



ORDINANCE NO. 747

AN ORDINANCE TO SET FEES FOR REPLACEMENT OF DAMAGED ELECTRONIC WATER METER COMPONENTS, DECLARING AN EMERGENCY; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

WHEREAS, the City of Lonoke, Arkansas has incurred considerable costs in upgrading the water meters attached to the city water system; and

WHEREAS, the updates to the water meter system allows for the attachment of electronic water meters with radio signal allowing the reading of meters without manual read. The sending unit and radio components save the City of Lonoke a significant amount of manpower and allow for more accurate and timely reads; and

WHEREAS, the City finds that, too often, the mounting hardware for the sending unit including without limitation the water meter lid, connection cord, radio and the water meter and box itself, which is exposed, are being damaged by lawnmowers or other power equipment or vehicles; and

WHEREAS, these water meter components are quite expensive and it is necessary for the City of Lonoke to assess a fee for the destruction of the components of the electronic water meter. Assessing the fee will allow the City to recover the cost of the damage from the responsible party rather than requiring all water users collectively to pay for the negligence of others.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LONOKE, ARKANSAS:

SECTION 1. DAMAGE TO CITY WATER METER COMPONENTS.

- (A) Whenever any city water meter component, which shall include without limitation the meter lid, connection cords, radios and any other part of the water meter, is destroyed and/or damaged through normal wear and exposure to the elements, the component will be replaced by the city furnishing the labor and materials.
- (B) Whenever any city water meter component, which shall include without limitation the meter lid, connection cords, radios and any other part of the water meter, is destroyed and/or damaged by carelessness or negligence of the owner or occupant of the premises, the city will repair the damage and charge the account of said owner or occupant of the premises being serviced by said water meter. This shall include



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damage caused by a person(s) working at the direction and/or for the owner or occupant of the premises serviced by the water meter.

- (C) Whenever any city water meter component, which shall include without limitation the meter lid, connection cords, radios and any other part of the water meter, is destroyed and/or damaged by contractors or others in the performance of construction, excavation, hauling or other work, or by vandalism, the person, contractors or the company responsible for such damage or destruction shall be billed by the city for the cost of the repair or replacement of such damaged equipment.

SECTION 2. INTERRUPTION OF WATER SERVICE.

- (A) The City reserves the right to interrupt water service at any time for repairs or other necessary purpose without notice, and will not be responsible for damages arising thereby. The City will make reasonable effort to notify water users of pending outages when possible.

SECTION 3. FEE.

- (A) The City shall assess a fee for the repair and/or replacement of any of the electronic water meter components damaged by the carelessness of the person, contractor or company responsible for such damage. Currently the breakdown on the cost to replace components is as follows:

5/8"x 3/4" METER FEES

- a. Meter Box Lid - \$16.00
- b. MXU Single Port - \$150.00
- c. Connection Cord - \$30.00
- d. Meter Box - \$18.00
- e. Meter - \$150.00
- f. Water Setter - \$140.00
- g. Labor - \$125.00
- h. Tax – Current Tax Rate

1" METER FEES

- a. Meter Box Lid - \$30.00
- b. MXU Single Port - \$150.00
- c. Connection Cord - \$30.00



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- d. Meter Box - \$78.00
- e. Meter - \$216.95
- f. Water Setter - \$140.00
- g. Labor - \$125.00
- h. Tax – Current Tax Rate

1-1/2" METER FEES

- a. Meter Box Lid - \$98.00
- b. MXU Single Port - \$150.00
- c. Connection Cord - \$30.00
- d. Meter Box - \$175.00
- e. Meter - \$520.00
- f. Water Setter - \$1107.00
- g. Labor - \$125.00
- h. Tax – Current Tax Rate

2" METER FEE

- a. Meter Box Lid - \$98.00
- b. MXU Single Port - \$150.00
- c. Connection Cord - \$30.00
- d. Meter Box - \$175.00
- e. Meter - \$520.00
- f. Water Setter - \$1107.00
- g. Labor - \$125.00
- h. Tax – Current Tax Rate

ALL METERS OVER 2"

The City shall assess a fee not less than \$50.00 and not to exceed the Actual Cost of damaged meter components, tax, and labor.

SECTION 4. PENALTIES.

- (A)** Any person, firm or corporation who shall violate, fail, neglect or refuse to comply with any of the provisions of this ordinance shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and upon conviction thereof, shall be punished by a fine not to exceed \$300.00.



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SECTION 5. EMERGENCY CLAUSE.

(A) It is hereby determined by the City Council of Lonoke, Arkansas that the need for assessing a fee for damage and/or destruction to water meters is necessary for the health, safety and welfare of the City of Lonoke, Arkansas; and it is therefore declared by the City Council this ordinance shall be in full force and effect from and after the date of its passage.

PASSED and **ADOPTED** this 11th day of March, 2019.

Henry F "Trae" Reed III

Mayor

ATTEST:

Regina Ibbotson

Clerk