

**TOWN OF FREDERICA
ORDINANCE NO. 16-22**

**AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 425 OF THE FREDERICA
CODE OF ORDINANCES**

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF FREDERICA IN COUNCIL MET:

Section 1. That Chapter 425 of the Frederica Code be amended by striking the existing subsections and substituting in lieu thereof the following:

§425-6 Water service charges established.

Base and usage charges shall be collected from the users of the public water system which proportions the cost of operation, maintenance and improvements to the public water system to the users of the public water system as well as supports payments to debt service and maintains reserve and contingency funds based on their water consumption, including replacement costs. These rates shall be reviewed annually.

A. Base and usage charges.

(1) The base water service charge shall consist of a fixed amount, not associated with any flow allowance, deemed to be an availability charge assessed to all single-family residences, apartment units, businesses, institutions, and any other class of users not mentioned. It shall be determined by the Town Council to be sufficient to reimburse the Town for costs associated with water debt service and the maintenance of reserve and contingency funds or any other charges deemed fixed by the

Town Council. This rate shall be \$15 per month or \$45 per quarter.

(2) The Town usage charge shall consist of an amount set by Town Council sufficient to reimburse the Town for costs associated with the cost of operating the water utility which includes personnel costs, insurance, general and administrative costs and costs specific to the utility such as chemicals, line repair, etc. This rate shall be set \$3.25 per 1,000 gallons.

B. Meter rate schedule.

(1) The base charge shall apply to all metered users with a flow rate of up to 250 gallons per day or 91,250 gallons per year of the previous calendar year. Metered users with flow rates exceeding 250 gallons per day or 91,250 gallons per year shall be assessed an additional base charge for each 250 gallons per day or 91,250 gallons per year. If this data is unavailable for calculation, partial calendar year data, historical data or engineering estimates may be used to calculate the base charge until such time as calendar year data is available. All multiplier calculations shall be rounded to the nearest even number. If two or more residences, apartments, businesses, institutions, or any other class of users not mentioned are connected through a single meter, the base amount shall be computed as though each user was a separate property or user-with a separate connection. All units connected to the system shall be billed for no less than one base charge.

(2) Where there is no water meter for residential users, the Town shall bill the usage fee based on the average flow of metered residential users on the system. Users with no water meters may be compelled by the Town to install such meters at their cost.

C. Billing. Water meters shall be read by the Town and bills submitted quarterly to each user for usage during the previous quarter (three months).

D. Rates for out-of-Town users. Nothing herein shall require the Town to charge the same water rates or other water system charges to users located outside the corporate limits of the Town as those charges to users located within the corporate limits of the Town.

E. Service charge for out-of-Town users. Water service charges to out-of-Town users shall be at a rate of 1.33 times the in-Town user rate established by the Town unless special services agreements are executed between the Town of Frederica and the user.

F. Mailings. Bills for water service charges shall be mailed to the address of the property owner. Property owners may add a secondary address for bills to be sent to with written notification. Failure to receive a bill as a result of incorrect address or otherwise shall not excuse nonpayment of a bill or extend the time for payment.

G. Due date. Bills for water service charges shall be payable not less than 30 days after the date of billing for the period.

H. Penalty. There shall be assessed a late payment charge of 2% per month on all unpaid amounts due and owing the Town commencing at least 30 days after the bill is issued by the Town.

I. Water meter calibration fee. A water meter calibration of \$50 shall be paid to the Town of Frederica for the cost of those services associated with determining and/or verifying the calibration of water meters. The Town of Frederica has meters tested and determines the accuracy of said meters based on the American Water Works Association (AWWA) standard of 2% tolerance. Meters testing between 98% and 102% are deemed to be accurate. Said fee shall be refunded if, after verification of calibration, it is determined that the meter was incorrectly measuring flow in the Town of Frederica. Billing for inaccurately billed water or sewer service shall be estimated from previous readings, and any adjustments made following the next meter reading.

J. Fire service connections. Fire service connections shall be metered and shall be addressed separately based on the size of the fire service line and charged according to the fee specified in Chapter **180**, Municipal Fees.

K. Sprinkler charges. Quarterly sprinkler charges shall be set forth in Chapter **180**, Municipal Fees. New customers are required to install a detector check valve on the sprinkler system line.

Repealer: All ordinances and part of ordinances inconsistent with the provisions of this ordinance are hereby repealed.

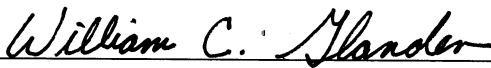
Effective Date: This ordinance shall become effective thirty days after adoption.

ORDAINED AND ENACTED INTO THE LAW by a majority vote of the Council Members present at a regular session of Frederica Town Council, Delaware on the 7th day of December, A.D. 2016.

First Reading: November 16, 2016

Public Hearing and Second Reading: December 7, 2016

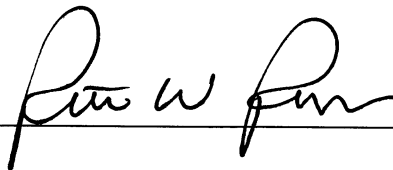
Published: DECEMBER 14th, 2016



William C. Glanden

Mayor

I do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of the Ordinance passed by the Town Council at its meeting on December 7, 2016, at which meeting a quorum was present and voting throughout that the same is still in full force and effect.



SYNOPSIS

This Ordinance amends Chapter 425 of the Frederica Town Code.