

ORDINANCE 2015-19

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF MARY ESTHER, FLORIDA PROVIDING FOR SEWER SERVICE CHARGES TO BE ASSESSED AGAINST EACH REAL PROPERTY LOCATED WITHIN THE CITY LIMITS, UNRELATED TO USE, REGARDLESS IF THE REAL PROPERTY IS OCCUPIED OR VACANT, AND PROVIDING FOR SPECIFICITY BY AMENDING SEC. 20-106 OF THE ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF MARY ESTHER, FLORIDA; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

*WHEREAS*, the City of Mary Esther, Florida initially adopted sewer service charges to provide for the orderly removal of sewer;

*WHEREAS*, the City of Mary Esther, Florida has found it necessary to increase the water and sewer service charges in order to pay for the expense of the delivery of said water and the treatment of the sewage generated thereby;

*WHEREAS*, all real properties lying within the city limits of the City of Mary Esther, Florida have water and sewer utilities running in or along them, providing the opportunity for immediate access to water and sewer service upon request for connection;

*WHEREAS*, the City of Mary Esther, Florida finds it necessary to treat all real properties receiving the same benefit equally;

*WHEREAS*, the City of Mary Esther, Florida has been collecting monthly "Ready to Serve" charges against all occupied real properties within its city's limits and seeks to immediately begin collecting monthly "Ready to Serve" charges against all real properties within its city's limits whether occupied or vacant, regardless of use;

*WHEREAS*, the City of Mary Esther, Florida has the authority to charge the "Ready to Serve" against all real properties lying within its city's limits, regardless of use;

***NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY OF MARY ESTHER, FLORIDA:***

**SECTION I: Sewer Service Charges.** That Sec. 20-106 (a) of the ordinances of the City of Mary Esther, Florida be amended to read as follows:

SEC. 20-106 Service Charges.

All real properties lying within the City's limits, whether occupied or not and regardless of use, shall be billed a "Ready to Serve" sewer rate in accordance with their property type/zoning. For the purpose of determining the "Ready to Serve" sewer rate for commercial customers, "Commercial 1" customer accounts are identified as customer accounts with a monthly water usage of twelve thousand (12,000) gallons of water per month or less. "Commercial 2" customer accounts are identified as customer accounts with monthly water usage of twelve thousand and one (12,001) gallons per month or more.

(a) The following are the sewer service charges:

Ready to serve rate—Residential .....\$11.00

Ready to serve rate—Commercial 1 .....\$16.50

Ready to serve rate—Commercial 2.....\$33.00

Ready to Serve Rate Residential  
Property, whether the residential property is  
occupied or not.....See Schedule

Ready to Serve Rate Commercial 1,  
whether the commercial property is occupied  
or not.....See Schedule

Ready to Serve Rate Commercial 2,  
whether the commercial property is occupied  
or not.....See Schedule

**SECTION II:** Severability. Should any provision of this ordinance be found to be unenforceable, the remainder of the Amendment and all sections thereof shall be deemed enforceable.

**SECTION III:** Effective Date. This ordinance becomes effective upon adoption by the Council and signature of the Mayor.

SO ~~DONE~~ this 2<sup>nd</sup> day of November 2015.

By:

  
Margaret McLemore, Mayor



ATTEST:



Dana L.S. Williams, CMC  
City Clerk

First Reading: October 5, 2015

Published: October 23, 2015

Second Reading: November 2, 2015