

ORDINANCE NO. 2024-3

AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWN OF FORT BRANCH, INDIANA, INDIANA SCHEDULE OF RATES

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF FORT BRANCH, INDIANA AS FOLLOWS:

SECTION 1: WATER RATES.

(A) Metered Water Rates:

- (a) For the use of and services rendered by the Water Works system of the Town based on use of water supplied by said Water Works system, effective January 1, 2025, the following rates shall apply:

<u>Metered flow rates per month</u>	<u>Rates per 1,000 gallons</u>
First 3,000 Gallons	\$9.97
Next 2,000 Gallons	\$8.79
Next 1,500 Gallons	\$7.49
Next 3,500 Gallons	\$6.61
Next 6,500 Gallons	\$5.57
Next 15,000 Gallons	\$4.60
Next 35,000 Gallons	\$3.71
Next 66,500 Gallons	\$3.15

- (b) For the use of and service rendered by the Water Works system of the Town based on the use of water supplied by said Water Works system, effective January 1, 2025, the minimum charge per month shall be as follows:

<u>METER SIZE</u>	<u>MINIMUM MTHLY USAGE</u>	<u>MINIMUM CHARGE/MTH</u>
5/8 inch meter	3,000	\$29.90
¾ inch meter	4,500	\$43.08
1 inch meter	7,500	\$65.32
1 ¼ inch meter	12,000	\$92.98
1 ½ inch meter	15,000	\$109.68
2 inch meter	24,000	\$152.52
3 inch meter	45,000	\$237.04
4 inch meter	75,000	\$343.49
6 inch meter	150,000	\$579.44
8 inch meter	240,000	\$862.58

For the use of and services rendered by the Water Works system of the Town based on use of water supplied by said Water Works system, effective January 1, 2026, the following rates shall apply:

<u>(c) Metered flow rates per month</u>		<u>Rates per 1,000 gallons</u>
First	3,000 Gallons	\$10.96
Next	2,000 Gallons	\$9.67
Next	1,500 Gallons	\$8.24
Next	3,500 Gallons	\$7.27
Next	6,500 Gallons	\$6.12
Next	15,000 Gallons	\$5.06
Next	35,000 Gallons	\$4.08
Next	66,500 Gallons	\$3.46

(d) For the use of and service rendered by the Water Works system of the Town based on the use of water supplied by said Water Works system, effective January 1, 2026, the minimum charge per month shall be as follows:

<u>METER SIZE</u>	<u>MINIMUM MTHLY USAGE</u>	<u>MINIMUM CHARGE/MTH</u>
5/8 inch meter	3,000	\$32.89
¾ inch meter	4,500	\$47.39
1 inch meter	7,500	\$71.86
1 ¼ inch meter	12,000	\$102.28
1 ½ inch meter	15,000	\$120.65
2 inch meter	24,000	\$167.77
3 inch meter	45,000	\$260.75
4 inch meter	75,000	\$377.83
6 inch meter	150,000	\$637.38
8 inch meter	240,000	\$948.83

(B) Hydrant Rental. For the use and service of hydrant rental of the Town on per annum charges.

January 1, 2025	\$64.90
January 1, 2026	\$71.39

(C) Private Fire Connection – per connection. For the use and service of private fire connections of the Town on per connection per annum charges.

Effective January 1,2025

1 inch connection	\$1.79
1 ¼ inch connection	\$2.81
1 ½ inch connection	\$4.04
2 inch connection	\$7.17
3 inch connection	\$16.15
4 inch connection	\$28.70
6 inch connection	\$64.56
8 inch connection	\$114.79

Effective January 1,2026

1 inch connection	\$1.97
1 ¼ inch connection	\$3.09
1 ½ inch connection	\$4.44
2 inch connection	\$7.89
3 inch connection	\$17.76
4 inch connection	\$31.57
6 inch connection	\$71.01
8 inch connection	\$126.26

(D) Tap-Fees The tap-in fee for all water service shall be One Thousand Dollars (\$1,000.00)

(E) Late Payment Charges. All bills are due and payable by the last day of the month at the Fort Branch Municipal Center (Town Hall) to avoid disconnection of the water service. All bills from water service not paid by the 15th of the month as stated on said billing card shall be subject to a late charge of 10% of the first \$3.00 and 3% of the balance in excess of \$3.00. This penalty has been pre-calculated by the computer and is shown on the billing card.

(F) Deposits. Deposits required of all new customers shall be \$200.00 per meter. The exception of apartment building owners, it is \$200.00 per building.

- (G) **Reconnect Charge.** When the service is turned off for non-payment of bill, or whenever for any reason beyond the control of the waterworks a re-establishment of service is required by any on customer, a charge of \$50.00 will be made by the waterworks to cover the cost of discontinuance and reestablishment of service. The charge, together with any arrears due to the waterworks, shall be paid by the customer before the service will be reestablished.
- (H) **Bad Check Charge.** A charge of \$25.00 will be made to any customer who pays his/her bill by check or ACH which is returned to the utility because of insufficient funds or any other reason for the return. A reconnect/disconnect charge will be charged as well, if water is shut off.
- (I) **Tampering with Water Meter.** It shall be unlawful for any person, other than employees of the water utility of the Town while acting within the scope of their employment or any other person or persons specifically authorized by the water utility, to block any water meter from being read, to open a meter pit lid, enter a meter pit or in any manner, tamper with a water meter, or attempt to heat a meter pit or meter. Any person who violates this shall be fined \$100 if the water is turned off and shall be \$2,400 if the lock is removed. A separate offense shall be committed for each day of the violation.

Incorporating any and all language of Ordinance 2019-3

SECTION 2: SEWER RATES

- (A) The sewage rates and charges shall be based on the quantity of water used on or in the property or premises subject to such rates and charges, as the same is measured by the water meter there in use, plus a base charge based on the size of the water meter installed, except as herein otherwise provided. For the purpose of billing and collecting the charges for sewage service, the water meters shall be read monthly, and the users shall be billed monthly (or period equaling a month). The water usage schedule on which the amount of the rates and charges shall be determined is as follows:
- (1) Treatment rates per 1,000 gallons of usage per month.

On or after January 1, 2025

The treatment rate per 1,000 gallons of usage per month for users inside the corporate limits of the town is \$11.91

The treatment rate per 1,000 gallons of usage per month for users outside the corporate limits of the town is \$12.77.

On or after January 1,2026

The treatment rate per 1,000 gallons of usage per month for users inside the corporate limits of the town is \$12.51

The treatment rate per 1,000 gallons of usage per month for users outside the corporate limits of the town is \$13.41

(2) The base rate shall be as follows:

On or after January 1,2025

MONTHLY BASE RATE

<u>METER SIZE</u>	<u>USERS INSIDE FT. BRANCH CORPORATE LIMITS</u>	<u>USERS OUTSIDE FT. BRANCH CORPORATE LIMITS</u>
5/8 – ¾ INCH	\$24.78	\$26.69
1 INCH	\$53.71	\$58.43
1 ¼ INCH	\$82.42	\$89.88
1 ½ INCH	\$115.24	\$125.80
2 INCH	\$197.57	\$217.08
3 INCH	\$447.20	\$490.36
4 INCH	\$773.90	\$848.64
6 INCH	\$1,753.20	\$1,923.35

On or after January 1,2026

MONTHLY BASE RATE

<u>METER SIZE</u>	<u>USERS INSIDE FT. BRANCH CORPORATE LIMITS</u>	<u>USERS OUTSIDE FT. BRANCH CORPORATE LIMITS</u>
5/8 – ¾ INCH	\$26.02	\$28.02
1 INCH	\$56.40	\$61.35
1 ¼ INCH	\$86.54	\$94.37
1 ½ INCH	\$121.00	\$132.09
2 INCH	\$207.45	\$227.93
3 INCH	\$469.56	\$514.88
4 INCH	\$812.60	\$891.07
6 INCH	\$1,840.86	\$2,019.52

- (B) (1) For uses of the sewage works that are unmetered water users or accurate meter readings are not available, the monthly charge shall be determined as an average of single-family dwelling units, except as herein provided. Sewage service bills shall be rendered once each month (or period equaling a month). The schedule on which the rates and charges shall be determined is as follows:

On and after January 1, 2025

Inside Town (assumes 4,515 gallons used per month) \$78.58
Outside Town (assumes 4,515 gallons used per month) \$84.37

On and after January 1, 2026

Inside Town (assumes 4,515 gallons used per month) \$82.51
Outside Town (assumes 4,515 gallons used per month) \$88.59

- (2) Unmetered non-residential single-family dwelling units shall be charged a rate to be determined by the town on an individual basis by applying the above metered rates to estimated usage and meter size.
- (C) The service rendered to the town shall be subject to the same rates and charges provided in this section, or to charges and rates established in harmony therewith.
- (D) In order to recover the cost of monitoring industrial waste the town shall charge the user the actual cost of monitoring but not less than \$25.00 per sampling event. This charge will be reviewed on the same basis as all other rates and charges.
- (E) In the event two (2) or more dwelling units such as mobile homes, apartments or housekeeping rooms discharging laundry sewage or other liquids into the district's sanitary sewer system, either directly or indirectly, then each unit shall be assessed the normal residential user rate beginning on the 1st day of May 2016.

Rates and charges adopted pursuant to Ordinance No. 2019-3 in September 2019, effective 1/1/2023 which incorporates language from Ordinance No. 2018-1.

SECTION 3: CONNECTION FEES. For the use and service of connection fees for Water and Sewer of the Town per connection.

The connection fee for connecting to the Town's Water System shall be as follows:

A. Residential Use:

Homes (Single-Family)	\$800.00
Homes (Duplex)	\$1,600.00
Apartments (per apt unit)	\$800.00
Trailer Parks (per trailer)	\$800.00

B. Institutional/Commercial/Industrial

Minimum for average usage not to exceed 6,000 gallons per month	\$800.00
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If average usage is over 6,000 gallons per month, a higher fee shall be charged based on \$800.00 per single family equivalent. Single family equivalent shall be defined as 6,000 gallons per month. The initial connection fee shall be based on estimated usage. The fee shall be adjusted after one year to reflect actual average usage. The formula for computing the connection fee for usage of more than 6,000 gallons per month is as follows: Average monthly usage divided by 6,000 multiplied by \$800.00.

The connection fee for connection to the Town's Sewer System shall be as follows:

A. Residential Use:

Homes (Single-Family)	\$2,000.00
Homes (Duplex)	\$4,000.00
Apartments (per apt unit)	\$2,000.00
Trailer Parks (per trailer)	\$2,000.00

B. Institutional/Commercial/Industrial

Minimum for average usage not to exceed 6,000 gallons per month	\$2,000.00
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If average usage is over 6,000 gallons per month, a higher fee shall be charged based on \$2,000.00 per single family equivalent. The initial connection fee shall be based on estimated usage. The fee shall be adjusted after one year to reflect actual average usage. The formula for computing the connection fee for usage of more than 6,000 gallons per month is a follows: Average monthly usage divided by 6,000 multiplied by \$2,000.00

Incorporating Ordinance 2018-1 as written.

Required Notice Pursuant to IC 8-1.5-3-8.1

Following the adoption of the Ordinance, the users of the water and sewer utility located outside the corporate boundaries may be entitled to petition the commission under section 8.3 of this chapter to review and adjust rates and charges imposed on users is a petition under section 8.2 of this chapter or under IC 36-9-23-26.1 with respect to the same rate ordinance has not been filed.

Section 4: Inconsistent Ordinances. The provisions of all ordinances inconsistent with this ordinance be and hereby are repealed.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Council of the Town of Fort Branch, Indiana this 16 day of October, 2024.

TOWN COUNCIL OF FORT BRANCH, INDIANA



SANDRA BIRCH, COUNCIL PRESIDENT

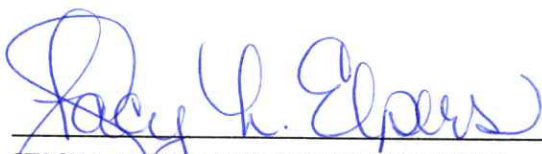


SCOTTY DELONG, COUNCIL MEMBER



BOB REINHART, COUNCIL MEMBER

ATTEST: (SEAL)



STACY L. ELPERS, IAMC CLERK-TREASURER

