

**City of Anacortes  
Ordinance No. 3059**

**An Ordinance of the City of Anacortes, Washington, updating Title 13 of the  
Anacortes Municipal Code, Public Services**

**Whereas** the City has authority over public services of the City, as provided in Title 13; and

**Whereas** the City needs to update certain provisions of Title 13 to allow for billing for certain City utility charges through the City's Unified Fee Schedule;

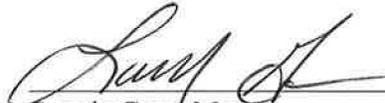
**Now, therefore, the City Council of the City of Anacortes does ordain as follows:**

Section 1. That Title 13 is hereby amended as shown in the attached Exhibit A.

Section 2. This ordinance shall take effect five (5) days from and after its passage, approval and publication in the manner required by law.

**PASSED and APPROVED this 16th day of December, 2019.**

**CITY OF ANACORTES:**

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Laurie Gere, Mayor

**Attest:**

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Steve Hoglund, City Clerk-Treasurer

**Approved as to Form:**

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Darcy Swetnam, City Attorney

## Exhibit A

### 13.08.020 Sewer Charges and Fees

The city council may, by resolution, adopt in the city unified fee schedule, a schedule of fees and charges for sewer service.

A. The maximum amount charge for residential customers shall be established by the average winter water use (AWWU) during the previous months of November, December, January, and February. Each customer usage shall be evaluated with the AWWU set on or about April 1st of each succeeding year.

The AWWU shall be established for each customer and be used to set the maximum water use identified to assess the sanitary sewage charges.

If the customer's premise is vacant for one or more months of the four winter months, the customer's account shall be set at AWWU using at least six hundred cubic feet of water per month.

B. For multifamily, public authorities, commercial, and industrial facilities, wastewater charges will be comprised of a base charge relating to water meter size equivalency and a commodity charge relating to water use and wastewater strength.

Water meter equivalency as provided below:

	AWWU Multiples	
<b>Meter Size</b>	<b>Equivalency Factor</b>	
5/8 × 3/4	1.0 = base	
3/4	1.0 × base	
1	2.5 × base	
1.5	5 × base	
2	8 × base	
3	16 × base	
4	25 × base	
6	50 × base	
8	115 × base	

The commodity charge shall be based on water use and wastewater strength. Charges shall be on a block rate, with the block rate increasing based on strength of the waste, as follows:

	<b>COMMODITY CHARGE</b>	
<b>Classification</b>	<b>Waste Strength</b>	
SIC # 1	<300 mg/l BOD or TSS	
SIC # 2	301—500 mg/l BOD or TSS	
SIC # 3	501—700 mg/l BOD or TSS	
SIC # 4	>700 mg/l BOD or TSS	

SIC = Standard Industrial Code. Each commercial and industrial account shall be assigned to an SIC upon connection to the sewer system.

Water use may be measured at the customer's water meter, or by installation of a sewage meter. The city may, at the request of the business owner, install and maintain sewage meters, the cost of which shall be paid by the customer.

C. For each separate residence receiving sanitary sewer service, but not receiving city water, or which is under change of ownership (new owners), or is a newly constructed home, the charge shall be the same as the residential customer using at least six hundred cubic feet of water per month.

D. Dumping of septic waste materials into the Anacortes sewer treatment plant will require the purchase of a septage discharge card. Septage tipping fees will be charged as determined by the UFS.

A differential rate will be charged for septage that originates from areas off of Fidalgo Island, and for leachate from Skagit County.

E. A one-time general facility charge (GFC) shall be charged to all new customers for each equivalent residential unit (ERU). An ERU shall be defined as one hundred ninety-two gallons per day. The GFC shall represent a fair and equitable share of historic and future costs of the city's sanitary sewer collection and treatment structures and facilities.

1. Each residence shall be defined as one ERU. Each residential unit in a multifamily structure shall be considered a 0.8 ERU. ERU determinations for commercial and industrial uses will be based on the type of building and sewer use per Table 13.08.020 ERU Determination Alternative of this section.

2. The GFC charge for new sewer connection or expanded sewer service shall be determined by multiplying the GFC times the total number of ERUs.

F. There shall be added to the sewer rates established hereunder an amount equal to any utility tax assessed upon a sewer utility, which amount shall also be payable on a monthly basis.

The following are the definitions of the classifications used in establishing the ERUs.

**\*\*\*Adjust table 13.08.020 to remove 'duplex' from 1.**

1. "Single-family residence" is defined as a building containing one kitchen, designed and/or used to house not more than one family, including all necessary employees of such family, such building having a single sewer service connection. Manufactured homes occupying a separate lot and providing permanent housing with a separate sewer connected shall be classified as a single-family residence.

13.08.025 Sewer treatment plant access card.

Any person wishing to dump septic waste material directly into the Anacortes sewer treatment plant shall first obtain an access card from the Anacortes sewer department in order to gain access to the plant. A fee shall be charged for issuance of an original access card. A fee shall be charged to replace any damaged or destroyed cards and a fee shall be charged to replace any lost cards. (Ord. 2064 § 2, 1988)

#### 13.08.035 Minimum rates for utility service.

A. During periods when residences are unoccupied and water service is disconnected for nonemergency reasons, the customer will be charged the base charges for water, sewer, refuse, recycling, and storm drainage, plus all applicable taxes.

B. Upon request, the city will disconnect or reconnect water service at the customer's meter during normal business hours on weekdays. A water service fee will be charged for this service. If connection or disconnection is requested to be done during nonbusiness hours, an additional fee will be charged for each service.

C. The city will accomplish disconnection of service at any time and at no fee in the event of a bona fide emergency such as fire, broken pipes causing flooding of a structure, etc. During periods when a residence cannot be occupied because it has been rendered uninhabitable in the opinion of the city, or where other special circumstances exist resulting in non-occupancy of a residence by the owner or owners, water, sewer, and solid waste charges to said premises may be discontinued. The reason for non-occupancy of a residence shall be provided in a verifiable written form and all such requests shall be reviewed by the mayor or his or her designee to determine if such request for discontinuance of utility charges is appropriate under this chapter.

D. If service is disconnected for any portion of the time period normally used to calculate the average water consumption for capping the summertime sewer charges, the customer's account shall be set at AWWU using at least six hundred cubic feet of water per month. (Ord. 2961 § 3, 2015; Ord. 2405 §§ 1—4, 1996)

#### 13.10.040 General facilities charges.

A one-time GFC per ISU shall be assessed for all new development of real property in the city, except for new developments that make special arrangements acceptable to the city public works director and federal and state agencies to undertake direct discharge to marine waters. The GFC shall represent a fair and equitable share of the historic and future cost of the city's storm and surface water system of drainage structures and facilities

#### 13.16.010 Rates.

The city council may, by resolution, adopt in the city unified fee schedule, a schedule of fees and charges for discharge of waste material directly into sewer treatment plant..

#### 13.32.005 Water rates schedule.

A. The city council may, by resolution, adopt in the city unified fee schedule, a schedule of fees and charges for water service.

B. In addition to the rates set forth by council resolution, there shall be charged an additional amount equal to the amount of any tax levy for the supplying of water service on the water utility, which amount shall be part of the total water bill payable by the water user.

C. All residential and commercial users outside the city shall pay, in addition to the rates set forth, an amount equal to fifty percent of their total water charges.

D. On January 1st of each year, the fees and charges for water services set by council resolution shall be indexed annually by the treasurer to reflect one hundred percent of any change from the Consumer Price Index for Seattle-Tacoma-Bellevue-All Urban Wage Earners (CPI-U) for the previous October, or other comparable index if not published. The treasurer shall adjust the fees and publish them each December to take effect on all goods and services delivered or contracted after the beginning of each year. In no event shall the change in rates be less than zero percent in any given year. Unit prices and all other charges shall be to the nearest cent.

E. In addition to the adjustment listed in Section 13.32.005(D) above, council may increase water rates if, in council's sole discretion, an increase is necessary to improve the water system. (Ord. 2961 § 2, 2015; Ord. 2846, 2011; Ord. 2785, 2008; Ord. 2778, 2008; Ord. 2460 § 1, 1998)

#### 13.32.007 General facilities charges.

A.

1. A one-time general facility charge (GFC) shall be charged to all new customers, or customers increasing their requirement for water service based on meter size required to provide service to the customer. If applicable, the GFC shall be additional to the meter installation costs and other special fees and charges.

2. The city council may, by resolution, adopt in the city unified fee schedule, a schedule of fees and charges for general facility charges.

3. Fee increases. On January 1st of each year, the fees and charges for water services set by council resolution shall be indexed annually by the treasurer to reflect one hundred percent of any change from the Consumer Price Index for Seattle-Tacoma-Bellevue-All Urban Wage Earners (CPI-U) for the previous October, or other comparable index if not published. The treasurer shall adjust the fees and publish them each December to take effect on all goods and services delivered or contracted after the beginning of each year. In no event shall the change in rates be less than zero percent in any given year. Unit prices and all other charges shall be to the nearest cent. The GFC shall be paid at the time of applying for a building permit for a structure requiring a new or expanded water service. The out-of-city rate shall be fifty percent higher than the in-city rate.