

**CITY OF BRISTOL, FLORIDA**  
**ORDINANCE NUMBER 2024-11**

AN ORDINANCE REVISING CITY OF BRISTOL ORDINANCE DATED AUGUST 26, 1985, JULY 24, 1989, APRIL 7, 1997, OCTOBER 25, 1999, MAY 25, 2006, JANUARY 10, 2011; JULY 6, 2015; AND OCTOBER 11, 2021 AMENDING RATES TO BE CHARGED FOR USE OF MUNICIPAL WATER SERVICES; CLASSIFICATION OF COMMERCIAL USERS; WATER METER DEPOSITS; SURCHARGE FOR NON-MUNICIPAL CUSTOMERS; WATER TAP FEES; LATE FEES; CONNECTION FEES; DISCONNECT FEE FOR INTERRUPTED SERVICES; AFTER-HOURS FEE; RETURNED CHECK FEE; TAMPERING FEE; AND OTHER FEES; CONNECTIONS TO WATER SYSTEM; SEVERABILITY; AND EFFECTIVE DATE.

BE IT ENACTED by the City Council of the City of Bristol, Florida that:

SECTION 1. RATES. The following charges and assessments are hereby levied and assessed by the City of Bristol to be collected by the City, payable through the City for services used by residential and non-residential users of the municipal water system.

- A. Residential. Each residential user shall pay a base charge independent of volume of water consumed of \$ 27.60 per month, prorated for the first and last month of service, for up to 3000 gallons of water, and an additive charge based on metered volume of water consumed, prorated the first and last month, of two dollars and ten cents (\$2.10) per 1000 gallons shall be charged for each gallon over 3000 gallons and up to 7000 gallons. Two dollars and twenty-two cents (\$2.22) per 1000 gallons shall be charged for each gallon over 7000 gallons and up to 11,000 gallons. Two dollars and thirty-four cents (\$2.34) per 1000 gallons shall be charged for each gallon over 11,000 gallons. Multiple residential units that have individual meters for each unit are each considered resident users and each shall be billed accordingly. Multiple residential units served by a master meter shall be charged for each residential unit, whether occupied or vacant, as outlined above.
- B. Small Commercial. A small commercial user is defined as a non-residential user who in 12 months immediately preceding enactment of this Amendment Ordinance, had an average monthly water consumption of less than 40,000 gallons. Each small commercial user shall pay a base charge independent of volume of water consumed of \$36.00 per month, prorated for the first and last month of service, for up to 7000 gallons of water, prorated for the first and last month, and an additive charge based on metered volume of water consumed of two dollars and twenty-two cents (\$2.22) per 1000 gallons shall be charged for each gallon over 7000 gallons and up to 11,000 gallons. Two dollars and thirty-four cents (\$2.34) per 1000 gallons shall be charged for each gallon over 11,000 gallons. Multiple commercial units that have individual meters for each unit are considered commercial users and each shall be billed accordingly. Multiple commercial units served by a master meter shall be charged for each commercial unit as outlined above.

- C. Large Commercial. A large commercial user is defined as a non-residential user who in 12 months immediately preceding enactment of this Amendment Ordinance, had an average monthly water consumption of more than 40,000 gallons. Each large commercial user shall pay a base charge independent of volume of water consumed of \$112.74, prorated for the first and last month of service, for up to 40,000 gallons of water, prorated for the first and last month, and an additive charge based on metered volume of water consumed of two dollars and thirty-fourcents (\$2.34) per 1000 gallons shall be charged for each gallon over 40,000 gallons. Multiple commercial units that have individual meters for each unit are considered commercial users and each shall be billed accordingly. Multiple commercial units served by a master meter shall be charged for each commercial unit as outlined above.
- D. Re-classification of commercial accounts. Following enactment of this ordinance, a small commercial user will be reclassified as a large commercial user if it is determined that the user's monthly water consumption is greater than 40,000 gallons for any three consecutive months. A large commercial user may be reclassified as a small commercial user if the user requests that their water consumption be re-evaluated and the user's average monthly water consumption is less than 40,000 gallons in the 3 months immediately preceding the request for re-evaluation. Requests for re-evaluation of water usage for re-classification purposes should be made to the office of the City Clerk at Bristol City Hall.
- E. Water Meter Deposits. All new residential user accounts will require a \$75.00 water meter deposit prior to obtaining municipal water service. All new commercial user accounts will require a \$100.00 water meter deposit prior to obtaining municipal water service. Water meter deposits are refundable following termination of services upon full payment of a user's final balance due.
- F. Surcharge For Non-Municipal Customers. All users of the municipal water system who are located outside the limits of the municipality will be assessed a surcharge which shall be equal to 20% of their total charge for water services, not to exceed \$7.50 per month.
- G. Late Fee. Payment of the water bill is due by the 10<sup>th</sup> day of the month unless the 10<sup>th</sup> falls on a week-end or holiday, then it shall be due on the next regular business day. Any bill, or portion thereof, that remains unpaid after the late date shall be assessed a late penalty equal to 15% of the unpaid balance due, not to exceed \$5.00 per month per service location.
- H. Tap-In Fees. Standard tap-in fees are set as follows: The fee for a standard ¾" water tap-in is set at \$650.00. The fee for a standard 1" water tap-in is set at \$900.00. The fee for a standard 1 ½" water tap-in is set at \$1700.00. The cost of a standard 2" water tap-in is set at \$2300.00. A standard tap-in does not include the cost of boring under a road or cutting/repairing of asphalt or any other non-standard materials or costs that may be incurred by the City of Bristol in performing the tap. All non-standard costs shall be paid by the customer. The fee for any size tap other than those defined above shall be determined by calculating the actual cost of the tap-in plus \$300.00.
- I. Connection Fee. A non-refundable administrative fee for the connection of a new account or the transfer of services from one location to another is set at ten dollars (\$10.00).

- J. Reconnect Fee for Interrupted Services. Accounts which remain unpaid after the 20<sup>th</sup> day of the month are subject to disconnection of services for non-payment unless a satisfactory payment arrangement has been made with the office of the city clerk. A thirty dollar (\$30.00) fee will be charged to the customer upon reconnection to the water system for accounts whose services have been interrupted due to non-payment.
- K. After Hours Fee. Regular business hours are 8:00 a.m – 4:30 p.m. Monday – Friday, except for legal holidays. All requests for water services, excluding tap-ins, received prior to 3:30 p.m. on regular business days can usually be accommodated the same business day. A reasonable effort will be made to accommodate every request for service on the day they are received, but cannot be guaranteed. If a customer requests an after-hours service call, a fee of thirty dollars (\$30.00) will be charged to the customer. The after-hours service fee may be waived at the clerk's discretion if a request for service was timely made and a work order was issued for the customer, but failed to be completed by the maintenance department as timely requested.
- L. Returned Check Fee. A returned check fee is set at thirty dollars (\$30.00) per occurrence regardless of the amount of the check. In the event that the City receives an excessive number of returned checks on an account, the account will be assigned cash or money order only status for a period of 12 months. An excessive number of returned checks is defined as four (4) returned checks in the most recent 12 consecutive month period.
- M. Tampering Fee. A tampering fee is set at two hundred fifty dollars (\$250.00). Unauthorized use of the City's water system is unlawful. The water meter is the property of the City of Bristol. Tampering with a water meter or turning on service without express authorization will result in the tampering fee being assessed to the account holder or violator.
- N. Other Fees. The City reserves the right to amend or waive fees or to set an impact fee or set any other fee by adoption of a resolution at a duly noticed public meeting of the City Council.

SECTION 2. CONNECTIONS TO THE MUNICIPAL WATER SYSTEM. A separate water meter is required for each residential unit or commercial unit connected to the municipal water system.

The City Council in its sole discretion shall be the final arbitrator of the definition of "unit" should there become any dispute. It is the intent of this Ordinance that unit encompasses each separate business entity, sub-lessee, apartment, or residence.

SECTION 3. SEVERABILITY. In the event any part of this Ordinance is deemed to be unconstitutional or invalid for any reason, the remainder of the ordinance shall remain in full force and effect.

SECTION 4. EFFECTIVE DATE. This Amendment Ordinance shall become effective at the beginning of the first billing cycle following its passage.

INTRODUCED in open session of the City Council of Bristol, Florida on September 9, 2024.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the City Council of the City of Bristol, Florida, in a duly advertised Special Meeting of the City Council this 30<sup>th</sup> day of September, 2024.

CITY OF BRISTOL, FLORIDA  
A Municipal Corporation

By: \_\_\_\_\_

Christian Vowell, Chairman

ATTEST:

Robin M. Hatcher

Robin M. Hatcher, City Clerk

