CITY CONTROLLER'S OFFICE
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December 1, 2014

Scott Stevens
Council Secretary
City of Warren, Michigan

Honorable Council Secretary:

Attached please find a copy of the Water & Sewer System rate ordinance amended to reflect rates and charges incorporated in the 2015/16 Mayor's recommended budget. I respectfully request that you place the first reading of the ordinance on the agenda for the December 9, 2014 regular City Council meeting. Please bear in mind that this is a procedural issue. Rates do not actually change until there is a second reading formally adopting the rates and establishing the operating budget for 2015/16.

Thank you for your consideration of this request.

Sincerely,

Rob Maleszyk
City Controller

Approved: _____
James R. Fouts, Mayor

ORDINANCE NO. 80-_____

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 41 ARTICLE IV OF THE CODE OF ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF WARREN RELATING TO WATER AND SEWER RATES AND CHARGES.

THE CITY OF WARREN ORDAINS:

SECTION 1. Sections 41-181 (1), (2) and (3) of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Warren are hereby amended, hereinafter to read as follows:

Sec. 41-181. Schedule.
Charges for service rendered by the water and sewer system shall be assessed against each lot or parcel of land served in accordance with the following rate schedule:

(1) *Water rate schedule*:

a. In each month for which there is water service availability, the consumption rate for water service shall be $2.963 per one hundred (100) cubic feet of metered usage.

b. In addition to the above, there shall be a monthly water service charge as follows:

5/8" meter	$0.83
3/4" meter	1.66
1" meter	3.32
1 1/2" meter	8.30
2" meter	20.75
3" meter	37.35
4" meter	74.70
6" meter	141.10
8" meter	249.00
10" meter	415.00
12" meter	830.00

c. If a larger meter is required to service any premises, the city council shall fix the service charge as to such premises, which shall be commensurate with the foregoing.

d. The minimum monthly water charge (meter and water charges) to each premise for metered water shall be as follows:

5/8" meter	$6.76
3/4" meter	7.59
1" meter	9.25
1 1/2" meter	37.93
2" meter	50.38
3" meter	66.98
4" meter	104.33
6" meter	170.73
8" meter	278.63
10" meter	444.63
12" meter	859.63

e. Reserved.

f. Hydrant rental to be paid by the city at the rate of fifteen dollars ($15.00) per year, per hydrant. This revenue will be used for a fire hydrant maintenance and replacement program. It is expected that, in addition to hydrant maintenance, 30 hydrants can be replaced per year.

(2) *Sewage disposal charges based on water consumption*:

a. In each month for which there is sewage disposal service availability, the consumption rate for sewage disposal services shall be $2.166 per one hundred (100) cubic feet.

b. In addition to the above, there shall be a monthly sewer service charge as follows:

5/8" meter	$2.00
3/4" meter	4.00
1" meter	8.00
1 1/2" meter	20.00
2" meter	50.00
3" meter	90.00
4" meter	180.00
6" meter	340.00
8" meter	600.00
10" meter	1000.00
12" meter	2000.00

c. The minimum monthly sewer charge (meter and sewer charges) to each premise for metered water consumption for sewage disposal shall be as follows:

5/8" meter	$6.33
3/4" meter	8.33
1" meter	12.33
1 1/2" meter	41.66
2" meter	71.66
3" meter	111.66
4" meter	201.66
6" meter	361.66
8" meter	621.66
10" meter	1021.66
12" meter	2021.66

d. Reserved.

e. As provided in section 41-70 to cover the added costs of treating the wastes which have pollutants in excess of the amount allowable by law, there shall be a surcharge for industrial users, per user billing period as follows:

Biochemical oxygen demand (BOD):	$0.2432 per pound in excess of three hundred (300) mg/liter;
Suspended Solids (SS):	$0.2827 per pound in excess of three hundred fifty (350) mg/liter;
Phosphorus (P):	$2.3948 per pound in excess of twenty-five (25) mg/liter;
Ammonia (NH3 = N):	$0.5045 per pound in excess of twenty-five (25) mg/liter;

In accordance with the city national pollutant discharger elimination system permit, which requires the city to establish an industrial pretreatment program and so that the costs be allocated proportionately to the users affected, there shall be an additional charge, per user billing period, as follows:

Wastewater pretreatment charge:	One hundred ninety dollars ($195.00) per sample;
Wastewater pretreatment charge:	Eighty dollars ($85.00) per analysis;
Nondomestic user commodity charge:	$0.3839 per one hundred (100) cubic feet.

f. For the inspection of cross-connections to safeguard public health and safety there shall be a surcharge for industrial users, per billing period, as follows:

Nondomestic user cross-connection inspection charge:

$0.1003 per one hundred (100) cubic feet.

g. The rates established here are to meet operations and shall not be excessive or produce profit over and above the requirements of the system or as required by law.

(3) Isolation of wholesale water costs, union contract wages and fringe benefits. The purpose of this section is to permit the automatic adjustment of retail rates to residential, commercial and industrial customers for changes in operating costs that are outside the direct control of the water and sewer system.

a. Wholesale water costs - the consumption-based retail water rate shall be adjusted to reflect changes in the wholesale cost of water purchases implemented by the City of Detroit during the current fiscal year.

1. Water purchase expense in the original adopted operating budget is calculated as the estimated water purchase volume times the wholesale rate in effect at the time of budget adoption.

2. When the City of Detroit Board of Water Commissioners approves a change in wholesale rate to be charged to the City of Warren, water purchase expense shall be recalculated as the actual year-to-date wholesale purchase cost plus estimated purchase volumes for the balance of the fiscal year times the revised wholesale rates.

3. The revised water purchase expense as determined above shall be compared to the original approved water and sewer system budget for water purchases. If the revised cost exceeds the original budget cost the resulting shortage shall be recoverable from retail customers through an increase in the water consumption rate for balance of the current fiscal year. If the revised cost is less than the original budget cost the surplus shall be rebated to retail customers through a decrease in the water consumption rate for the balance of the current fiscal year.

The adjustment to the water consumption rate shall be determined by dividing the anticipated cost change by the projected sales volume for the balance of the current fiscal year.

b. Reserved.

c. Reserved.

d. Capital improvement/debt funding – each July the City may increase the combined water and waste water rates to provide funding for system improvements and replacements such as water mains and sewer lines. The funds can be used to pay the long term financing costs for needed capital improvements, when so approved.

1. The mid-year adjustment for fiscal years 2012 through 2015, for capital improvement/debt funding shall be no greater than 1.5%, to provide funding for designated water main, sewer line and storm water projects.

2. All increases in this section apply to both residential and commercial users and shall be calculated based on the effect on a residential user having a 5/8" service meter and 1,000 cubic feet of monthly usage.

3. The City shall provide, with the annual financial report for the Water & Sewer System, a cumulative schedule detailing the revenues generated from this section, expenses charged against the revenues and the net balances remaining for authorized expenditures.

e. These adjustments of water and sewer rates shall occur by operation of this ordinance under authority granted under sections 6.1 of the City Charter, as if specifically adopted by city council.

f. Any changes in rates shall be published at least once in a newspaper of general circulation with the city. Supporting schedules shall be filed with the city clerk for public inspection and transmitted to the city council for information and review.

g. Nothing in this section shall, in any way, limit the power of the city council to adjust water and sewer rates by resolution or ordinance amendment independent of the operation of this ordinance.

SECTION 2. This ordinance is ordered to be published in the manner provided by law and the water and sewage charges shall be implemented on all billings rendered on or after its effective date.

THIS ORDINANCE SHALL TAKE EFFECT ON _____.

I HEREBY CERTIFY that the foregoing Ordinance # 80-_____ was adopted by the Council of the City of Warren at its meeting held on _____.

_____
PAUL WOJNO
City Clerk

PUBLISHED: _____