

**94-O-24**

**AN ORDINANCE**

**Amending City Code Section 7-13-3 to Decrease Sewer User Rates**

**WHEREAS**, the City has a charge for sewer use in the City, including the use of, and service supplied by, the public sewers of the City.

**WHEREAS**, the Evanston City Council deems it is in the best interest of the City of Evanston to increase water and meter rates by 23.3% to cover the anticipated expense of the replacement of the lead service lines and water mains.

**WHEREAS**, the Evanston City Council believes that current sewer rates should be reduced and deems it is in the best interest of the City of Evanston to decrease sewer rates to offset the 23.3% water and meter rates increase.

**NOW BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF EVANSTON, COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS, THAT:**

**SECTION 1:** Section 7-13-3 "Sewer User Rates" of the City Code of 2012 is hereby amended to read as follows, to include a thirteen and a half percent (13.5%) rate decrease in the Sewer User Rates as provided below, effective January 1, 2025:

**7-13-3. – SEWER USER RATES.**

- (A) There is hereby established a charge for sewer use including the use of, and service supplied by, the public sewer of the City. The sewer user charges shall be assessed for all users each bimonthly billing period commencing on or after January 1, 2025.
- (B) The regular sewer user charge for users of the system within the City that are not exempt from the payment of property taxes and not approved for the Access Evanston Program and/or Low Income Home Water Assistance Program shall be ~~three dollars eight cents (\$3.08)~~ two dollars sixty-six cents (\$2.66) per billing unit for all water passing through the meter.

- (C) The affordable sewer rate is that rate established for individuals who qualify for the affordable water rate as listed in Section 7-12-7-1 (C).
- (D) The affordable sewer user charge shall be one dollar ninety-four cents (\$1.94) per billing unit for all water passing through the meter.
- (E) Payers of the affordable sewer rate residing in a rental property shall be provided an annual payment in the amount of the current regular sewer rate minus the affordable sewer rate as listed in Subsection 7-13-3(D) of this Chapter, multiplied by one hundred fifteen (115). This payment will be made by June 30 each year.
- (F) The sewer user charge for users of the system within the City that are exempt from the payment of property taxes shall be three dollars eight cents (\$3.08) per billing unit for the first one hundred (100) billing units of water consumed. Thereafter, the sewer user charge shall be four dollars fifty-three cents (\$4.53) per billing unit in excess of one hundred (100) billing units of water consumed.
- (G) The adequacy of the sewer user charge shall be reviewed annually by the City Council. The sewer user charge will be revised by ordinance as needed.
- (H) The users of the public sewer will be notified of any change in the total sewer user charges in conjunction with the regular sewer billing.
- (I) Those furnished with sewer service only, and not connected with or supplied with water from the City water supply system, shall pay a bimonthly sewer service fee based on a calculated estimate of the volume of use at the rate established in Subsection (A) of this Section.
- (J) Those furnished with water service only and not connected with or supplied with sewer service shall pay only the water rates and charges established by Section 7-12-17 of this Title.
- (K) Those furnished with water and sewer service but not consuming any water shall pay a bimonthly minimum sewer service charge of ~~fifteen dollars thirty-nine cents (\$15.39)~~ thirteen dollars thirty-two cents (\$13.32).

**SECTION 2:** All ordinances or parts of ordinances in conflict herewith are hereby repealed.

**SECTION 3:** If any provision of this Ordinance 94-O-24 or application thereof to any person or circumstance is held unconstitutional or otherwise invalid, such invalidity shall not affect other provisions or applications of this Ordinance that can be given effect without the invalid application or provision, and each invalid application of this Ordinance is severable.

**SECTION 4:** The findings and recitals contained herein are declared to be prima facie evidence of the law of the City and shall be received in evidence as provided by the Illinois Compiled Statutes and the courts of the State of Illinois.

**SECTION 5:** This Ordinance 94-O-24 shall be in full force and effect on January 1, 2025, after its passage, approval, and publication in the manner provided by law.

Introduced: November 25, 2024

Approved:

Adopted: November 25, 2024

November 25, 2024

*Daniel Biss*

\_\_\_\_\_  
Daniel Biss, Mayor

Attest:

Approved as to form:

*Stephanie Mendoza*

\_\_\_\_\_  
Stephanie Mendoza, City Clerk

*Alexandra B. Ruggie*

\_\_\_\_\_  
Alexandra Ruggie,  
Corporation Counsel