

(Published in the Topeka Metro News December 15, 2025)

ORDINANCE NO. 20614

AN ORDINANCE introduced by City Manager Dr. Robert M. Perez, concerning utility rates, amending § 13.05.020 and § 13.05.050 of the Topeka Municipal Code and repealing original sections.

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE CITY OF TOPEKA, KANSAS:

Section 1. That section 13.05.020, Retail water service rates, of The Code of the City of Topeka, Kansas, is hereby amended to read as follows:

Retail water service rates.

The following are hereby established as the monthly retail water service rates, effective on the dates specified, which the consumer shall pay for water services:

(a) ~~Readiness to Serve Charge~~Base Charge. A customer who has a City service line connected to the City water main shall pay a monthly ~~readiness-to-serve-charge~~base charge that is based upon the size of the water meter. This charge shall apply regardless of whether water has passed from the City water main through the City service line during the billing period. The rates for properties inside the City and outside the City are as follows:

~~Readiness to Serve~~Base Charge – Property Inside City

	Jan. 1, 2023	Jan. 1, 2024	Jan. 1, 2025	Jan. 1, 2026
Below 1"		\$16.52	\$17.35	\$18.22
1"	\$15.73	\$18.64	\$20.22	\$21.94
1 1/2"	\$31.45	\$34.12	\$37.02	\$40.17

2"	\$50.34	\$54.62	\$59.26	\$64.30
3"	\$94.40	\$102.42	\$111.13	\$120.58
4"	\$157.29	\$170.66	\$185.17	\$200.91
6"	\$314.61	\$341.35	\$370.36	\$401.84
8"	\$503.35	\$546.13	\$592.55	\$642.92
10"	\$723.56	\$785.06	\$851.79	\$924.19

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Readiness to Serve Base Charge – Property Outside City

	Jan. 1, 2023	Jan. 1, 2024	Jan. 1, 2025	Jan. 1, 2026
1" and below	\$27.53	\$32.62	\$35.39	\$38.40
1 1/2"	\$55.04	\$59.71	\$64.79	\$70.30
2"	\$88.10	\$95.59	\$103.71	\$112.53
3"	\$165.20	\$179.24	\$194.48	\$211.02
4"	\$275.26	\$298.66	\$324.05	\$351.59
6"	\$550.57	\$597.36	\$648.13	\$703.22
8"	\$880.86	\$955.73	\$1,036.96	\$1,125.11
10"	\$1,266.23	\$1,373.86	\$1,490.63	\$1,617.33

(b) *Water Volume Charge*. The customer shall pay on a monthly basis for the water passing from the City water main to the property. The rates for properties inside the City and outside the City are as follows:

Volume Charge (per 1,000 Gallons) – Property Inside City

	Jan. 1, 2023	Jan. 1, 2024	Jan. 1, 2025	Jan. 1, 2026
Single-Family	\$6.06	\$6.58	\$7.14	\$7.75
Multifamily	\$4.92	\$5.34	\$5.79	\$6.28
Commercial	\$4.48	\$4.95	\$5.45	\$5.99
Industrial	\$3.84	\$4.29	\$4.80	\$5.35
Industrial II	\$3.61	\$4.04	\$4.52	\$5.04
Irrigation	\$7.29	\$7.91	\$8.58	\$9.31

Volume Charge (per 1,000 Gallons) – Property Outside City

	Jan. 1, 2023	Jan. 1, 2024	Jan. 1, 2025	Jan. 1, 2026
Single-Family	\$10.61	\$11.52	\$12.50	\$13.56
Multifamily	\$8.61	\$9.35	\$10.13	\$10.99
Commercial	\$7.84	\$8.66	\$9.54	\$10.48
Industrial	\$6.72	\$7.51	\$8.40	\$9.36
Industrial II	\$6.32	\$7.07	\$7.91	\$8.82

Irrigation	\$12.76	\$13.84	\$15.02	\$16.29
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Section 2. That section 13.05.050, Retail water service rates, of The Code of the City of Topeka, Kansas, is hereby amended to read as follows:

Sanitary sewer service rates.

The following are established as the monthly sewer service rates, effective on the dates specified, for discharging wastewater into the sanitary sewer system:

(a) ~~Readiness to Serve Charge~~Base Charge. A customer who has a private sewer line that is connected to the City wastewater system, as determined by the Utilities Director or designee, shall pay a monthly ~~readiness to serve charge~~base charge that is based upon the size of the water meter. This charge shall apply regardless of whether wastewater has passed from the private sewer line to the City wastewater system during the billing period. The rates for properties inside and outside the City are as follows:

~~Readiness to Serve~~Base Charge – Property Inside City

	Jan. 1, 2023	Jan. 1, 2024	Jan. 1, 2025	Jan. 1, 2026
Below 1"		\$13.09	\$13.74	\$14.43
1"	\$12.47	\$14.65	\$15.71	\$16.85
1 1/2"	\$24.95	\$26.82	\$28.76	\$30.85
2"	\$39.91	\$42.90	\$46.01	\$49.35
3"	\$74.84	\$80.45	\$86.28	\$92.54
4"	\$124.73	\$134.08	\$143.80	\$154.23

6"	\$249.45	\$268.16	\$287.60	\$308.45
8"	\$399.14	\$429.08	\$460.19	\$493.55
10"	\$573.75	\$616.78	\$661.50	\$709.46

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Readiness to ServeBase Charge – Property Outside City

	Jan. 1, 2023	Jan. 1, 2024	Jan. 1, 2025	Jan. 1, 2026
1" and below	\$21.82	\$25.64	\$27.49	\$29.49
1 1/2"	\$43.66	\$46.94	\$50.33	\$53.99
2"	\$69.84	\$75.08	\$80.52	\$86.36
3"	\$130.97	\$140.79	\$150.99	\$161.95
4"	\$218.28	\$234.64	\$251.65	\$269.90
6"	\$436.54	\$469.28	\$503.30	\$539.79
8"	\$698.50	\$750.89	\$805.33	\$863.71
10"	\$1,004.06	\$1,079.37	\$1,157.63	\$1,241.56

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(b) *Wastewater Volume Charge.* The customer shall pay on a monthly basis for

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the volume of wastewater passing from the private sewer line to the City wastewater

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system according to the rate schedule in subsection (c) of this section.

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(1) *Residential and Multifamily Residences/Public Water System Supply.*

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The charge shall be based on a calculated average water volume determined in

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accordance with TMC 13.10.490 and 13.10.510 for water used in the months of

December, January and February. The average water volume determined by this method shall be referred to as the three-month winter average. The three-month winter average water volume shall be recalculated each year following the three-month winter period and shall be in effect for the following 12-month period. For a customer who has not established an average, the charge shall be the average of the residential three-month winter average for the applicable meter reading route.

(2) Residential and Multifamily Residences/Well Water Supply. The charge for a customer whose potable water is supplied by a well shall be based on the average of the residential three-month winter average for the applicable meter reading route. Alternatively, the customer may install and maintain, at the customer's cost, a water meter approved by the Utilities Director or designee. If a meter is installed, the sewer rates shall be calculated based on the average water volume used in the months of December, January, and February as measured at the meter; provided, that access is granted to the Utilities Director or designee to read, inspect, test, or repair the meter.

(3) *Commercial and Industrial*. The volume shall be based on the lesser of water volumes determined in accordance with TMC 13.10.490 or actual metered sewer discharges. Credit shall be given for those metered flows which do not enter the sewer collection system. Those customers who discharge wastewater with a biological oxygen demand in excess of 300 milligrams per liter and/or suspended solids in excess of 300 milligrams per liter will be assessed the excess strength charge in accordance with subsection (e) of this section.

(c) *Schedule of Rates and Charges*.

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(1) *Inside City.*

	Jan. 1, 2023	Jan. 1, 2024	Jan. 1, 2025	Jan. 1, 2026
Domestic Strength Wastewater:				
Volume charge per 1,000 gallons	\$5.59	\$6.01	\$6.45	\$6.92

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(2) *Outside City.*

	Jan. 1, 2023	Jan. 1, 2024	Jan. 1, 2025	Jan. 1, 2026
Domestic Strength Wastewater:				
Volume charge per 1,000 gallons	\$9.78	\$10.52	\$11.29	\$12.11

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(d) *Adjustment of Bills.*

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(1) Notwithstanding subsection (b)(3) of this section, in the event a

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customer's facility bypass system becomes inoperable because of equipment

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failure or system maintenance, the customer may request a temporary suspension

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of the imposition of excess strength charges in accordance with the policy

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established by the Utilities Director.

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(2) The monthly rate and charge on a bill may be adjusted administratively

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by the Water Pollution Control Division to the actual or estimated volume or

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strength, provided a significant change from normal conditions of discharge of

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waste or strength during the billing period can be demonstrated. In no event shall

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an adjusted monthly charge be less than the minimum rate as established in this

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section.

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(e) *Excess Strength Charges.* Excess strength charges may be established by

85 the Utilities Director subject to the approval by the City Manager.

86 Section 3. That original § 13.05.020 and § 13.05.050 of The Code of the City of
87 Topeka, Kansas, are hereby specifically repealed.

88 Section 4. This ordinance shall take effect and be in force on January 1, 2026,
89 after its passage, approval and publication in the official City newspaper.

90 Section 5. This ordinance shall supersede all ordinances, resolutions or rules,
91 or portions thereof, which are in conflict with the provisions of this ordinance.

92 Section 6. Should any section, clause or phrase of this ordinance be declared
93 invalid by a court of competent jurisdiction, the same shall not affect the validity of this
94 ordinance as a whole, or any part thereof, other than the part so declared to be invalid.

95 PASSED AND APPROVED by the Governing Body on December 2, 2025.

96 CITY OF TOPEKA, KANSAS
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103 Michael A. Padilla, Mayor

104 ATTEST:

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108 Brenda Younger, City Clerk