

## GENERAL ORDINANCE NO. 14, 2018

**General Ordinance No. 14, 2018**, is an ordinance that amends Chapter 50 of the Code of Ordinances for the City of Beech Grove concerning fees charged for the operation of the City of Beech Grove Sewage Works utility.

**WHEREAS**, the City of Beech Grove operates a sewage works utility that has approximately 4,800 customers; and

**WHEREAS**, the City of Beech Grove is a satellite customer of Citizens Energy Group and is charged for the treatment of wastewater generated by Beech Grove Sewage Works customers; and

**WHEREAS**, the Board of Public Works and Safety has entered into an agreement for charges concerning the treatment of wastewater from 2019 through 2024 and such charges have a built in "step" increase through 2024; and

**WHEREAS**, the rising cost to have wastewater treated and more federal regulations concerning capturing wastewater from entering streams and rivers is very concerning to all rate payers.

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT AFFIRMED** that the cost of treating wastewater is out our hands and the Common Council must respond to the rising cost of the treatment of wastewater and the delivery of services by adjusting the monthly charges associated with the operation of the Beech Grove Sewage Works utility.

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER AFFIRMED** that the Common Council desires the following amendments to be inserted into Chapter 50 of the Code of Ordinances for the City of Beech Grove concerning the Beech Grove Sewage Works utility.

Section 50.031 CALCULATION OF SEWER USE CHARGE.

**DELETE SECTION 50.031 IN ITS ENTIRETY AND REPLACE WITH THE FOLLOWING:**

Section 50.031 CALCULATION OF SEWER USE CHARGE.

(A) The Board of Public Works and Safety and Citizens Energy Group has entered into an agreement for the treatment of wastewater concerning the City of Beech Grove Sewage Works utility. The agreement calls for a "Step" increase in cost for the treatment of wastewater per 1,000 gallons collected. This agreement was approved by the Indiana Utility Regulatory Commission (IURC). In any case the approved rates shall be adjusted to provide adequate funding to maintain the City of Beech Grove Sewage Works Utility. Listed below is the "Wholesale Rate" pricing that has been agreed upon and approved by the IURC for 2019.

2019: 0.9718 (per 1,000 gallons treated)

(Up from 0.7818 in 2018)

*Posted 10-2-18 a*

(B) As part of the new agreement with Citizens Energy Group, the City in 2019, shall make a Capital Improvement payment to Citizens Energy Group in the amount of \$85,962.10. This the last Capital Improvement payment for this agreement.

(C) For the use of the services rendered by the City of Beech Grove Sewage Works Utility, rates and charges shall be collected from the owners and /or residents and tenants of every lot, parcel of real estate, dwelling unit or building that is connected to the City's sanitary sewer system or otherwise discharge sewage, industrial waste, water or other liquids, either directly or indirectly into the sanitary sewer system of the City of Beech Grove. Such rates and charges include treatment cost, operation and maintenance, user charges, debt service cost, excessive flow surcharges and other service charges. Rates and charges shall be payable as hereinafter provided and shall be in an amount determined as follows.

(D) For all user classes except **residential users** the sewage rates and charges shall be based on the quantity of water on or in the property premises subject to such rates and charges, as the same measured by the water meter there in use, except as herein provided. For the purpose of billing and collecting the charges for sewage service, the water meters shall be read in accordance with the operating practices of Citizens Energy Group or other water suppliers, as the case may be. All users shall be billed monthly (or a period equaling a month). The water usage schedule on which the amount of said rates and charges shall be determined as follows:

Residential Users of Beech Grove Sewage Works Utility:

Effective: January 1, 2019                      **\$32.00 (Flat Rate)**

Section 50.032 MINIMUM CHARGE; BASE LEVEL; BASIS OF RATES.

**DELETE SECTION 50.032 MINIMUM CHARGE; BASE LEVEL; BASIS OF RATES IN ITS ENTIRETY AND REPLACE WITH THE FOLLOWING:**

Section 50.32 MINIMUM CHARGE; BASE LEVEL; BASIS OF RATES.

(A) The minimum charge on any monthly billing for a **non-residential** user shall be as follows:

<u>Meter</u>	<u>12/4/2018</u>
Less than 1 inch	\$ 37.00
1 inch	\$ 43.00
1 1/4 inch	\$ 79.00
1 1/2 inch	\$ 109.00
2 inch	\$ 161.00
3 inch	\$ 270.00
4 inch	\$ 542.00
6 inch	\$1,087.00

(B) All users except residential users shall be billed from the amount of water used per meter. The billing is based on 100 cubic feet of water used. Effective January 1, 2019, the charge per 100 cubic feet of water used is \$2.75.

(B) All user rates and charges except residential shall be based on the quantity of water used on or delivered to the property or premises subject to rates and charges, as the same is measured by the water meters in use, as hereafter provided. The measuring, billing and charging to the user for cost recovered is transferred to Citizens Energy Group, who shall apply the proceeds to the cost of such treatment.

(C) In addition to all other charges for treatment of sewage waste to an individual user, there is imposed a service charge of \$7.10 per meter per month on each user, which the service charges shall be added to the regular billing of the user. The minimum charge set out in Division (A) and (B) above shall include such service charge.

(Ord. 13-1979, passed 12-17-19; am. Ord. 11-1985, passed 12-16-85; Am. Ord. 6-1992, passed 12-21-92; Am. Ord. 4A-2004, passed 8-17004; Am. Ord. 2, 2013, passed 2-4-13; Am. Ord. 3, 2017, passed 8-7-17)

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT AFFIRMED** that the Common Council must act to ensure that the Beech Grove Sewage Works utility remains solvent concerning the treatment of wastewater and the delivery of services.

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER AFFIRMED** that this ordinance only applies to Chapter 50 of the Code of Ordinances for the City of Beech Grove and no other Chapter.

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER AFFIRMED** that this ordinance shall go into effect on January 1, 2019 after approval by the Common Council, signed by the Council President Pro-Tem, attested by the Clerk Treasurer and signed by the Mayor.