

## ORDINANCE 2022 – 111

### AMENDING THE CODE OF ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF MASON, OHIO, SECTION 942.08(a)1. and (b)2. RATES FOR SEWER SERVICE

WHEREAS, the City of Mason's Aaa credit rating according to Moody's Bond Service provides the City access and flexibility in maximizing saving as a result of prudent debt management; and

WHEREAS, due to the City's strong financial stewardship, the outstanding bonds issued to construct the Water Reclamation Plant and provide sewer utility to the community were paid off early resulting in significant savings; and

WHEREAS, the City of Mason's Water Reclamation Plant is a key component to the economic growth that directly impacts the high amenity/low tax environment enjoyed by Mason residents; and

WHEREAS, the City's strategic economic development approach is a major component in the City's ability to manage sewer services to accommodate community growth while maintaining sewer capacity and limiting substantial expenses; and

WHEREAS, due to the City's strong commitment to strategic economic development and financial stewardship, the City is able to make a historic reduction in the sewer utility rate for both residential and commercial customers saving at least \$150 on an annual basis for residents and \$125 for commercial customers; and

WHEREAS, the opportunity to decrease sewer utility rates and ability to provide a high level of service and amenities in a low tax environment is a result of City Council leadership and their strong commitment to strategic growth and development and prudent debt management.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT ORDAINED, by the Council of the City of Mason, Ohio, seven members elected thereto concurring:

Section 1. That the Code of Ordinances of the City of Mason, Ohio, Section 942.08(a)1 and (b)2. Rates for Sewer Service, are hereby amended as set forth on Exhibits "A" which is attached hereto.

Section 2. That all other provisions of Section 942.08(a)1. and (b)2. shall remain in full force and effect.

Section 3. The City Manager will establish and amend appropriate sewer fund balance policies for the operating fund, emergency and capital reserve.

Section 4. The Finance Director shall transfer from the Sewer Revenue Fund \$5.5 million to the new Sewer Emergency Reserve Fund and \$10 million to existing Sewer Capital & Expansion Fund for establishing the appropriate reserve funds for the Sewer Utility.

Section 5. That this ordinance shall take effect and be in force from and after the earliest period allowed by law.

Passed this 14<sup>th</sup> day of November, 2022.

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Mayor

Attest:

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Clerk of Council

**EXHIBIT “A”**

**942.08 RATES FOR SEWER SERVICE.**

All funds received are to be deposited to the operating account for the Sewer Department.

(a) 1. Residential Users. The following rates shall be charged for single and two-family dwellings or the annual Cost of Living Adjustment (COLA) as approved by Council, whichever is greater. For 2024 and later, rates will be effective on January 1 of each year and increase at the rate approved by Council for the annual COLA. The rates are based upon water used and per family unit as defined in Section 941.07(a). For dwellings without water meters, the charge for sewer service will be based on 5.348 hundred cubic feet (ccf) per month.

<b>Water Usage (ccf)</b>	<b>Rate per ccf 1/1/2023</b>
0-2 (minimum)	\$14.66
3-13	4.2369
14-40	4.5738
41-67	4.9236
68-133	5.2997
134-400	5.8177
401-667	6.5046
668 & up	7.0359

(b) Sewer Service Rates for Commercial, Industrial and Institutional Establishments and Multi-Family Dwellings and Trailer Parks

1. Definitions. For the purposes of this Section 941.08, a Multi-Family Dwelling is a residential building which is divided into three or more family units.

2. Rates. The following rates shall be charged for commercial, industrial, and institutional establishments and multi-family dwellings and trailer parks or the annual Cost of Living Adjustment (COLA) as approved by Council, whichever is greater. For 2024 and later, rates will be effective on January 1 of each year and increase at the rate approved by Council for the annual COLA. The rates are based upon water usage and are for a per establishment basis as calculated in Section 941.07(b).

<b>Water Usage (ccf)</b>	<b>Rate per ccf 1/1/2023</b>
0-2 (minimum)	\$14.66
3-13	4.2369
14-40	4.5738
41-67	4.9236
68-133	5.2997
134-400	5.8177
401-667	6.5046
668 & up	7.0359