

**ORDINANCE NO. 1319**

**AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF GIG HARBOR, WASHINGTON, RELATING TO WATER UTILITY RATES; REPEALING SECTIONS 13.04.010, 13.04.013, 13.04.020, AND 13.04.080 REPLACING WITH NEW RESPECTIVE SECTIONS; CREATING A NEW SECTION 13.04.018; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY AND ESTABLISHING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.**

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WHEREAS, it is necessary to raise water service rates and charges to meet the increasing cost of providing water services; and

WHEREAS, the 2015 rate study provided by Peninsula Financial Consulting supports these rate increases; and

WHEREAS, the household income levels for low-income utility rate reduction has not been adjusted since established in 2003 and should be adjusted for cost of living expenses; and

NOW THEREFORE, THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF GIG HARBOR, WASHINGTON, DOES ORDAIN AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. Section 13.04.010 of the Gig Harbor Municipal Code is hereby repealed and replaced with the following:

**13.04.010 Water Rates**

A. Effective August 1, 2015 the monthly water service rates not including state and city taxes shall be set at the following amounts:

<b>Customer Class/Meter</b>	<b>Customer Base Charge (per meter/month)</b>	<b>Commodity Charge (per ccf)</b>
Residential	\$16.00	\$2.09
Multiresidential		
5/8" & 3/4"	28.10	1.95
1"	38.68	1.95
1-1/2"	64.89	1.95
2"	96.47	1.95
3"	180.61	1.95
4"	275.37	1.95
Commercial/Schools		
5/8" & 3/4"	23.56	2.02
1"	31.12	2.02

<b>Customer Class/Meter</b>	<b>Customer Base Charge (per meter/month)</b>	<b>Commodity Charge (per ccf)</b>
1-1/2"	49.80	2.02
2"	72.31	2.02
3"	132.35	2.02
4"	199.94	2.02

B. Effective January 1, 2016 the monthly water service rates not including state and city taxes shall be set at the following amounts:

<b>Customer Class/Meter</b>	<b>Customer Base Charge (per meter/month)</b>	<b>Commodity Charge (per ccf)</b>
Residential	\$16.96	\$2.21
Multiresidential		
5/8" & 3/4"	29.79	2.07
1"	41.00	2.07
1-1/2"	68.79	2.07
2"	102.26	2.07
3"	191.45	2.07
4"	291.89	2.07
Commercial/Schools		
5/8" & 3/4"	24.98	2.15
1"	32.99	2.15
1-1/2"	52.79	2.15
2"	76.65	2.15
3"	140.29	2.15
4"	211.93	2.15

C. Effective January 1, 2017 the monthly water service rates not including state and city taxes shall be set at the following amounts:

<b>Customer Class/Meter</b>	<b>Customer Base Charge (per meter/month)</b>	<b>Commodity Charge (per ccf)</b>
Residential	\$17.80	\$2.32
Multiresidential		
5/8" & 3/4"	31.28	2.17
1"	43.05	2.17
1-1/2"	72.23	2.17

<b>Customer Class/Meter</b>	<b>Customer Base Charge (per meter/month)</b>	<b>Commodity Charge (per ccf)</b>
2"	107.37	2.17
3"	201.02	2.17
4"	306.48	2.17
Commercial/Schools		
5/8" & 3/4"	26.23	2.25
1"	34.64	2.25
1-1/2"	55.43	2.25
2"	80.48	2.25
3"	147.31	2.25
4"	222.53	2.25

D. Effective January 1, 2018 the monthly water service rates not including state and city taxes shall be set at the following amounts:

<b>Customer Class/Meter</b>	<b>Customer Base Charge (per meter/month)</b>	<b>Commodity Charge (per ccf)</b>
Residential	\$18.69	\$2.44
Multiresidential		
5/8" & 3/4"	32.84	2.28
1"	45.20	2.28
1-1/2"	75.84	2.28
2"	112.74	2.28
3"	211.07	2.28
4"	321.81	2.28
Commercial/Schools		
5/8" & 3/4"	27.54	2.37
1"	36.37	2.37
1-1/2"	58.20	2.37
2"	84.51	2.37
3"	154.67	2.37
4"	233.66	2.37

E. Effective January 1, 2019 the monthly water service rates not including state and city taxes shall be set at the following amounts:

<b>Customer Class/Meter</b>	<b>Customer Base Charge (per meter/month)</b>	<b>Commodity Charge (per ccf)</b>
Residential	\$19.44	\$2.54

<b>Customer Class/Meter</b>	<b>Customer Base Charge (per meter/month)</b>	<b>Commodity Charge (per ccf)</b>
Multiresidential		
5/8" & 3/4"	34.15	2.37
1"	47.01	2.37
1-1/2"	78.87	2.37
2"	117.25	2.37
3"	219.52	2.37
4"	334.68	2.37
Commercial/Schools		
5/8" & 3/4"	28.64	2.46
1"	37.83	2.46
1-1/2"	60.53	2.46
2"	87.89	2.46
3"	160.86	2.46
4"	243.00	2.46

F. Effective January 1, 2020 the monthly water service rates not including state and city taxes shall be set at the following amounts:

<b>Customer Class/Meter</b>	<b>Customer Base Charge (per meter/month)</b>	<b>Commodity Charge (per ccf)</b>
Residential	\$20.22	\$2.64
Multiresidential		
5/8" & 3/4"	35.52	2.47
1"	48.89	2.47
1-1/2"	82.03	2.47
2"	121.94	2.47
3"	228.30	2.47
4"	348.07	2.47
Commercial/Schools		
5/8" & 3/4"	29.78	2.56
1"	39.34	2.56
1-1/2"	62.95	2.56
2"	91.40	2.56
3"	167.29	2.56
4"	252.72	2.56

Section 2. Section 13.04.013 of the Gig Harbor Municipal Code is hereby repealed and replaced with the following:

**13.04.013 Low-income utility rate reduction and connection fee waiver/delay.**

- A. Definitions. For the purposes of this section, the following definitions shall apply:
1. "Low-income senior citizen" means a person aged 62 years or older (if married, either spouse may be 62 years or older) who:
    - a. Is a Gig Harbor water or sewer customer and has an account in his/her name;
    - b. Is the head of the household;
    - c. Has a monthly gross household income from all sources that is not more than:

Household Size	Monthly Income	Annual Income
1	\$1,550	\$18,601
2	\$2,090	\$25,082
3	\$1,510	\$32,001
4	\$3,167	\$39,128
5	\$3,706	\$44,473

- B. Rate Reduction. A low-income senior citizen may pay a rate equal to 50 percent of the applicable water and/or sewer rate established by the city in GHMC 13.04.010 and 13.32.010, or any amendments thereto.
- C. Waiver/Delay of Connection Fees. A low-income senior citizen may request a waiver of a connection fee to his or her property in the amount of 50 percent of the applicable water and/or sewer connection fee established in GHMC 13.04.080 and 13.32.060, or any amendments thereto. A low-income senior citizen may request a delay in the city's collection of the connection fee, as reduced by this subsection, for a period of five years, as long as the eligibility requirements of this section are satisfied for each year.
- D. Eligibility Requirements. In order to obtain a rate reduction and/or waiver/delay of connection fees, a low-income senior citizen shall:
1. File an affidavit with the finance department on an annual basis, and submit documentation requested by the finance department verifying that he/she is eligible to receive the benefits of this section; and
  2. In the affidavit, provide the city with an unqualified promise to inform the city of any changes in his/her financial condition that would disqualify him/her from the benefits of this section.

Section 3. A new Section 13.04.018 is hereby added to the Gig Harbor Municipal Code, which shall read as follows:

**13.04.018 Credit to existing customers for water flushing.**

Any existing customer may request a credit for water use due to water flushing due to unpleasant water color or taste. This request shall be made in writing to the Public

Works Director prior to water flushing. The maximum credit allowed per billing cycle shall not exceed 2 CCF.

Section 4. Section 13.04.020 of the Gig Harbor Municipal Code is hereby repealed and replaced with the following:

**13.04.020 Nonmetered residential uses.**

- A. Effective August 1, 2015, the water service charge for each unmetered residential or multiple residential building shall be \$47.46.
- B. Effective January 1, 2016, the water service charge for each unmetered residential or multiple residential building shall be \$50.30.
- C. Effective January 1, 2017, the water service charge for each unmetered residential or multiple residential building shall be \$52.82.
- D. Effective January 1, 2018, the water service charge for each unmetered residential or multiple residential building shall be \$55.46.
- E. Effective January 1, 2019, the water service charge for each unmetered residential or multiple residential building shall be \$57.68.
- F. Effective January 1, 2020, the water service charge for each unmetered residential or multiple residential building shall be \$59.99.

Section 5. Section 13.04.080 of the Gig Harbor Municipal Code is hereby repealed and replaced with the following:

**13.04.080 Water system general facility charge.**

- A. The city shall charge the following general facilities charge to connect to the water utility system:

Meter Size	Capacity Factor	General Facilities Charge
3/4"	1.0	\$ 7,300.00
1"	1.67	12,191.00
1-1/2"	3.33	24,309.00
2"	5.33	38,909.00
Over 2"	Per AWWA formula	Per City Formula

- B. Any remodel and/or use change shall pay the difference between the new use and/or size and the previous use and/or size. No refund shall be allowed for use and/or size reduction.
- C. Water system general facility charge for connections outside the city limits shall be charged at one and one-half times the city rates.
- D. Each general facilities charge shall be paid to the City at the time of building permit issuance. Where capacity is increased as outlined in Chapter 19.10 but no building permit is required, each general facilities charge shall be paid at the time capacity is increased.

Section 6. Severability. If any section, sentence, clause or phrase of this ordinance should be held to be unconstitutional by a court of competent jurisdiction, such invalidity or unconstitutionality shall not affect the validity or constitutionality of any other section, sentence, clause or phrase of this ordinance.

Section 7. Effective Date. This ordinance shall be in full force and take effect August 1, 2015, which is at least five (5) days after its publication of an approved summary consisting of the title. For developments with a complete building permit submitted prior to August 1, 2015, the general facilities charge amendments in Section 5 of this ordinance shall not apply and instead the general facility charges required by Ordinance 1235 shall apply.

PASSED by the Council and approved by the Mayor of the City of Gig Harbor, this 13th day of July 2015.

CITY OF GIG HARBOR

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Mayor Jill Guernsey

ATTEST/AUTHENTICATED:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Molly M. Towslee, City Clerk

APPROVED AS TO FORM:  
Office of the City Attorney

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Angela G. Summerfield

FILED WITH THE CITY CLERK: 06/17/15  
PASSED BY THE CITY COUNCIL: 07/13/15  
PUBLISHED: 07/22/15  
EFFECTIVE DATE: 08/01/15  
ORDINANCE NO: 1319