

ORDINANCE NO. 1360

**AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF GIG HARBOR, WASHINGTON, RELATING TO WATER GENERAL FACILITY CHARGES AND CUSTOMER BASE CHARGES; ADDING A NEW SECTION 13.04.090 TO THE GIG HARBOR MUNICIPAL CODE; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; AND ESTABLISHING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.**

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WHEREAS, in 2015 the City updated the water general facility charges and customer base charges relative to the specific meter size required for service from the water system; and

WHEREAS, the amount of the general facility charges and customer base charges are related to the capacity of the meter size required for domestic or irrigation water usage; and

WHEREAS, neither the general facility charges nor the customer base charges are required for commercial fire sprinkler systems; and

WHEREAS, instead, commercial fire sprinkler systems are connected to the City's water system separate from commercial domestic or irrigation services; and

WHEREAS, residential fire sprinkler systems may require a larger meter for domestic service than a standard residential domestic service simply due to the water demands of the fire sprinkler system; and

WHEREAS, the City supports the installation of residential fire sprinkler systems and does not want to burden residential customers with higher general facility charges and customer base charges solely due to a potential greater water demand by fire sprinkler systems.

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

Section 1. A new Section 13.04.090 is hereby added to the Gig Harbor Municipal Code as follows:

**13.04.090 Residential sprinkler system charges.**

A. Where a single family, two-family, or townhouse residential fire sprinkler system is installed in accordance with the International

Residential Code as amended by the City of Gig Harbor, the general facilities charge and customer base charge for 1" meter size will be allowed to be set at the 3/4" meter general facility charge and customer based charge if the 1" meter size is required to achieve adequate fire sprinkler flow rates as dictated by the fire sprinkler system design for individual structures and the 1" meter size is not otherwise required due to installation of an irrigation system. The special service charge for the meter installation shall be set at the rates in 13.04.070 for the actual size of meter installed. Fire sprinkler systems must be NFPA 13D or IRC P2604 compliant systems.

B. If an owner receiving the benefit of the 3/4" meter rate in section A above later installs an irrigation system that requires a 1" or larger meter to operate properly, the owner shall pay the difference between the current 3/4" general facilities charge and the current general facilities charge for the required meter size and the owner shall begin paying the customer base charge for the required meter size. Any required back flow prevention assembly shall also be installed in connection with the irrigation system in accordance with Chapter 13.06.

Section 2. Severability. If any section, sentence, clause or phrase of this Ordinance is held to be invalid or unconstitutional by a court of competent jurisdiction, such invalidity or unconstitutionality shall not affect the validity or constitutionality of any other section, clause or phrase of this Ordinance.

Section 3. Effective Date. This ordinance shall take effect and be in full force five (5) days after passage and publication of an approved summary consisting of the title.

PASSED by the Council and approved by the Mayor of the City of Gig Harbor this 13th day of March, 2017.

CITY OF GIG HARBOR

  
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JILL GUERNSEY, MAYOR

ATTEST/AUTHENTICATED:

By:   
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MOLLY TOWSLEE, CITY CLERK

APPROVED AS TO FORM:  
OFFICE OF THE CITY ATTORNEY:

By:   
ANGELA G. SUMMERFIELD

FILED WITH THE CITY CLERK: 02/22/17  
PASSED BY THE CITY COUNCIL: 03/13/17  
PUBLISHED: 03/16/17  
EFFECTIVE DATE: 03/21/17  
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