

**ORDINANCE NO. 11-2023
CITY OF PASCAGOULA, MISSISSIPPI**

**AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF PASCAGOULA, MISSISSIPPI AMENDING
CHAPTER 86 OF THE CODE OF ORDINANCES
REGARDING CHARGES AND PROCEDURES FOR UTILITIES**

WHEREAS, Mississippi Code Section 21-27-23 authorizes municipalities to establish, maintain, and collect rates for the facilities and services offered by any water supply system; and

WHEREAS, Chapter 86 of the City of Pascagoula’s Code of Ordinances establishes charges and procedures applicability to the provision of water and sewer utilities; and

WHEREAS, the City of Pascagoula desires to amend Chapter 86 to address changes to charges and procedures related to the provision of water and sewer utilities; and

WHEREAS, the City Council for the City of Pascagoula hereby amends Chapter 86 of the Code of Ordinances.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF PASCAGOULA AS FOLLOWS¹:

SECTION 1. Chapter 86, Article I, Section 86-2(a) is hereby amended to read as follows:

Application required. Any person desiring any utility service furnished by the city shall make application therefor. Such application shall contain the applicant’s name, address and the uses for which such utility service is desired. The applicant shall also provide a valid government-issued photo ID and proof of legal interest in the property at which utility service is desired, such as a lease or deed. New service will not be activated for applicant who lacks ownership, leasehold, or similar legal interest in the property at which utility service is desired.

SECTION 2. Chapter 86, Article II, Section 86-43 is hereby titled “Relocation of Meters” and shall read as follows:

The relocation of water meters and sewer lines for the convenience of the customer shall be at the expense of the customer. Upon application for such relocation, the utility department will provide the customer a quote for the relocation work. The customer shall pay the amount of such quote to the City prior to the commencement of the relocation work.

SECTION 3. Chapter 86, Article II, Section 86-47(a) is hereby amended to include

¹ Underline denotes new text. Strikethrough denotes deleted text.

subsection (3), which shall read as follows:

Failure to receive a bill does not excuse a customer from paying the bill in the required time.

SECTION 4. Chapter 86, Article II, Section 86-47 is hereby amended to include Section 86-47(c), which shall read as follows:

Final bills. Final bills for utility services shall not be prorated.

SECTION 5. Chapter 86, Article II, Section 86-49(d) is hereby amended to read as follows:

Trip charges. There will be a trip charge incurred for each service call. The charge will apply to each trip made by a utility employee. The following is a partial list of actions that will result in this charge being incurred:

Turn off water for customer repair

Reread meter (waived if billed reading was incorrect)

Sewer backup (waived if backup is due to city system)

Turn on water (Except to turn on water following lock off for nonpayment)

Locate water line

(1) Trip charge during normal work hours inside city limits: \$50.00

(2) Trip charge during normal work hours outside of city limits: \$75.00

(3) ~~Trip charge during nights, weekends, holidays or on overtime: \$100.00~~ Trip charge to turn utilities on or off where the request is made at or after 4:30 p.m.: \$50.00

(4) All other trip charges during nights, weekends, holidays or on overtime: \$100.00

SECTION 6. Chapter 86, Article II, Section 86-50 is hereby titled “Adjustments” and shall read as follows:

Upon application to the utility department, adjustments may be made to the customer’s utility bill. The following adjustments may be considered by the utility department:

(a) If the customer incurs a late fee after having not incurred a late fee for the preceding twelve-month period, the late fee may be adjusted and removed from the customer’s bill. The customer shall not be entitled to a late fee adjustment during the following twelve-month period.

A customer may receive up to two adjustments for water leaks during any twelve-month period. The adjustment shall only be for the sewer portion of the customer’s

bill; the water portion of the customer's bill shall not be adjusted. To qualify for leak-related adjustments, the customer must provide the utility department documentation showing that the customer repaired the leak. Adjustments related to leaks will only be provided for leaks that do not go through the sewer system. Additionally, no leak-related adjustments shall be provided for irrigation meters.

(c) A customer may receive an adjustment on a house meter (not an irrigation meter) for the sewer portion of the customer's bill once during a twelve-month period when the customer fills a swimming pool. The water portion of the customer's bill shall not be adjusted.

SECTION 7. This ordinance shall become effective as provided by law.

The motion to approve and adopt the foregoing Ordinance was made by Councilman Blythe and seconded by Councilman Gatchell, and the following vote was recorded:

Mayor Willis	Aye
Councilman Hyde	Aye
Councilman Fornett	Aye
Councilman Walker	Aye
Councilman Parker	Aye
Councilman Blythe	Aye
Councilman Gatchell	Aye

RESOLVED, this the 19th day of December, 2023.

ATTEST:

CITY COUNCIL

City Clerk

Mayor