

**CITY OF GAINESVILLE**  
Office of the City Attorney

Memorandum  
Box No. 46; 334-5011

TO: Mayor and Members of the  
City Commission

DATE: February 12, 2001

**FIRST READING**

FROM: Marion J. Radson  
City Attorney

SUBJECT: Ordinance No. 0-01-10

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 27, SECTION 27-126.1.(c), OF THE GAINESVILLE CODE OF ORDINANCES BY ADDING LANGUAGE SPECIFIC TO IRRIGATION METERS; AND AMENDING APPENDIX A, SECTION UTILITIES (3) g., (3) i.2., and (3) j.2., WATER, OF THE GAINESVILLE CODE OF ORDINANCES BY REVISING RATES AND CHARGES FOR RETAIL WATER SERVICE; AND AMENDING APPENDIX A, SECTION UTILITIES (4) h.2., SEWERAGE, OF THE GAINESVILLE CODE OF ORDINANCES BY REVISING RATES AND CHARGES FOR RETAIL WASTEWATER SERVICE; PROVIDING FOR A REPEALING CLAUSE; PROVIDING FOR A SEVERABILITY CLAUSE; AND, PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE SCHEDULE PROVIDED HEREIN.

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Recommendation: The City Commission adopt the proposed ordinance.

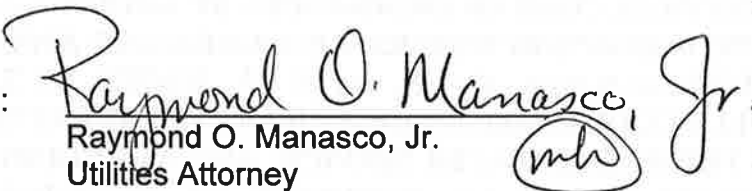
Background:


GRU's potable water supply system has been impacted by the noticeable increase in water use for irrigation purposes. The impacts are particularly acute during drought conditions and have necessitated capital improvements to the system earlier than initially anticipated. Rather than pass the cost of these improvements on to all water customers, staff recommends that, to the extent practical, the costs be recovered from the customers that irrigate significantly. Staff proposes to do this by implementing a third pricing tier for water used during the irrigation season. The third pricing tier will be for water consumption equal to or over 25 kgal. and billed at a rate of \$2.22 per kgal. Consistent with this approach, staff also recommends that all water use through irrigation meters during the irrigation season (April through October) be billed at the second and third tiers. Hence, 1 to 15 kgal. of water use through an irrigation meter would be billed at \$1.29 per kgal. and all use over 15 kgal. would be billed at \$2.22 per kgal. Rates for water consumed during the

months of November through March will be unchanged. The third pricing tier will generate approximately \$530,000 of gross revenue in fiscal year 2001.

Current City policy mandates that new development being served by water meters two inches and smaller be assessed flow-based water and wastewater connection charges by a pre-determined schedule, depending upon meter size. For multi-family development, staff has found that this policy does not encourage individual unit metering and can also lead to developers selecting meter sizes smaller than optimal.

To resolve this problem, staff recommends that, for multi-family units, it be given the authority to assess flow-based water and wastewater connection charges based upon engineering estimates, as is done currently for development being served by water meters larger than two inches. Staff does not expect a significant financial impact to result from this change.

Prepared by:   
Raymond O. Manasco, Jr.  
Utilities Attorney

Submitted by:   
Marion J. Radson  
City Attorney

# DRAFT

2/6/01

ORDINANCE NO. \_\_\_\_\_  
O-01-10

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 27, SECTION 27-126.1.(c), OF THE GAINESVILLE CODE OF ORDINANCES BY ADDING LANGUAGE SPECIFIC TO IRRIGATION METERS; AND AMENDING APPENDIX A, SECTION UTILITIES (3) g., (3) i.2., and (3) j.2., WATER, OF THE GAINESVILLE CODE OF ORDINANCES BY REVISING RATES AND CHARGES FOR RETAIL WATER SERVICE; AND AMENDING APPENDIX A, SECTION UTILITIES (4) h.2., SEWERAGE, OF THE GAINESVILLE CODE OF ORDINANCES BY REVISING RATES AND CHARGES FOR RETAIL WASTEWATER SERVICE; PROVIDING FOR A REPEALING CLAUSE; PROVIDING FOR A SEVERABILITY CLAUSE; AND, PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE SCHEDULE PROVIDED HEREIN.

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF GAINESVILLE, FLORIDA:

Section 1. Chapter 27, Section 27-126.1.(c) of the Gainesville Code of Ordinances is hereby amended to read as follows:

(c) *Water meter for water consumption not returned to the wastewater system.* Any water customer may have the city install a separate water meter for the measurement of water not returned to the wastewater system or for irrigation purposes. The water used through this separate meter will be billed as a separate service and under the same provisions applicable to any existing water service but will not be subject to a monthly wastewater consumptive use charge or initial wastewater connection charges.

1. Customers using this method of metering will be charged the nonresidential wastewater rate for water metered through the water meter supplying general water service. ~~When it can be shown that the installation of a second water meter at a residence for the measurement of water not returned to the wastewater system will not increase the peak demand upon the water system by that facility, the water flow based connection charges for the second meter shall not be required if reclaimed water is not available to the customer from the city.~~
2. Customers installing a separate 5/8" water meter for irrigation purposes where reclaimed water is not available shall not be assessed initial flow-based water or wastewater connection charges.

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3. If reclaimed water is available to the customer from the city, flow-based connection charges shall be applicable to the additional water meter installation and service.

Section 2. Appendix A, Section Utilities (3) g. of the Gainesville Code of Ordinances

is hereby amended to read as follows:

g. Base rates for service (§ 27-128):

- 1. Non-residential water service:
  - (i) Customer service charge, per month, per bill rendered..... \$ 3.00
  - (ii) Rate per 1,000 gallons..... .99
- 2. Residential water service:
  - (i) November through March:
    - Customer service charge, per month, per bill rendered..... \$ 3.00
    - Rate per 1,000 gallons..... .98
  - (ii) April through October:
    - Customer service charge, per month, per bill rendered..... \$ 3.00
    - Rate per 1,000 gallons, first 9,000 gallons..... .98
    - Rate per 1,000 gallons, over 9,000 gallons and less than 25,000 gallons ..... 1.29
    - Rate per 1,000 gallons, equal to or greater than 25,000 gallons ..... 2.22
- 3. Service through water meters installed for irrigation purposes:
  - (i) November through March:
    - Customer service charge, per month, per bill rendered..... \$ 3.00
    - Rate per 1,000 gallons..... .98
  - (ii) April through October:
    - Customer service charge, per month, per bill rendered..... \$ 3.00
    - Rate per 1,000 gallons, first 15,000 gallons..... 1.29
    - Rate per 1,000 gallons, over 15,000 gallons ..... 2.22
- ~~4.3~~ University of Florida water service:
  - (i) On-campus facilities:
    - Customer service charge, per month, per bill rendered..... \$ 3.00
    - Rate per 1,000 gallons..... .69
  - (ii) Off-campus facilities:
    - Customer service charge, per month, per bill rendered..... \$ 3.00
    - Rate per 1,000 gallons..... .88

Section 3. Appendix A, Section Utilities (3) i.2. of the Gainesville Code of Ordinances

is hereby amended to read as follows:

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2. For water meters serving multi-family units and water meters larger than two (2) inches. ~~For applicants requiring water meters greater than two inch meter size,~~ the water transmission and distribution connection charge shall be based on the estimated demand for service in accordance with the following:

- (i) \$0.486 per gallon per day (GPD) of annual average daily flow (ADF); ~~or,~~
- (ii) \$2,021.00, whichever is greater. There will be a minimum charge of \$2,021 for meters larger than 2 inches.

## Section 4. Appendix A, Section Utilities (3) j.2. of the Gainesville Code of Ordinances

is hereby amended to read as follows:

2. For water meters serving multi-family units and water meters larger than two (2) inches. ~~For applicants requiring water meters greater than two inch meter size,~~ the water treatment plant connection charge shall be based on the estimated demand for service in accordance with the following:

- (i) \$1.059 per gallon per day (GPD) of annual average daily flow (ADF); ~~or,~~
- (ii) \$4,404.00, whichever is greater. There will be a minimum charge of \$4,404 for meters larger than two inches.

## Section 5. Appendix A, Section Utilities (4) h.2. of the Gainesville Code of Ordinances

is hereby amended to read as follows:

2. For water meters serving multi-family units and water meters larger than two (2) inches. ~~For applicants of wastewater service requiring water meters greater than two (2) inches meter size,~~ the wastewater flow-based connection charge shall be based on the estimated demand for service in accordance with the following:

### WASTEWATER FLOW-BASED CONNECTION CHARGES

<i>Collection System</i>	<i>Treatment Plant</i>	<i>Pump Station</i>	<i>Force Main (base system)</i>	<i>Total</i>
(A) \$0.314/GPD-ADF	\$2.098/GPD-ADF	\$0.441/GPD-ADF	\$0.670/GPD-ADF	\$3.523/GPD-ADF <del>or</del>
<u>(B) Minimum charges for meters larger than two inches:</u>				
<u><i>Collection System</i></u>	<u><i>Treatment Plant</i></u>	<u><i>Pump Station</i></u>	<u><i>Force Main (base system)</i></u>	<u><i>Total</i></u>
\$1,241.00	\$8,289.00	\$1,727.00	\$2,647.00	\$13,904.00
		<del>whichever is greater</del>		

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1 Section 6. All ordinances or parts of ordinances in conflict herewith are, to the extent  
2 of such conflict, hereby repealed.

3 Section 7. If any section, sentence, clause or phrase of this ordinance is held to be  
4 invalid or unconstitutional by a court of competent jurisdiction, then said holding shall in no  
5 way affect the validity of the remaining portions of this ordinance.

6  
7 Section 8. This ordinance shall take effect immediately upon its adoption; provided  
8 however, the rates and charges as provided for herein shall be applicable to all monthly bills  
9 which are for the first time rendered and postmarked after 12:01 A.M., March 1, 2001.

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11 PASSED and ADOPTED this \_\_\_\_\_ day \_\_\_\_\_, 2001.

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17 Paula M. DeLaney  
18 Mayor

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20 ATTEST: Approved as to form and legality

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25 \_\_\_\_\_  
26 Kurt Lannon  
27 Clerk Of The Commission

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30 \_\_\_\_\_  
31 Marion J. Radison  
32 City Attorney

33 This ordinance passed on first reading this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2001.

34 This ordinance passed on second reading this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2001.

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