

**TOWNSHIP OF LONG HILL
ORDINANCE #355-15
AN ORDINANCE CONCERNING SEWER USER RATES AND
AMENDING CHAPTER XXII OF THE TOWNSHIP CODE ENTITLED "SEWERS"**

BE IT ORDAINED by the Township Committee of the Township of Long Hill in the County of Morris, New Jersey that Chapter XXII of the Township Code entitled "Sewers" is hereby amended as follows:

Section 1. Section 22-23 entitled "User Rates" & Section 22-24 entitled "Miscellaneous Provisions" are hereby amended to read as follows:

22-23 USER RATES

The following sewer service and usage fees are hereby established effective January 1, 2015, and shall remain in full force and effect until revised by ordinance duly adopted by the Township Committee:

- a. All sewer users shall be charged a service fee of **\$75** per year per unit.
- b. Sewer users that are metered shall be charged a sewer usage fee at the rate of **\$14.91** per thousand gallons.
 1. The gallons used shall be the total water metered for the six (6) winter months preceding the billing year. By example, in the billing year of 2015, the gallons are determined from the six months January through April 2014 and November through December 2014. The months excluded are: May through October 2014.
 2. Water consumption figures for each user will be obtained from the water company servicing the premises or by the Township Sewer department if the meter is not serviced by the water company.
 3. If the meter is not read or incorrectly read for one or more months of the usage period as determined by the Sewer Utility Collector, the amount charged for those months shall be equal to the approximate average monthly usage among other billable months during the same period.
- c. Sewer Users that are not metered shall be charged a usage fee as follows:
 1. Residential units: **\$400.00** per unit
 2. Commercial or Industrial units: **\$525.00** per unit
- d. If a user has multiple water sources, the usage fee shall be the combined total of each source as specified in 22-23b if metered and 22-23c if unmetered. Only one service fee shall be applied.

e. The Township Committee may require a water meter to be installed by any sewer user utilizing a well or other private water system at the property owner's expense.

f. Each user who is a resident of this Township and who was sixty-five (65) years of age or older during the prior calendar year shall be entitled annually, upon submission of a claim on proper forms, to a deduction of fifteen (**\$15.00**) dollars from his or her sewer use charge as established hereinabove.

22-24 MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS

22-24.1 Multiple Unit Properties.

In the case of a building in single ownership having several stores, offices or residential units or a combination of stores, offices and residential units except for "accessory apartments," served by a common water meter, the annual charges paid shall be a service charge (subsection 22-23) for each individual store, office and residential unit plus the per thousand gallon charge (subsection 22-23) for the water use recorded by the common meter. (1967 Code § 76-6; Ord. No. 182-05 § 1; Ord. No. 279-11 § 4)

22-24.2 Payment of Charges.

The sewer service charge established and fixed herein shall be an annual charge for each calendar year. The charge for each residential unit and the basic charge for each nonresidential unit shall be payable in one (1) payment before the due date as specified in section 22-24.4 (1967 Code § 76-7; Ord. No. 182-05 § 1; Ord. No. 303-12)

22-24.3 Proration.

In the case of any unit, residential or business, or any other type of unit which is not connected to the sanitary sewer system during the entire year, the charge shall be prorated on a calendar year basis, and the unit shall be charged a sewer use charge for the entire month during which the connection is made. For the purpose of construing this article, the date of issuance of an occupancy permit on new construction of buildings shall be considered as the date of connection. (1967 Code § 76-8; Ord. No. 182-05 § 1)

22-24.4 Billing and Collection.

a. The Sewer Utility Collector shall bill the owners of sewered property for the sewer service charge annually. Sewer use charges shall be due 30 days after sewer bills are mailed. In the event that the annual sewer charges are not paid as provided herein, the following provision of this article shall apply.

b. The charges hereby imposed shall be payable to the Sewer Utility Collector and shall draw the same interest from the time they become due as taxes upon real estate and shall be a lien upon the premises connected to the sanitary sewer until paid, and the Township shall have the same remedies for collection thereof, with interest, costs and penalties, as it has by law for the collection of taxes on real estate.

(1967 Code § 76-9; Ord. No. 26-94 § 5; Ord. No. 182-05 § 1; Ord. No. 303-12)

22-24.5 Exemptions.

There shall be no sewer service charge levied or collected from the Board of Education, volunteer fire companies, first aid squads. (1967 Code § 76-10; Ord. No. 182-05 § 1)

22-24.6 Matters Not Affected.

Nothing herein shall preclude the Township from requiring developers of property to install sewer lines at their own expense or from providing for construction of sewer lines by local improvement assessments. (1967 Code § 76-11; Ord. No. 182-05 § 1)

Section 2. Any and all other ordinances or parts thereof in conflict or inconsistent with any of the terms hereof are hereby repealed to such extent as they are so in conflict or inconsistent.

Section 3. In case any article, section or provision of this ordinance shall be held invalid in any court of competent jurisdiction, the same shall not affect any other article, section or provision of this ordinance except insofar as the article, section or provision so declared invalid shall be inseparable from the remainder or any portion thereof.

Section 4. This ordinance shall take effect immediately upon final passage and publication as required by law.

NOTICE

The foregoing ordinance having been introduced and passed on first reading by the Township Committee of the Township of Long Hill, in the County of Morris on Wednesday, May 13, 2015 will be considered for final passage and adoption at a public hearing held at a meeting beginning at 7:30 p.m. on Wednesday, June 10, 2015 at the Municipal Building, 915 valley Road, Gillette, New Jersey when and where or at such time and place to which said meeting may be adjourned, all persons interested will be given an opportunity to be heard concerning said ordinance.

Cathy Reese
Township Clerk

First Reading and Introduction: May 13, 2015
1st Publication: May 21, 2015
Second Reading and Adoption:
2nd Publication: