7.16
1- 1/2"	12.44	13.56	14.78	16.11
2"	22.02	24.00	26.16	28.51
3"	51.27	55.88	60.91	66.39
4"	87.90	95.81	104.43	113.83
6"	197.82	215.62	235.03	256.18

\*Charges are based upon equivalent meter size.

**Outside Corporate City Boundaries**

METER SIZE	MONTHLY CHARGE	MONTHLY CHARGE	MONTHLY CHARGE	MONTHLY CHARGE
<i>Effective Date</i>	<i>1/1/2021</i>	<i>1/1/2022</i>	<i>1/1/2023</i>	<i>1/1/2024</i>
5/8"	\$2.54	\$2.77	\$3.02	\$3.30
3/4"	2.54	2.77	3.02	3.30
1"	6.35	6.93	7.55	8.23
1- 1/2"	14.29	15.58	16.98	18.51
2"	25.30	27.58	30.06	32.76
3"	58.91	64.21	69.99	76.28
4"	101.00	110.09	119.99	130.79
6"	227.30	247.75	270.05	294.35

\*Charges are based upon equivalent meter size.

**PRIVATE FIRE PROTECTION\*\***

**Inside Corporate City Boundaries**

PRIVATE HYDRANTS	ANNUAL CHARGE	ANNUAL CHARGE	ANNUAL CHARGE	ANNUAL CHARGE
<i>Effective Date</i>	<i>1/1/2021</i>	<i>1/1/2022</i>	<i>1/1/2023</i>	<i>1/1/2024</i>
Per Hydrant	\$527.54	\$575.02	\$626.77	\$683.18

\*\*This fee is not assessed for hydrants on fire protection systems being charged by connection size.

**Outside Corporate City Boundaries**

PRIVATE HYDRANTS	ANNUAL CHARGE	ANNUAL CHARGE	ANNUAL CHARGE	ANNUAL CHARGE
<i>Effective Date</i>	<i>1/1/2021</i>	<i>1/1/2022</i>	<i>1/1/2023</i>	<i>1/1/2024</i>
Per Hydrant	\$606.14	\$660.70	\$720.16	\$784.97

\*\*This fee is not assessed for hydrants on fire protection systems being charged by connection size.

**FIRE SPRINKLER SYSTEMS:**

**Inside Corporate City Boundaries**

CONNECTION SIZE	ANNUAL CHARGE	ANNUAL CHARGE	ANNUAL CHARGE	ANNUAL CHARGE
<i>Effective Date</i>	<i>1/1/2021</i>	<i>1/1/2022</i>	<i>1/1/2023</i>	<i>1/1/2024</i>
2" LINE	\$392.00	\$427.00	\$465.00	\$507.00
3" LINE	779.00	849.00	925.00	1,008.00
4" LINE	1,172.00	1,277.00	1,392.00	1,517.00
6" LINE	1,564.00	1,705.00	1,858.00	2,025.00
8" LINE	1,951.00	2,127.00	2,318.00	2,527.00
10" LINE	2,344.00	2,555.00	2,785.00	3,036.00

**Outside Corporate City Boundaries**

CONNECTION SIZE	ANNUAL CHARGE	ANNUAL CHARGE	ANNUAL CHARGE	ANNUAL CHARGE
<i>Effective Date</i>	<i>1/1/2021</i>	<i>1/1/2022</i>	<i>1/1/2023</i>	<i>1/1/2024</i>
2" LINE	\$450.00	\$491.00	\$534.00	\$583.00
3" LINE	895.00	976.00	1,063.00	1,158.00
4" LINE	1,347.00	1,467.00	1,599.00	1,743.00
6" LINE	1,797.00	1,959.00	2,135.00	2,327.00
8" LINE	2,242.00	2,444.00	2,663.00	2,904.00
10" LINE	2,693.00	2,936.00	3,200.00	3,488.00

**SPECIAL CHARGES**

**COLLECTION AND LATE PAYMENT CHARGE**

All bills for water service not paid at the Utility Billing Office on or before the 25<sup>th</sup> of the month of billing, as stated on such bills, shall be subject to late payment charges of ten percent of the first \$3.00 of unpaid billing and 3% on the amount over \$3.00.

**SHUTOFF FOR NON-PAYMENT**

Accounts for water service which remain unpaid for 30 days, will receive a Delinquency/Shutoff Notice which will assign a date upon or after which water service will be discontinued if the account remains unpaid or if arrangements have not been made for payment. Once water has been shut off for non-payment, the bill must be satisfied, and the service reconnect fee of \$20.00 must be paid before service is restored.

**NON-RECURRING AND SPECIAL CHARGES**

**CUSTOMER DEPOSIT**

METER SIZE	DEPOSIT
5/8" - 1"	\$35
1-1/2"	\$55
2"	\$85
3"	\$155
4"	\$260
6"	\$525
8"	\$795
10"	\$935

**METERS**

5/8" through 1" meters are provided at no cost for all installations. For any meters larger than 1" the customer or developer will be charged for costs in excess of the cost of a 1" meter. In addition the customer will be charged for any flange package necessary for meter installation.

**SERVICE FEES**

SERVICE	CHARGE
SERVICE START FEE	\$20.00
RECONNECT FEE FOR NON PAYMENT SHUTOFF	\$20.00
SERVICE RESTART – VACATION SHUTOFF	\$20.00
SPECIAL TURN OFF/ON	\$20.00
OVERTIME TURN ON	\$50.00
BAD CHECK CHARGE	\$25.00
DAMAGED OR FROZEN METER 5/8" – 3/4"	\$75.00
DAMAGED OR FROZEN METER 1" OR LARGER	Replacement or Repair Cost

- The service fees above shall be collected by the water department and split 50/50 with the wastewater department for customers who also have sewer service.

**TAPPING FEES**

TAP SIZE	FEES
1"	\$250
1-1/2"	\$250
2"	\$250
3" and larger	\$600

- In addition to the tap fee the property owner or developer must pay the current cost of fittings, meter setting, curb box and meter.
- An additional charge of \$100.00 for shoring will be assessed to the contractor if the excavation is not shored in compliance with OSHA Standard 29 CFR1926 subpart P.

**BACKFLOW DEVICE TESTING FEES**

SERVICE	MON. – FRI. 7AM – 3:30PM	AFTER HOURS & SATURDAY	SUNDAYS & HOLIDAYS
DEVICE TEST	\$50.00	\$60.00	\$70.00
DEVICE REPAIR	\$30.00 HR.	\$60.00 HR.	\$70.00 HR.
ADDITIONAL TESTS	If location has more than one device each additional device will be tested at the hourly rate applicable at the time of the Testing.		

**TEMPORARY USERS**

Water furnished to temporary users, such as contractors, etc. shall be charged on the basis of the metered rate from the first step of the rate block, as metered or estimated by the water works management. There shall be a monthly service charge of \$10.00 for all users.

If user is granted permission to purchase water from a fire hydrant then the procedures set forth in the **Public Fire Hydrant Temporary Usage Policy** shall apply.



**LABORATORY SERVICES**

TEST	FEE
COLIFORM ANALYSIS	\$30.00
E COLI CONFIRMED	\$30.00

**SYSTEM DEVELOPMENT CHARGES**

Effective upon adoption of this ordinance, System Development Charge will be collected from new customers of the Water System in accordance with the following schedule:

METER SIZE	EQUIVALENCY	CHARGE
5/8"	1.0	\$850
3/4"	1.5	\$850
1"	2.5	\$2,125
1-1/2"	5.0	\$4,250
2"	8.0	\$6,800
3"	15.0	\$12,750
4"	25.0	\$21,250
6"	50.0	\$42,500
8"	80.0	\$68,000

- The City shall collect such rates and charges at the same time and the same manner as the collection of the Water Tapping Fee.
- The above system development fees may be modified by the Board of Public Works and Safety when investments in water infrastructure made by developers or private property owners results in significant enhancement of the capabilities of the City of LaPorte to serve existing or future customers. Existing individual property owners within the City of LaPorte to whom the City has not been able to provide water services and Non-For Profit entities will be exempt from these system development fees.