

**ORDINANCE 2021-18**

**AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING CHANGES TO THE RULES, REGULATIONS & BY-LAWS  
OF HIRAM VILLAGE WATER AND WASTEWATER SYSTEMS AND DECLARING AN  
EMERGENCY.**

**WHEREAS**, the Village of Hiram is in the process of having new water meters installed in all residential and commercial properties to allow for the integration of a new AMR Meter Reading System; and

**WHEREAS**, this new AMR Meter Reading System will automatically provide readings to the Utility Clerk's computer system saving manpower by not having to manually read every water meter in the Village on a monthly basis; and

**WHEREAS**, with the new AMR Meter Reading System, the current rate structure for utility billing will need to be updated to reflect a rate per 100 gallons; and

**WHEREAS**, the Village Administrator has recommended to continue with the .5% increase for water and .5% increase for wastewater rates every year for the next five years beginning on January 1, 2022; and

**WHEREAS**, the proposed utility rate changes are anticipated to keep the water and wastewater revenues current with rising operating and infrastructure costs.

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT ORDAINED** by the Council of the Village of Hiram, a majority or more of the members elected thereto concurring that;

**SECTION 1:** Section 929.01 and Section 929.02(a) as they are currently enacted is hereby repealed effective December 1, 2021.

**SECTION 2:** The following code sections are hereby enacted.

**929.01 WATER USER CHARGES**

(a) Effective for all bills due on or after *December 1, 2021*, the rates for users of Village water shall be as follows:

For customers who reside within the Village of Hiram;

Minimum (up to 1,000 gallons/month) **\$15.27**

Each additional *100* gallons **\$ 1.53**

For all other customers who reside outside the Village of Hiram;

A ten (10%) percent surcharge of the residential rate will be added.

Minimum (up to 1,000 gallons/month) **\$ 16.71**

Each additional *100* gallons **\$ 1.67**

Bulk water rates may be authorized by the Village Administrator on a case by case basis.

(b) *Commencing on each successive January 1 through January 1, 2027*, the metered water rate as set forth in this Section 929.01(a) shall be increased by one half percent (.5%) for the following calendar year. The one half percent annual increase shall take place for each of the next five years beginning on *January 1, 2022*, with no automatic increase beginning in calendar year *2027*.

**929.02 SEWER USER CHARGES**

(a) Effective for all bills due on or after *December 1, 2021*, the rates for users of Village sewer shall be as follows:

**USER CLASS 1**

For customers who reside within the Village;

Minimum for first 2,000 gallons **\$31.22**

For each additional *100* gallons **\$ .88**

For all other customers who reside outside the Village of Hiram;

A ten (10%) percent surcharge of the residential rate will be added.

Minimum for first 2,000 gallons **\$34.34**

For each additional *100* gallons **\$ .95**

Special Minimum **\$15.62** for 1,000 gallons for certain users who qualify.

**USER CLASS 2**

*Minimum for first 1,000 gallons* **\$10.71**

*For each additional 100 gallons* **\$ 1.07**

Eligible Class 1 Users may receive a reduction in the minimum charge for the first 1,000 gallons of calculated discharge to a rate of **\$15.62**. Addition calculated discharge for identified Eligible Class 1 Users shall be at the rate of **\$.86** per *100* gallons. Customers are eligible for this reduction if they currently participate in any one of the following programs: the Ohio Energy Credits Program; the Home Energy Assistance Plan (HEAP); Emergency HEAP; Supplemental Security Income; or Medicaid. For the Eligible Class 1 User to receive the reduction, proof of participation in one of the listed programs must be presented to the Village Fiscal Officer or to the Utilities Department Billing Clerk.

(b) No change. The current enactment of Hiram Codified Ordinance 929.02(b) remains in full force and effect.

(c) *Commencing on each successive January 1 thereafter through January 1, 2027*, the calculated discharge sewer rate as set forth in this Section 929.02(a) shall be increased by one half percent (.5%) for that calendar year. The one-half percent annual increase shall take place for each of the next five years beginning on *January 1, 2022* which no automatic increase beginning in calendar year *2027*.

**SECTION 3:** All Ordinances or Resolutions inconsistent with this legislation, to the extent of the inconsistency, are hereby repealed.

**SECTION 4:** It is hereby found and determined that all formal actions of this Council concerning and relating to the adoption of this Ordinance were adopted in an open meeting of this Council and that the deliberations of the Council and any of its committees that resulted in such formal action were in meetings open to the public in compliance with all legal requirements including Section 121.22 of the Revised Code of the State of Ohio.

**SECTION 5:** This Ordinance is hereby declared to be an emergency measure, effective immediately upon its passage and signature by the Mayor, the particular emergency being to establish water and sewer rates and associated charges at the appropriate level so as to meet, but not exceed, the actual cost of operating the water and sanitary sewer systems owned by the Village, all to advance and support the health, safety, and general welfare of the citizens of the Village of Hiram.

PASSED IN COUNCIL this 9th day of November, 2021.

  
Mayor Lou Bertrand

ATTEST:

  
Fiscal Officer Susan J. Skrovan

Approved as to Form:

  
Village Solicitor Thomas Reitz

I SUSAN SKROVAN, Fiscal Officer of the Village of Hiram, Ohio, hereby certify that the foregoing ~~Resolution~~ Ordinance No. 2021-18 has been duly posted in the required 5 places.

11/10/2021 Susan J. Skrovan  
Date Fiscal Officer, Village of Hiram