Ordinance No. 09-22

ORDINANCE: To amend Chapter 24 of the Rockville City Code, entitled "Water, Sewers and Sewage Disposal," by amending Article III, entitled "Rates and Charges," to provide clarifications and establish a phase-in of established water and sewer charges for fiscal year 2023 through fiscal year 2024

# BE IT ORDAINED BY THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF ROCKVILLE,

MARYLAND as follows:

SECTION I - That Chapter 24 of the Rockville City Code, entitled "Water, Sewers and Sewage Disposal," be amended as follows:

#### **CHAPTER 24**

### WATER, SEWERS AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL

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#### **ARTICLE IV. - RATES AND CHARGES**

Sec. 24-51. – Water consumption charge.

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- (b) The established charges shall go into effect on January 1, 2022 for FY 2022 and July 1 of the fiscal year for which they have been established for FY 2023 and FY 2024. The new established charges will apply to the entire billing cycle and are not prorated. The established charges will be phased in for customers for FY 2023 (July 1, 2022) and FY 2024 (July 1, 2023), with new rates applying to utility bills issued in August and October for monthly and quarterly customers, respectively.
- (c) There shall be due from each user of the water system, a monthly ready to serve charge. The ready to serve charge is a fixed fee that contributes to the fixed charges incurred by the City in providing water services and maintaining a water treatment plant. This service charge may not be reduced or suspended for any reason except for the demolition of the property. The ready to serve charge may be collected monthly or quarterly. The amount of the charge shall be based on water meter size and is hereby established for fiscal years 2022 through 2024, as set forth in the following charts: The established charges will be phased in for customers for FY 2023 (July 1, 2022) and FY 2024 (July 1, 2023), with new rates applying to utility bills issued in August and October for monthly and quarterly customers, respectively.

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## Sec. 24-52. – Sewer usage charge.

(a) There shall be due to the City from each user of its sewerage system and/or disposal plant for each property served by its system, the sum as set forth in the following charts for fiscal years 2022 through 2024 for each one thousand (1,000) gallons of water used by such property during the preceding three (3) months or at such other times as the City Manager shall determine in order to bill timely in accordance with State Law. The established charges will be phased in for customers for FY 2023 (July 1, 2022) and FY 2024 (July 1, 2023), with new rates applying to utility bills issued in August and October for monthly and quarterly customers, respectively.

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(b) No person using water obtained otherwise than from the water system of the City shall empty such water into the sewerage system of the City unless the water shall be measured through a meter owned or installed and owned by the City at the expense of such user, and quarterly thereafter shall be due to the City from each such user of its sewer system and/or disposal plant for each property so served by its system the sum as set forth in the following charts for fiscal years 2022 through 2024 for each one thousand (1,000) gallons of water used on such property during the preceding three (3) months or at such other times as the City Manager shall determine in order to bill timely in accordance with State Law. The established charges will be phased in for customers for FY 2023 (July 1, 2022) and FY 2024 (July 1, 2023), with new rates applying to utility bills issued in August and October for monthly and quarterly customers, respectively.

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(d) There shall be due from each user of the sewer system, a monthly ready to serve charge. The ready to serve charge is a fixed fee that contributes to the fixed charges incurred by the City in providing sewer services and maintaining a sewerage system. This service charge may not be reduced or suspended for any reason except for the demolition of the property. The ready to serve charge may be collected monthly or quarterly. The amount of the charge shall be based on water meter size and is hereby established for fiscal years 2022 through 2024, as set forth in the following charts: The established charges will be phased in for customers for FY 2023 (July 1, 2022) and FY 2024 (July 1, 2023), with new rates applying to utility bills issued in August and October for monthly and quarterly customers, respectively.

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SECTION II – This ordinance shall become effective on July 1, 2022.

Note: Strikethrough indicates material deleted.

<u>Underlining</u> indicates material added.

Asterisks \* \* \* indicate material unchanged by this ordinance.

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I hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of an ordinance adopted by the Mayor and Council at its meeting of May 9, 2022

Sara Taylor-Ferrell, City Clerk/Director of Council Operations