AGENDA ITEM HISTORY SHEET

ITEM TITLE
Ordinance 2025-11 Water Rates

AGENDA NO. 6

AGENDA DATE: 9/30/2025

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

9/22/25

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 water rates are scheduled to increase by 9% each year for the next 5 years. Act 605 requires a rate study to be completed by a third party every 5 years, and they require 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 Water Capital Improvement Plan. Our last rate ordinance was passed in 2021 as Ordinance 2021-06.

(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 WATER 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, in order to comply with Act 605 of 2021, the City Council has determined that the rates charged for water 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 water services to be rendered by the System.

Monthly Water Rates. (a) For water 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:

Meter Size	*Minimum Charge*
5/8"	$ 15.84
1"	23.76
1 1/2"	39.60
2"	79.19
3"	126.70
4"	237.58
6"	791.92

All consumption in excess of 2,000 gallons: $0.761 per 100 gallons

(b) For water 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:

Meter Size	*Minimum Charge*
5/8"	$ 17.26
1"	25.90
1 1/2"	43.16
2"	86.32
3"	138.10
4"	258.96
6"	863.19

All consumption in excess of 2,000 gallons: $0.829 per 100 gallons

(c) For water 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:

Meter Size	*Minimum Charge*
5/8"	$ 18.82
1"	28.23
1 1/2"	47.05
2"	94.08
3"	150.53
4"	282.26
6"	940.88

All consumption in excess of 2,000 gallons: $0.904 per 100 gallons

(d) For water 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:

Meter Size	*Minimum Charge*
5/8"	$ 20.51
1"	30.77
1 1/2"	51.28
2"	102.55
3"	164.08

4"	307.67
6"	1,025.56

All consumption in excess of 2,000 gallons: $0.985 per 100 gallons

(e) For water 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:

Meter Size	*Minimum Charge*
5/8"	$ 22.36
1"	33.54
1 1/2"	55.90
2"	111.78
3"	178.85
4"	335.36
6"	1,117.86

All consumption in excess of 2,000 gallons: $1.074 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 water 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 water bill.

(i) If the City determines that it is necessary to purchase from any secondary water provider, customers will be charged an additional surcharge of $0.04 per 100 gallons of water consumption, in addition to the then-prevailing water rates, for the month in which the City purchases from said secondary provider.

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 water 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. 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 5. 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)