

ORDINANCE NO. 1751

AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWN OF LITTLE ELM, TEXAS, PROVIDING FOR RESIDENTIAL, IRRIGATION, WHOLESALE, WELL AND REUSE, COMMERCIAL AND HYDRANT METER WATER AND WASTEWATER FEES AND RATES; PROVIDING FOR A REPEALING CLAUSE; PROVIDING FOR A SEVERABILITY CLAUSE; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

BE IT OBTAINED BY THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF LITTLE ELM, TEXAS THAT:

SECTION 1. Residential Water Rates:

- (A) From and after the effective date hereof, the monthly minimum base charges for water up to 2,000 gallons for water utility services for all residential customers of the Town of Little Elm, Texas shall be as set forth below until amended by ordinance of Town Council:

Water Base Rate in Gallons by Meter Size	\$	Rate (Effective 10-01-24)	Rate (Effective 10-01-25)	Rate (Effective 10-01-26)	Rate (Effective 10-01-27)	Rate (Effective 10-01-28)
Up to 2,000 Gallons (5/8" Meter)		27.34	29.25	31.30	33.49	35.83
Up to 2,000 Gallons (1" Meter)		44.69	47.82	51.17	54.75	58.58
Up to 2,000 Gallons (1.5" Meter)		81.83	87.56	93.69	100.25	107.27
Up to 2,000 Gallons (2" Meter)		136.70	146.27	156.51	167.47	179.19
Up to 2,000 Gallons (3" Meter)		273.46	292.60	313.08	335.00	358.45
Up to 2,000 Gallons (4" Meter)		894.05	956.63	1,023.59	1,095.24	1,171.91
Up to 2,000 Gallons (6" Meter)		1,790.46	1,915.79	2,049.90	2,193.39	2,346.93

- (B) All residential customers will pay monthly volumetric usage charges with respect to each 1,000 gallons of metered water after the first 2,000 gallons as follows:

Volumetric Rate per each 1,000 Gallons Usage above Base Rate (all meter sizes)	\$	Rate (Effective 10-01-24)	Rate (Effective 10-01-25)	Rate (Effective 10-01-26)	Rate (Effective 10-01-27)	Rate (Effective 10-01-28)
2,000 – 10,000 (gals.)		7.25	7.76	8.30	8.88	9.50
10,001 – 20,000 (gals.)		7.59	8.12	8.69	9.30	9.95
20,001 & Above (gals.)		7.92	8.47	9.06	9.69	10.37

SECTION 2. Residential Wastewater Rates and Winter-Average:

- (A) From and after the effective date hereof, the following wastewater base and volumetric charges shall apply to all metered residential water service accounts where wastewater collection and treatment services are provided to customers:

Wastewater Rates	\$	Rate (Eff. 10-01-24) (per 1,000 gallons)	Rate (Eff. 10-01-25) (per 1,000 gallons)	Rate (Eff. 10-01-26) (per 1,000 gallons)	Rate (Eff. 10-01-27) (per 1,000 gallons)	Rate (Eff. 10-01-28) (per 1,000 gallons)
Residential Base Rate – 1 st 2,000 Gallons		30.73	30.73	30.73	30.73	30.73
2,001 & Above (winter average vol. rate)		4.71	4.71	4.71	4.71	4.71

- (B) From and after the effective date hereof, the monthly charges for wastewater service shall be based on a winter averaging of water usage during the three-month period of December, January and February. The winter average method will only apply to residential accounts that are separately metered. In the absence of historical water use to establish a wastewater average, a volume of 6,000 gallons of water will be used as the basis for establishing a new customer's monthly wastewater charge until a usage-based average is established.

SECTION 3. Commercial Water Rates: Businesses, Schools, Apartments, Manufactured Home Parks, and other multi-family units:

- (A) From and after the effective date hereof, the monthly minimum base charges for water up to 2,000 gallons for water utility services for all businesses and schools shall be as set forth below:

Water Base Rate in Gallons by Meter Size	\$	Rate (Effective 10-01-24)	Rate (Effective 10-01-25)	Rate (Effective 10-01-26)	Rate (Effective 10-01-27)	Rate (Effective 10-01-28)
Up to 2,000 Gallons (5/8" Meter)		27.34	29.25	31.30	33.49	35.83
Up to 2,000 Gallons (1" Meter)		44.69	47.82	51.17	54.75	58.58
Up to 2,000 Gallons (1.5" Meter)		81.83	87.56	93.69	100.25	107.27
Up to 2,000 Gallons (2" Meter)		136.70	146.27	156.51	167.47	179.19
Up to 2,000 Gallons (3" Meter)		273.46	292.60	313.08	335.00	358.45
Up to 2,000 Gallons (4" Meter)		894.05	956.63	1,023.59	1,095.24	1,171.91
Up to 2,000 Gallons (6" Meter)		1,790.46	1,915.79	2,049.90	2,193.39	2,346.93
Up to 2,000 Gallons (8" Meter)		2,166.56	2,318.22	2,480.50	2,654.14	2,839.93

- (B) All businesses and school customers will pay a monthly volumetric usage charge in addition to the base rate with respect to each 1,000 gallons of metered water after the first 2,000 gallons as follows:

Volumetric Rate per each 1,000 Gallons Usage above Base Rate (all meter sizes)	\$	Rate (Effective 10-01-24)	Rate (Effective 10-01-25)	Rate (Effective 10-01-26)	Rate (Effective 10-01-27)	Rate (Effective 10-01-28)
2,000 gallons and greater		8.04	8.60	9.20	9.84	10.53

- (C) All apartments and manufactured home park consumers shall be assessed a base minimum charge for each unit in each complex with a credit of 2,000 gallons for each unit (dwelling) as follows:

Water Base Rate by multi-family unit (dwelling) & Gallons by Meter Size	\$	Rate (Effective 10-01-24)	Rate (Effective 10-01-25)	Rate (Effective 10-01-26)	Rate (Effective 10-01-27)	Rate (Effective 10-01-28)
Up to 2,000 Gallons (5/8" Meter)		27.34	29.25	31.30	33.49	35.83
Up to 2,000 Gallons (1" Meter)		44.69	47.82	51.17	54.75	58.58
Up to 2,000 Gallons (1.5" Meter)		81.83	87.56	93.69	100.25	107.27
Up to 2,000 Gallons (2" Meter)		136.70	146.27	156.51	167.47	179.19
Up to 2,000 Gallons (3" Meter)		273.46	292.60	313.08	335.00	358.45
Up to 2,000 Gallons (4" Meter)		894.05	956.63	1,023.59	1,095.24	1,171.91
Up to 2,000 Gallons (6" Meter)		1,790.46	1,915.79	2,049.90	2,193.39	2,346.93
Up to 2,000 Gallons (8" Meter)		2,166.56	2,318.22	2,480.50	2,654.14	2,839.93

- (D) All apartments and manufactured home park customers will pay a monthly volumetric usage charge in addition to the base rate with respect to each 1,000 gallons of metered water after the first 2,000 gallons as follows:

Volumetric Rate per each 1,000 Gallons Usage above Base Rate (all meter sizes)	\$	Rate (Effective 10-01-24)	Rate (Effective 10-01-25)	Rate (Effective 10-01-26)	Rate (Effective 10-01-27)	Rate (Effective 10-01-28)
2,000 gallons and greater		9.27	9.92	10.61	11.35	12.14

SECTION 4. Irrigation Water Rates:

- (A) From and after the effective date hereof, the monthly minimum base charges for irrigation water up to 2,000 gallons for irrigation water utility services shall be as set forth below:

Water Base Rate in Gallons by Meter Size	\$	Rate (Effective 10-01-24)	Rate (Effective 10-01-25)	Rate (Effective 10-01-26)	Rate (Effective 10-01-27)	Rate (Effective 10-01-28)
Up to 2,000 Gallons (5/8" Meter)		27.34	29.25	31.30	33.49	35.83
Up to 2,000 Gallons (1" Meter)		44.69	47.82	51.17	54.75	58.58
Up to 2,000 Gallons (1.5" Meter)		81.83	87.56	93.69	100.25	107.27
Up to 2,000 Gallons (2" Meter)		136.70	146.27	156.51	167.47	179.19
Up to 2,000 Gallons (3" Meter)		273.46	292.60	313.08	335.00	358.45
Up to 2,000 Gallons (4" Meter)		894.05	956.63	1,023.59	1,095.24	1,171.91
Up to 2,000 Gallons (6" Meter)		1,790.46	1,915.79	2,049.90	2,193.39	2,346.93
Up to 2,000 Gallons (8" Meter)		2,166.56	2,318.22	2,480.50	2,654.14	2,839.93

- (B) All irrigation water accounts will pay monthly volumetric usage charges with respect to each 1,000 gallons of metered water after the first 2,000 gallons as follows:

Volumetric Rate per each 1,000 Gallons Usage above Base Rate (all meter sizes)	\$	Rate (Effective 10-01-24)	Rate (Effective 10-01-25)	Rate (Effective 10-01-26)	Rate (Effective 10-01-27)	Rate (Effective 10-01-28)
2,000 – 10,000 (gals.)		7.25	7.76	8.30	8.88	9.50
10,001 – 20,000 (gals.)		7.55	8.06	8.60	9.18	9.80
20,001 & Above (gals.)		7.85	8.36	8.90	9.48	10.10

SECTION 5. Wholesale Water Rates:

- (A) Wholesale water rates will be evaluated annually and the rate for the next year revised per that analysis. Beginning September 2024, and by September 1 of each year thereafter, contracted wholesale water metered accounts will be advised of any change to their volumetric wholesale water rates via written communication (email) from the Finance office of the Town of Little Elm. Wholesale water metered accounts will pay monthly volumetric usage charges with respect to each 1,000 gallons of metered water.
- (B) Rates for any Wholesale or Outside Emergency Interconnect Customers will be notified beginning September 2024, and by September 1 of each year thereafter, annually for any change in their assessed rates. Rates for these accounts will be based on the American Water Works Association (AWWA) Utility basis and the customer's historical or anticipated demand patterns and volumes.

SECTION 6. Well and Reuse Rates:

- (A) From and after the effective date hereof, the monthly minimum base charges for well and reuse water accounts up to 2,000 gallons shall be as set forth below:

Water Base Rate in Gallons By	\$	Rate (Effective 10-01-24)	Rate (Effective 10-01-25)	Rate (Effective 10-01-26)	Rate (Effective 10-01-27)	Rate (Effective 10-01-28)
N/A		N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

- (B) All well and reuse meter accounts will pay monthly volumetric usage charges with respect to each 1,000 gallons of metered water as follows:

Volumetric Rate per each 1,000 Gallons Usage above Base Rate (all meter sizes)	\$	Rate (Effective 10-01-24)	Rate (Effective 10-01-25)	Rate (Effective 10-01-26)	Rate (Effective 10-01-27)	Rate (Effective 10-01-28)
1,000 gallons and above		4.29	4.35	4.41	4.48	4.55

SECTION 7. Hydrant Meter Rates:

- (A) From and after the effective date hereof, the monthly minimum base charges for hydrant meter water up to 2,000 gallons shall be as set forth below:

Water Base Rate in Gallons by Meter Size	\$	Rate (Effective 10-01-24)	Rate (Effective 10-01-25)	Rate (Effective 10-01-26)	Rate (Effective 10-01-27)	Rate (Effective 10-01-28)
Up to 2,000 Gallons (5/8" Meter)		27.34	29.25	31.30	33.49	35.83
Up to 2,000 Gallons (1" Meter)		44.69	47.82	51.17	54.75	58.58
Up to 2,000 Gallons (1.5" Meter)		81.83	87.56	93.69	100.25	107.27
Up to 2,000 Gallons (2" Meter)		136.70	146.27	156.51	167.47	179.19
Up to 2,000 Gallons (3" Meter)		273.46	292.60	313.08	335.00	358.45
Up to 2,000 Gallons (4" Meter)		894.05	956.63	1,023.59	1,095.24	1,171.91
Up to 2,000 Gallons (6" Meter)		1,790.46	1,915.79	2,049.90	2,193.39	2,346.93

Up to 2,000 Gallons (8" Meter)		2,166.56	2,318.22	2,480.50	2,654.14	2,839.93
--------------------------------	--	----------	----------	----------	----------	----------

(B) All hydrant meter accounts will pay monthly volumetric usage charges with respect to each 1,000 gallons of metered water after the first 2,000 gallons as follows:

Volumetric Rate per each 1,000 Gallons Usage above Base Rate (all meter sizes)	\$	Rate (Effective 10-01-24)	Rate (Effective 10-01-25)	Rate (Effective 10-01-26)	Rate (Effective 10-01-27)	Rate (Effective 10-01-28)
2,001 gallons and above		9.45	10.11	10.82	11.58	12.39

SECTION 8. Commercial Wastewater Rates: Business, Schools, Apartments, Manufactured Home, Parks, Church's, and other multi-family:

(A) From and after the effective date hereof, the following wastewater base and volumetric charges shall apply to all metered commercial water service accounts where wastewater collections and treatment services are provided to customers:

Wastewater Rates (per 1,000 gallons)	\$	Rate (Effective 10-01-24)	Rate (Effective 10-01-25)	Rate (Effective 10-01-26)	Rate (Effective 10-01-27)	Rate (Effective 10-01-28)
Commercial Base Rate – 1 st 2,000 gallons		30.73	30.73	30.73	30.73	30.73
2,001 gallons and above		4.71	4.71	4.71	4.71	4.71

SECTION 9. Wholesale Wastewater Rates:

(A) Wholesale wastewater rates will be evaluated annually and the rate for the next year revised per that analysis. Beginning September 2024, and by September 1 of each year thereafter, contracted wholesale wastewater metered accounts will be advised of any change to their volumetric wholesale wastewater rates via written communication (email) from the Finance office of the Town of Little Elm.

SECTION 10. Connect Fees: From and after the effective date hereof the charges to be collected for Meter Sets and Taps are as follows:

Fees by Meter Size	\$	Rate (Effective 10-01-24)	Rate (Effective 10-01-25)	Rate (Effective 10-01-26)	Rate (Effective 10-01-27)	Rate (Effective 10-01-28)
<i>Meter Set Fees</i>						
5/8" Meter		550.00	566.50	583.50	601.00	620.00
1" Meter		625.00	643.75	663.00	683.00	700.00
1.5" Meter		900.00	927.00	955.00	984.00	1,013.00
2" Meter		2,250.00	2,317.50	2,387.00	2,459.00	2,535.00
<i>Water Tap Fees</i>						
5/8" Meter		2,225.00	2,291.75	2,360.50	2,431.00	2,500.00
1" Meter		2,225.00	2,291.75	2,360.50	2,431.00	2,500.00
1.5" Meter		2,525.00	2,600.75	2,680.00	2,760.00	2,840.00
2" Meter		2,525.00	2,600.75	2,680.00	2,760.00	2,840.00
<i>Sewer Tap Fees</i>						
4" Tap		1,650.00	1,700.00	1,750.00	1,800.00	1,855.00

(A) Boring fees will be determined at the time of connection and will be the full responsibility of the customer.

SECTION 11. Service Fees: From and after the effective date hereof the charges to be collected for services associated with providing utility services as follows:

Service Fees	\$	Rate (Effective 10-01-24)	Rate (Effective 10-01-25)	Rate (Effective 10-01-26)	Rate (Effective 10-01-27)	Rate (Effective 10-01-28)
Delinquent Fee (Failure to pay)		50.00	50.00	50.00	50.00	50.00
Penalty Assessment on past-due accounts		10%	10%	10%	10%	10%
Return Check Fee		30.00	30.00	30.00	30.00	30.00
Application/Processing Fee (residential & commercial)		15.00	15.00	15.00	15.00	15.00
Meter Penalty		50.00	50.00	50.00	50.00	50.00
Meter Flow Testing Fee (assessed if passing)		50.00	50.00	50.00	50.00	50.00
Meter Consumption Diagnostic Report (upon the 2 nd request annually)		25.00	25.00	25.00	25.00	25.00
Missed Appointment Fee		50.00	50.00	50.00	50.00	50.00
After Hour Service Fee		50.00	50.00	50.00	50.00	50.00

SECTION 12. Deposit: From and after the effective date hereof a refundable deposit for utility services shall be made with the customer service department of the town at the time of making application for utility services as follows:

Deposits	\$	Rate (Effective 10-01-24)	Rate (Effective 10-01-25)	Rate (Effective 10-01-26)	Rate (Effective 10-01-27)	Rate (Effective 10-01-28)
Residential Single Family (Applicants 62 years of age and older are exempt with ID)		200.00	200.00	200.00	200.00	200.00
Residential Irrigation Service		200.00	200.00	200.00	200.00	200.00
Commercial Service		350.00	350.00	350.00	350.00	350.00
Apartments, per unit		200.00	200.00	200.00	200.00	200.00
Fire Hydrant or Portable Meter		1,000.00	1,000.00	1,000.00	1,000.00	1,000.00

SECTION 13. Deposit Refunds: Upon termination of services, refunds will be forwarded to customer's forwarding address or last known address. Deposits are held until an account is closed and is applied or refunded.

SECTION 14. Repeal of Conflicting Ordinances: All ordinances or parts of ordinances in force when the provisions of this ordinance become effective, which are inconsistent or in conflict with the terms or provisions contained in this ordinance, are hereby repealed to the extent of any such conflict. This Ordinance amends those utility rates for residential and commercial water and wastewater previously established by Ordinance No. 1472. This Ordinance does not, however, amend or in any way alter the refuse rates established by Ordinance No. 1535 and such refuse rates will remain as established until and unless they are specifically amended by Town Council action and the passage of an amending ordinance regarding same.

SECTION 15. Severability Clause: If any clause, phrase, sentence, paragraph or section of this ordinance shall be void or unconstitutional for any reason, such invalidity shall not affect any other provisions of the ordinance and such clause, phrase, sentence, paragraph or section is hereby declared severable.

SECTION 16. Saving Clause: This Ordinance shall be cumulative of all other ordinances of the Town and shall not repeal any of the provisions of those ordinances except in those instances where the provisions of those ordinances are in direct conflict with the provisions of this Ordinance. This Ordinance amends those utility rates for residential and commercial water and wastewater previously established by Ordinance No. 1472, and does not, however, amend or in any way alter the refuse rates established by Ordinance No. 1535, and such refuse rates will remain as established until and unless they are specifically amended by Town Council action and the passage of an amending ordinance regarding same.

SECTION 17. Providing for Publication: Providing for the publication of this caption of this ordinance and effective date hereof. The newspaper having general circulation in the Town shall be effective immediately upon its passage and publication.

SECTION 18. Effective date: This Ordinance shall take effect immediately following its adoption and publication in accordance with and provided by law and the Town Charter.

SECTION 19. Subject to Revision: It is the customary practice and intention of the Town to perform periodic or annual reviews of the water and wastewater utility rates in order to confirm or adjust the forecast rates for water and wastewater as needed.

PASSED AND APPROVED by the Town Council of the Town of Little Elm, Texas on the 20th day of February, 2024.

TOWN OF LITTLE ELM, TEXAS

Curtis J. Cornelious, Mayor

Attest

Caitlan Biggs, Town Secretary