



Waynesboro City Council Agenda Briefing

Meeting Date:	April 25, 2022	Staff/Council Member(s): Michael G. Hamp II, City Manager/ Cameron S. McCormick, CPA, Assistant City Manager
Agenda Item #	12	
Ordinance		
Department:	City Manager's Office/Finance Department	
Subject:	Proposed Water, Refuse, and Stormwater Utility Fees for Fiscal Year 2023	

Background: The City Manager's Fiscal Year 2023 recommended budget proposes an increase in water utility fixed service charges and consumption rates as listed below. Water utility service charges, fees, and rates are prescribed by City Code Chapter 86. The Manager's budget also proposes an increase in the stormwater utility fee for each Equivalent Residential Unit and refuse service charges as prescribed by City Code Chapter 30 and 66, respectively.

The water rate is proposed to increase by 3.0 percent from \$5.21 to \$5.36 per 1,000 gallons. Fixed service charges will also increase by 3.0 percent. It is proposed that all new rates would become effective July 1, 2022.

	Current Water Service Charge	Proposed Water Service Charge
5/8-inch meter	\$8.77	\$9.03
1-inch meter	\$22.88	\$23.56
1 1/2-inch meter	\$42.86	\$44.15
2-inch meter	\$74.70	\$76.94
3-inch meter	\$130.99	\$134.92
4-inch meter	\$157.07	\$161.78
6-inch meter	\$196.72	\$202.62
8-inch meter	\$240.25	\$247.46

The stormwater utility fee Equivalent Residential Unit (ERU) is proposed to increase by three percent from \$4.56 per month to \$4.70 per month. An ERU equates to 1,600 square feet of impervious surface. The monthly fee for Multi-Family Residential and Nonresidential shall be calculated by dividing impervious surface on the subject property by 1,600 and multiplying by the ERU rate as established by the City Council except that no fee shall exceed 244 ERU's per month. Single Family Residential Units shall be bill according to the following schedule:

FEE SCHEDULE FOR SINGLE FAMILY RESIDENTIAL			
Single Family Residential	ERU's	Current Monthly Fee	Proposed Monthly Fee
Tier (1) <1,200 sq. ft.	0.5	\$2.28	\$2.35
Tier (2) 1,200 to 3,000 sq. ft.	1.0	\$4.56	\$4.70
Tier (3) >3,000 sq. ft.	2.0	\$9.12	\$9.40

The refuse service charges is proposed to increase 9.3 percent from \$16.00 per month, per cart to \$17.50 per month, per cart.

City Manager's Recommendation: Hold a public hearing to hear citizen input and consider introducing an ordinance on the 2023 fiscal year utility rates, charges, and fees. The water utility rate changes are based are justified in order to operate systems that provide safe and reliable services and meet regulatory obligations.

The stormwater utility fee increase is based on a comprehensive rate study conducted by the Wiley Wilson engineering company in 2019 and is justified in order to meet operational and regulatory demands and allows the Stormwater Fund to assume a portion of stormwater infrastructure debt currently subsidized by the General Fund.

The refuse service fee increase is based on a comprehensive solid waste and recycling system evaluation performed by SCS engineers in 2020. The current year increase will be used to meet increasing capital costs related to our membership in Augusta County Regional Landfill.

Suggested Motion(s): Move to introduce the attached ordinance.

Attachments: Utility Rate Ordinance