CITY OF CORDOVA, ALABAMA

RESOLUTION NO. 2026-21

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AND REQUESTING THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A VOLUNTARY FIRE DEPARTMENT DONATION PROGRAM THROUGH CORDOVA WATER & GAS

WHEREAS, the City Council of the City of Cordova, Alabama, recognizes the Cordova Volunteer Fire Department as an essential public safety service providing fire suppression, rescue, emergency response, fire prevention, training, and related services; and

WHEREAS, the continued operation and readiness of the Cordova Volunteer Fire Department requires funding for new and replacement apparatus and equipment, repairs, preventative maintenance, personal protective equipment, communications, hose, tools, supplies, fuel, insurance, training, station expenses, and other lawful fire and emergency-service costs; and

WHEREAS, Section 11-88-15.1, Code of Alabama 1975, provides a mechanism for qualifying county and municipal water systems to solicit voluntary contributions for local volunteer fire departments through monthly or other periodic water-service billings, subject to the requirements of applicable law; and

WHEREAS, the City Council desires to provide customers of Cordova Water & Gas a convenient opportunity to voluntarily support the Cordova Volunteer Fire Department;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF CORDOVA, ALABAMA, AS FOLLOWS:

SECTION 1. VOLUNTARY DONATION AMOUNT

The City Council hereby requests that Cordova Water & Gas establish the following voluntary monthly contribution schedule for customers electing to support the Cordova Volunteer Fire Department. Each amount is voluntary and shall not be represented as a tax, mandatory fee, water-service charge, fire-protection assessment, or other compulsory charge:

- Residential / Single-Family Account: $12.00 per month.
- Multi-Unit Residential Account: $8.00 per month per unit.
- Schools and Educational Facilities: $60.00 per month
- Industrial and Manufacturing Accounts: $120.00 per month
- Commercial and Business Accounts: $20.00 per month
- Places of Worship / Religious or Charitable Facilities: $12.00 per month.

The applicable voluntary contribution amount shall be based on the customer classification and election approved by Cordova Water & Gas. A customer may decline participation or discontinue a voluntary contribution in accordance with the administrative procedures established by Cordova Water & Gas.

SECTION 2. REQUEST TO CORDOVA WATER & GAS

The City Council formally requests that the Board of Cordova Water & Gas consider and approve participation in the voluntary fire department contribution program, adopt any resolution required of the water system, and establish the applicable checkoff amount in accordance with Section 11-88-15.1 and other applicable law.

SECTION 3. VOLUNTARY PARTICIPATION

Participation shall be strictly voluntary. A customer's decision not to participate, or to discontinue participation, shall not by itself result in denial or disconnection of utility service, a late fee, penalty, or other adverse utility action. Cordova Water & Gas may establish reasonable enrollment, cancellation, billing, and administrative procedures consistent with law.

SECTION 4. DISTRIBUTION OF CONTRIBUTIONS

Voluntary contributions collected and designated for the Cordova Volunteer Fire Department shall be distributed and accounted for in accordance with Section 11-88-15.1 and applicable Cordova Water & Gas procedures, including any applicable statutory timing requirement.

SECTION 5. USE OF FUNDS

- Purchase and replacement of fire apparatus, emergency vehicles, firefighting and rescue equipment;
- Repairs, preventative maintenance, testing, inspections, tires, batteries, fuel, lubricants, and related apparatus expenses;
- Personal protective equipment, firefighter safety equipment, hose, nozzles, tools, appliances, radios, communications equipment, and technology;
- Training, certifications, continuing education, insurance, station equipment, station maintenance, and operational expenses;
- Emergency medical and rescue supplies where authorized; and
- Other lawful and necessary expenses directly related to the operation, readiness, maintenance, and improvement of the Cordova Volunteer Fire Department.

All expenditures shall comply with applicable state law, municipal budgeting and purchasing requirements, accounting requirements, and City policies.

SECTION 6. ACCOUNTING AND OVERSIGHT

Funds received through the program shall be properly accounted for in the appropriate City fund or account for the Cordova Volunteer Fire Department. Records of revenues and expenditures shall be maintained in accordance with applicable municipal accounting, auditing, and recordkeeping requirements.

SECTION 7. AUTHORITY TO TRANSMIT RESOLUTION

The City Clerk is authorized and directed to provide a certified copy of this Resolution to Cordova Water & Gas as official documentation of the City Council's request for establishment of the voluntary contribution schedule set forth in Section 1. Appropriate City officials may execute administrative documents reasonably necessary to implement the program, subject to applicable law.

SECTION 8. MULTI-UNIT RESIDENTIAL ACCOUNTS

For apartment buildings, duplexes, mobile-home communities, assisted-living facilities, nursing homes, or other properties where more than one dwelling or residential unit is served through a single Cordova Water & Gas account or meter, the voluntary contribution amount shall be the applicable Multi-Unit Residential rate stated in Section 1. The account holder may elect participation on a per-unit basis or master-meter/account basis when that option is administratively available. No contribution shall be imposed automatically based solely on the number of doors, beds, rooms, occupants, or units. Enrollment and cancellation shall remain voluntary.

SECTION 9. SCHOOLS AND EDUCATIONAL FACILITIES

Public schools, private schools, day-care centers, colleges, training facilities, and other educational properties served by Cordova Water & Gas may voluntarily participate at the Schools and Educational Facilities rate stated in Section 1. Unless otherwise affirmatively elected under an administrative option approved by Cordova Water & Gas, a school or educational facility shall be treated as one participating utility account rather than calculated according to the number of students, classrooms, buildings, employees, or occupants.

SECTION 10. INDUSTRIAL AND MANUFACTURING ACCOUNTS

Industrial plants, manufacturing facilities, warehouses, utilities, mines, processing facilities, and similar industrial customers may voluntarily participate at the Industrial and Manufacturing rate stated in Section 1. Cordova Water & Gas may also permit an industrial customer to voluntarily elect a greater recurring contribution when administratively feasible. No contribution shall be calculated or imposed based on acreage, square footage, number of employees, buildings, production capacity, fire-flow demand, or other

operational characteristic unless separately and affirmatively authorized by the participating customer and permitted by applicable law.

SECTION 11. COMMERCIAL AND BUSINESS ACCOUNTS

Retail stores, restaurants, offices, service businesses, lodging establishments, and other commercial customers may voluntarily participate at the Commercial and Business rate stated in Section 1. For shopping centers, multi-tenant commercial buildings, or other properties served by a master meter, participation shall not automatically be multiplied by the number of tenants, suites, businesses, or doors. A master-account holder may elect additional voluntary contributions if such an option is offered by Cordova Water & Gas.

SECTION 12. PLACES OF WORSHIP AND RELIGIOUS OR CHARITABLE FACILITIES

Churches, synagogues, mosques, temples, ministries, religious organizations, and associated charitable or fellowship facilities served by Cordova Water & Gas may voluntarily participate at the Places of Worship / Religious or Charitable Facilities rate stated in Section 1. Unless the account holder affirmatively elects an additional amount, each utility account or meter shall constitute a single opportunity to participate, regardless of the number of buildings, sanctuaries, classrooms, fellowship halls, ministries, occupants, or members located on the property.

SECTION 13. UNIFORM ADMINISTRATION AND CUSTOMER ELECTION

Cordova Water & Gas is requested to adopt clear administrative procedures for the customer classes described above, including how participation is elected, how multiple voluntary contribution units may be authorized when available, how a customer may discontinue participation, and how contributions are displayed on the utility bill. These classifications are intended solely to provide consistent administrative guidance for voluntary contributions and shall not convert the contribution into a mandatory fee, assessment, tax, or condition of receiving utility service.

SECTION 14. EFFECTIVE DATE

This Resolution shall become effective immediately upon adoption by the City Council of the City of Cordova, Alabama.

ADOPTED AND APPROVED this 8th **day of** September**, 2026.**

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Mayor
City of Cordova, Alabama

ATTEST:
Robin Mitchell
City Clerk

CERTIFICATION

I, Robin Mitchell, City Clerk of the City of Cordova, Alabama, hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of Resolution No. 2026-21, duly adopted by the City Council of the City of Cordova, Alabama, at a meeting held on the 8th day of September, 2026, and that the same appears of record in the official minutes of the City Council.

Robin Mitchell
City Clerk
Date: 09/08/2026