AGENDA ITEM HISTORY SHEET

ITEM TITLE
Ordinance 2025-12 Wastewater Rates

AGENDA NO. 7

AGENDA DATE: 9/30/2025

FUNDING CERTIFICATION (Finance Director) (Signature, if applicable)

9/24/25

MANAGEMENT STAFF REVIEW (Signature)

MAYOR (Signature)

ITEM HISTORY (Previous Council reviews, action related to this item, and other pertinent history)

The proposed rate study has been reviewed at WSAC regular & special meeting, planning commission, community engagement committee, and a meeting with business leaders. Ryan Bowman with Friday Firm along with staff have drafted/reviewed these ordinances.

ITEM COMMENTARY (Background discussion, key points, recommendations, etc.) Please identify any or all impacts this proposed action would have on the City budget, personnel resources, and/or residents.

This ordinance reflects the rates that were proposed in our recently completed Water/Wastewater Rate Study. The wasterwater rates are scheduled to increase by 6% for 3 years followed by 2% the next 2 years. Act 925 requires the implementation of full cost pricing meaning we must have rates that provide us with adequate revenue to continue operating the system at the current level of service as well as completing our Council adopted Wastewater Capital Improvement Plan. Our last rate ordinance was passed in 2021 as Ordinance 2021-07. This ordinance also includes the Monthly Infrastructure Fee so fees/rates are easily trackable.

(This section to be completed by the Mayor)

ACTION PROPOSED (Motion for Consideration)

Complete a first reading of proposed ordinance in September, allow for public hearing to be held during October's Council meeting, and adopt the ordinance as proposed in October to ensure adequate time for Natural Resources Division to review/approve and proper budgeting to occur before rates go into effect January 1, 2026.

ORDINANCE NO. _____

AN ORDINANCE FIXING RATES FOR SERVICES RENDERED BY THE SEWER FACILITIES OF THE WATER AND SEWER SYSTEM OF THE CITY OF BRYANT, ARKANSAS; AND PRESCRIBING OTHER MATTERS RELATING THERETO.

WHEREAS, the City of Bryant, Arkansas (the "City") owns and operates a water and sewer system (the "System"); and

WHEREAS, the City Council has determined that the rates charged for sewer services of the System should be increased;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED by the City Council of the City of Bryant, Arkansas:

Section 1. The following monthly rates and charges, which the City Council hereby finds and declares are fair, reasonable and necessary rates, are hereby fixed as rates to be charged for sewer services to be rendered by the System.

Monthly Sewer Rates. (a) For sewer service between January 1, 2026 and December 31, 2026, the amount to be paid by each customer shall be computed on the basis of the following schedule of rates:

January 1, 2026 - December 31, 2026

For the first 2,000 gallons of water consumption per month or portion thereof	$21.94 (minimum charge)
All water consumption in excess of 2,000 gallons	$1.170 per 100 gallons

(b) For sewer service between January 1, 2027 and December 31, 2027, the amount to be paid by each customer shall be computed on the basis of the following schedule of rates:

January 1, 2027 - December 31, 2027

For the first 2,000 gallons of water consumption per month or portion thereof	$23.26 (minimum charge)
All water consumption in excess of 2,000 gallons	$1.240 per 100 gallons

(c) For sewer service between January 1, 2028 and December 31, 2028, the amount to be paid by each customer shall be computed on the basis of the following schedule of rates:

January 1, 2028 - December 31, 2028

For the first 2,000 gallons of water consumption per month or portion thereof	$24.65 (minimum charge)
All water consumption in excess of 2,000 gallons	$1.315 per 100 gallons

(d) For sewer service between January 1, 2029 and December 31, 2029, the amount to be paid by each customer shall be computed on the basis of the following schedule of rates:

January 1, 2029 - December 31, 2029

For the first 2,000 gallons of water consumption per month or portion thereof	$25.15 (minimum charge)
All water consumption in excess of 2,000 gallons	$1.341 per 100 gallons

(e) For sewer service between January 1, 2030 and December 31, 2030, the amount to be paid by each customer shall be computed on the basis of the following schedule of rates:

January 1, 2030 - December 31, 2030

For the first 2,000 gallons of water consumption per month or portion thereof	$25.65 (minimum charge)
All water consumption in excess of 2,000 gallons	$1.368 per 100 gallons

(f) The rates in (e) above shall be increased by 5% on January 1, 2031 and on each January 1 thereafter.

(g) Customers receiving sewer services to locations outside of City limits will be charged double the prevailing minimum charge.

(h) Each customer 65 years and older, with verification of age, shall receive a senior citizen discount of three dollars and eighty-one cents ($3.81), which shall be deducted from the monthly sewer bill.

(i) Customers receiving sewer services that require grinder pumps permitted, operated and maintained by the City will be charged a flat monthly surcharge in the amount of $12.95 in addition to charges for sewer usage.

Section 2. (a) On or before June 30, 2029 and on or before June 30 of each fifth (5th) year thereafter, the City shall engage a duly qualified rate analyst not in the regular employ of the City (an "Analyst") to review the then current water and sewer rates and make recommendations as to whether any rate increases are necessary to produce revenues sufficient to pay debt service on outstanding bonds secured by System revenues ("System Bonds"), provide an adequate depreciation fund, pay the costs of operating and maintaining the System and meet any required bond covenants for the ensuing fiscal year.

(b) Beginning in 2026, the City, on or before June 30 of each year that an Analyst is not engaged pursuant to subsection (a) above, shall review the then current water and sewer rates to determine whether any rate increases are necessary to produce revenues sufficient to pay debt service on outstanding System Bonds, provide an adequate depreciation fund, pay the costs of operating and maintaining the System and meet any required bond covenants for the ensuing fiscal year.

Section 3. None of the sewer services afforded by the System shall be furnished without a charge being made therefore. Any multi-unit that has installed a master meter will pay the Minimum Charge on each unit plus usage shown on the master meter.

Section 4. (a) All customers of the System shall be charged a monthly fee (the "System Infrastructure Fee") to be used solely for the repayment of System Bonds. The System Infrastructure Fee will be paid by all customers regardless of the amount of water used or wastewater discharged. All revenues derived from the System Infrastructure Fee shall be used solely for payment of debt service (principal, interest, and trustee fees and expenses) of System Bonds.

(b) The monthly System Infrastructure Fee for each mobile home, with or without a separate water meter, shall be as set forth in subsection (i) below.

(c) The monthly System Infrastructure Fee for each apartment, residential dwelling unit, with or without a separate water meter, shall be as set forth in subsection (i) below.

(d) The monthly System Infrastructure Fee for each new residential dwelling unit of any type, with or without a separate water meter, shall be as set forth in subsection (i) below.

(e) The monthly System Infrastructure Fee for each health care facility shall be based on meter size as set forth in subsection (j) below.

(f) The monthly System Infrastructure Fee for each State funded facility shall be based on meter size as set forth in subsection (j) below.

(g) The monthly System Infrastructure Fee for commercial establishments ("Commercial Establishments") shall be based on meter size as set forth in subsection (j) below. Any additional unit without a separate water meter ("Additional Unit") shall be an amount set forth in subsection (i) below.

(h) The monthly System Infrastructure Fee for all other customers will be based on meter size as set forth in subsection (j) below.

(i) The System Infrastructure Fee for customers in subsections (b), (c), (d) and (g) with respect to Additional Units shall be as follows:

(1) January 1, 2026 – December 31, 2026: $10.00
(2) January 1, 2027 – December 31, 2027: $10.50
(3) January 1, 2028 – December 31, 2028: $11.03
(4) January 1, 2029 – December 31, 2029: $11.58
(5) January 1, 2030 – December 31, 2030: $12.16
(6) On and after January 1, 2031: 5% annual increase

(j) The System Infrastructure Fee for customers in subsections (e), (f), (g) with respect to Commercial Establishments and (h) shall be based on meter size as follows:

January 1, 2026 – December 31, 2026

Meter Size	System Infrastructure Fee
5/8" and 3/4"	$ 10.00
1"	55.13
1 1/2"	110.25
2"	176.40
3"	352.80
4"	556.76
6" and 8"	1,113.53

January 1, 2027 – December 31, 2027

Meter Size	System Infrastructure Fee
5/8" and 3/4"	$ 10.50
1"	57.88
1 1/2"	115.76
2"	185.22
3"	370.44
4"	584.60
6" and 8"	1,169.20

January 1, 2028 – December 31, 2028

Meter Size	System Infrastructure Fee
5/8" and 3/4"	$ 11.03
1"	60.78
1 1/2"	121.55

2"	194.48
3"	388.96
4"	613.83
6" and 8"	1,227.66

January 1, 2029– December 31, 2029

Meter Size	System Infrastructure Fee
5/8" and 3/4"	$ 11.58
1"	63.81
1 1/2"	127.63
2"	204.21
3"	408.41
4"	644.52
6" and 8"	1,289.04

January 1, 2030 – December 31, 2030

Meter Size	System Infrastructure Fee
5/8" and 3/4"	$ 12.16
1"	67.00
1 1/2"	134.01
2"	214.42
3"	428.83
4"	676.75
6" and 8"	1,353.50

On and after January 1, 2031

5% annual increase

Section 5. The provisions of this Ordinance are separable and if a section, phrase or provision shall be declared invalid, such declaration shall not affect the validity of the remainder of this Ordinance.

Section 6. All ordinances and resolutions and parts thereof in conflict herewith are hereby repealed to the extent of such conflict.

PASSED: _____, 2025.

APPROVED:

_____
Mayor

ATTEST:

_____

City Clerk

(SEAL)

CERTIFICATE

The undersigned, City Clerk of the City of Bryant, Arkansas, hereby certifies that the foregoing pages are a true and perfect copy of Ordinance No. _____, adopted at a regular session of the City Council of the City of Bryant, Arkansas, held at the regular meeting place in said City at 6:30 o'clock p.m., on the _____ day of _____, 2025, and that the Ordinance is of record in Ordinance Record Book No. _____, Page _____, now in my possession.

GIVEN under my hand and seal on this _____ day of _____, 2025.

_____

City Clerk

(SEAL)