

On a motion by Alderman Charles Cummings and seconded by Alderman Milton Batiste III, the following Ordinance was offered for adoption:

**ORDINANCE NO. 04 OF 2023**

**AN ORDINANCE PRESCRIBING THE RATES AND CHARGES,  
ON WATER AND SEWER SERVICE ACCOUNTS SERVED BY  
THE CITY OF OPELOUSAS, PARISH OF ST. LANDRY, STATE  
OF LOUISIANA; AND FURTHER PROVIDING WITH RESPECT  
THERE TO.**

**WHEREAS**, the City of Opelousas, Parish of St. Landry, State of Louisiana (the “City”) now owns and operates a combined sewer system and waterworks plant (“System”), and seeks to maintain it in a stable, sustainable, and financially healthy condition; and

**WHEREAS**, the City must collect sufficient service revenue to pay for major upgrades and replacement of the System and offset the costs of operation and maintenance of the System in order to make the system self-sufficient and to allow the continued support of other City services; and

**WHEREAS**, Ordinance No. 04 of 2020 presently governs the rates the City charges for water and sewer service; and

**WHEREAS**, LaFleur & Laborde and Sisung Securities Corporation have reviewed the City’s capital improvement plans for the System and provided a comprehensive plan for financing such improvements and the revenue requirements necessary to pay for such improvements and maintain the financial health of the System; and

**WHEREAS**, the City has reviewed such plans and desires to establish and periodically adjust the charges for utility services provided by the City.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED** by the Mayor and the City, acting through its governing authority, the Opelousas City Council that:

**SECTION 1. Definitions.**

**“Commercial Service”** means water or sewer service provided for any use which does not constitute Residential Service or Special Service.

**“CPI”** means the “Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers: Water and Sewer and Trash Collection Services in U.S. City Average”, or if such index is no longer published then the “Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers: All Items in U.S. City Average”, or if such index is no longer published then a similar index of inflation designated by the Council.

**“Fees”** means the fees, charges and deposits in effect for Commercial Service, Special Service and Residential Service from time to time which do not constitute Rates.

**“Rates”** means the rates pertaining to the base usage and per unit consumption charges in effect for Commercial Service, Special Service, and Residential Service from time to time.

**“Residential Service”** means the water or sewer service provided for individual use by single family residential properties including single family homes, townhouses, condominiums, travel trailers, mobile homes, and approved home occupations.

**“Special Service”** means water or sewer service provided for use by religious facilities and educational facilities serving kindergarten through twelfth grade students.

**SECTION 2. Rates Charged Pursuant to this Ordinance Only.** Rates and Fees for water and sewer service shall be established and periodically updated by the City pursuant to this Ordinance and shall not be changed from those prescribed herein without the prior approval of the City Council.

**SECTION 3. Water and Sewer Rates.**

(i) Rates for Commercial Service and Special Service shall be revised to reflect a one time cumulative increase of 165% above the Rates presently in effect as of the date of this Ordinance, which shall be implemented in three equal, annual installments beginning with the July 1, 2023 billing cycle, as shown in the attached Exhibit A.

(ii) Rates for Residential Service shall be revised to reflect a one time cumulative increase of 50% above the Rates presently in effect as of the date of this Ordinance, which shall be implemented in three equal, annual installments beginning with the July 1, 2023 billing cycle, as shown in the attached Exhibit A.

(iii) Fees for Commercial Service, Special Service, and Residential Service shall be revised to reflect a one time cumulative increase of 50% above the rates presently in effect as of the date of this Ordinance, which shall be implemented in three equal, annual installments beginning with the July 1, 2023 billing cycle, as shown in the attached Exhibit A.

(iv) Beginning with the July 1, 2026 billing cycle and each July 1st thereafter, Rates and Fees for Commercial Service, Special Service and Residential Service shall be increased by the percentage increase in CPI over the 12 month period ending on the prior December 31st.

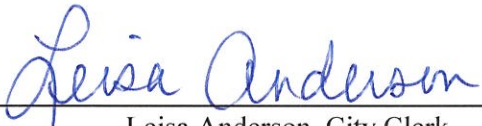
(v) On or before July 1 of each year, the Mayor shall publish a schedule of Rates and Fees for Residential Service, Special Service and Commercial Service, which shall be entered into the official records of the Council.

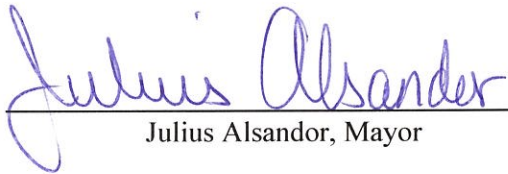
**SECTION 4. Miscellaneous.** Any ordinance or parts thereof in conflict herewith are hereby repealed.

The foregoing Ordinance having been submitted to a vote, the vote thereon was as follows:

Name	Yea	Nay	Abstaining	Absent
Batiste, Milton III (District A)	X			
Rubin-Broussard, Delita (District B)		X		
Cummings, Charles W. (District C)	X			
Roberts, Sherell (District D)	X			
Davis-Warren, Chasity (District E)	X			
Richard, Marvin (Alderman at Large)	X			
TOTALS	5	1	0	0

And the Ordinance was adopted on the **9th day of May, 2023**, in Opelousas, Louisiana.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Leisa Anderson, City Clerk

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Julius Alsander, Mayor

**CERTIFICATE OF AUTHENTICITY**

**STATE OF LOUISIANA  
PARISH OF ST. LANDRY**

I, the undersigned Clerk of the City Council of Opelousas, the governing authority for the City of Opelousas, St. Landry Parish, State of Louisiana (the "**City**"), do hereby certify that the foregoing pages constitute a true and correct copy of the Ordinance adopted by City Council of Opelousas on **the 9th day of May, 2023:**

**AN ORDINANCE PRESCRIBING THE RATES AND CHARGES,  
ON WATER AND SEWER SERVICE ACCOUNTS SERVED BY  
THE CITY OF OPELOUSAS, PARISH OF ST. LANDRY, STATE  
OF LOUISIANA; AND FURTHER PROVIDING WITH RESPECT  
THERETO.**

**IN FAITH WHEREOF**, witness my official signature and the impress of the official seal of said City on **the 9th day of May, 2023.**

(SEAL)

  
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Leisa Anderson, City Clerk