

ORDINANCE NO. 2 OF 2022

BE IT ORDAINED by the Town of Port Barre, Louisiana, duly convened in regular session on the 5<sup>th</sup> day of April, 2022, that Ordinance No. 2 of 2022 is enacted to read as follows:

Water, Sewer and Gas Rate, Connections; Deposits; Delinquency; Etc.

- (a) Water, Sewer and Gas rates will be set by a rate schedule annually.
- (b) All new connections (taps for water, sewer and gas) will be charged in accordance with the current fee schedule and cost of materials. This fee schedule will be in accordance with the size of the meter and pipe to be installed. In addition, a meter deposit of \$200.00 for each service (water and gas) is required to turn services on. These deposits are refundable, less any amounts due, at the time service is discontinued. The meter(s) will be placed at the user's property line. At the time of deposit, users must complete an application, provide a driver's license, and supply the Town with a correct mailing address for receipt of the bill. If a bill comes back from the postal service with a non-sufficient address, the Town shall disconnect service until a proper address is provided and the bill is paid in full.
- (c) All service pipes from the meter to the customers' premises served shall be installed by, and at the cost of, the owner of the property to be served or the applicant for the service. The installation shall be under the inspection of the Town Superintendent and/or Code Enforcement Officer.

Separate Meters for Each Customer Required

- (a) Each customer, or each user of water, or each premises served by the water system, must be separately metered. For instance, each apartment, whether rented furnished or unfurnished, and whether in a regular apartment house, or in or on the premises of a private dwelling house, shall be deemed a separate premises requiring a separate meter. And, a combination business place and residence, although occupied and/or operated by the same person, must be regarded as two (2) customers requiring separate meters for each.
- (b) All incorporated, inhabited premises and buildings located within 300 feet of an approved public water supply shall be connected with such supply, provided that the property owner is legally entitled to make such connection.

Billing; Delinquency; Disconnection

- (a) All meters are read between the 26<sup>th</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup> day of each month, with the bills mailed through the U.S. Postal Service between the 1<sup>st</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> of the following month. The due date is the 20<sup>th</sup> day of each month, unless it falls on a weekend, then it is the following Monday. All delinquent bills are assessed an additional ten percent (10%) if not paid by the due date.
- (b) Unpaid, delinquent accounts will be turned off five (5) days after the due date and will remain off until all past due amounts have been paid in full, together with a re-connection charge of forty (\$40.00) dollars.
- (c) If a customer is disconnected for non-payment and unlawfully by-passes and connects directly to the town's water system, or if a customer runs a water hose to another customer's water supply and/or faucet, or break the lock on the meter, they shall be turned over to the police department and fined for "theft" or any other offense punishable by the State of Louisiana.
- (d) If a customer is disconnected for non-payment or if a customer leaves town owing a bill and at some point comes back to town and requires water service, it shall be the authority of the town to refuse service to said customer until all past due

balances are paid in full. It shall be considered unlawful to try to establish service under someone else's name, if in fact the customer who is trying to obtain service left the town with a past due bill, and is residing at the location where service is to be established. The Town has the authority to transfer any unpaid balance to the account wherein said former customer is residing.

#### Service Transfers

It may be necessary for a customer to transfer service from one location to another. This may be done only if the customer's bill at the present location is paid in full, otherwise the town has the authority to reject service at another location until all balances are collected.

#### Re-location of Meters

If a customer wishes to re-located a meter from one site to another on the property line, a fee will be charged according to size of meter and pipe to be re-located.

#### Conflict with Other Ordinances, Resolutions, Etc.

All resolutions, regulations and ordinances of the Town of Port Barre in conflict with this ordinance be and the same is/are hereby repealed to the extent of such conflict.

Said ordinance having been introduced on March 2, 2022, by Alderman Abshire, notice of public hearing having been published on March 13, 2022; said public hearing having been held and the Ordinance considered, on motion by Alderman S. Hardy, seconded by Alderman G. Hardy to adopt the Ordinance, a record vote was taken and the following result was had:

YEAS: S. Hardy, G. Hardy, Pickney and Robin

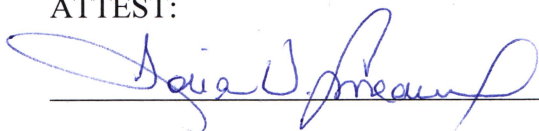
NAYS: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: Abshire

Whereupon, the presiding officer declared the above Ordinance duly adopted on April 5, 2022.

ATTEST:

  
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MAYOR