

ORDINANCE NO. 77-15

AN ORDINANCE PROMULGATING THE RATES TO BE CHARGED FOR THE USE OF THE COUNTY WATERWORKS SYSTEMS; PROVIDING DEFINITIONS OF TERMS; PROVIDING RULES AND REGULATIONS FOR CONNECTION TO WATERWORKS SYSTEMS; PROVIDING FOR RATES AND CHARGES; AND PROVIDING PENALTIES FOR VIOLATION

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF HERNANDO COUNTY, FLORIDA, as follows:

SECTION 1. DEFINITIONS OF TERMS.

- 1.1 Waterworks System - For the purposes of this ordinance, "waterworks system" shall mean any county owned potable water Supply system serving private residential, commercial and/or industrial customers.
- 1.2 County - The Hernando County Board of County Commissioners or any authorized official or employee of such Commission.
- 1.3 Department - The Hernando County Department of Public Works.

SECTION 2. CONNECTIONS TO WATERWORKS SYSTEMS

- 2.1 Except as exempted under paragraph 2.2 below, where the same shall be available, the owner of every lot or parcel of land within Hernando County, Florida, may connect or cause to be connected to the waterworks system the plumbing of any building or buildings thereon. All such connections shall be made in accordance with the provisions of this Ordinance and all applicable rules and regulations which shall be adopted from time to time by the Hernando County Board of County Commissioners.
- 2.2 Exemptions from Connection
Those owners of lots or parcels of land which are served by an individual water supply system on the date of adoption of this Ordinance or at the time service made available by expansion of the waterworks system may continue to utilize such individual water supply until such time that said owners may choose to connect to the waterworks system.
- 2.3 Connection Permit
It shall be unlawful for anyone to tap, cut into, connect to, or in any way use any line, branch or part of a waterworks system without a Connection Permit issued by the County authorizing same. Such authorized connections shall be made only under the direction and supervision of the County. A Connection Permit shall entitle

the holder thereof to an appropriately sized water service connection including a curb stop, meter, and meter box immediately adjacent to his property and within the public right-of-way or easement.

SECTION 3. RATES AND CHARGES

3.1 Connection Permit Fees

Each applicant for a Connection Permit shall pay to the County a fee in accordance with the following schedule:

<u>Meter size</u>	<u>Fee</u>
5/8 x 3/4	\$200.00
1 inch	\$400.00
1 1/2 inches	\$500.00
2 inches	\$600.00

For meters larger than two (2) inches, the Connection Permit Fee shall be established by the County Commissioners based upon the recommendation of the Department.

3.2 Service Deposits

All customers of county owned waterworks systems shall place with the County a service deposit in accordance with the following schedule:

(1) Single Family Residential Customer

- | | |
|---------------------|----------|
| (a) Owner occupied | \$ 20.00 |
| (b) Tenant occupied | \$ 25.00 |

(2) Commercial Customers

- | | |
|----------------------------------|----------|
| (a) 1-inch or smaller connection | \$ 30.00 |
| (b) 1½-inch connection | \$ 40.00 |
| (c) 2-inch connection | \$ 80.00 |
| (d) 3-inch connection | \$150.00 |
| (e) 4-inch connection | \$200.00 |

- (f) Deposit for all over 4-inch connections shall be determined by the County based on the recommendations of the Department.

Upon termination of service, the service deposit shall be applied toward the payment of any fees or charges due on the terminated account. Any remaining funds will be refunded to the depositor.

3.3 Monthly Service Rates

3.3.1 Residential Connections (5/8 X 3/4 meter):

First 4,000 gallons \$2.50 (minimum bill)
All over 4,000 gallons \$.70 per 1000 gallons
Minimum charge for inoperative meters shall be \$2.50.

3.3.2 Commercial Connections: Metered amount at \$.70 per 1000 gallons or below indicated minimum whichever is greater:

- (a) 1-inch or smaller connection \$ 5.00
- (b) 1½-inch connection \$10.00
- (c) 2-inch connection \$17.00
- (d) 3-inch connection \$40.00
- (e) 4-inch connection \$75.00
- (f) Minimum charge for all over 4-inch connections will be determined by County based on the recommendation of the Department.

3.4 Service Interruption Fees

There will be a five dollar (\$5.00) charge to terminate the service to any customer when such termination is attributable to the customer. An additional five dollar (\$5.00) charge will be levied for the restoration of service. Termination and restoration of service will normally be accomplished during regular workday hours (8:00 A.M. to 5:00 P.M., Monday through Friday). Should circumstances require the termination or restoration of service to be accomplished at a time other than during regular workday hours, the fee will be ten dollars (\$10.00).

SECTION 4. CONNECTING OLD PLUMBING

Whenever it is desirable to connect old plumbing with the County Waterworks system, the Owner or plumber contemplating doing such work shall notify the Hernando County Department of Development who will cause said old plumbing to be inspected and notify the Owner or plumber what alterations will be necessary to place said old plumbing in an acceptable condition for such connection. Any Owner or plumber who shall make any connection without the approval of the Department of Development shall, upon conviction, be subject to the penalties hereinafter provided.

SECTION 5. MAINTENANCE OF PLUMBING SYSTEM.

The owner of the property shall be responsible for maintaining and keeping clean the water pipes leading and connecting from the plumbing system to the Waterworks system distribution lines.

SECTION 6. PAYMENT OF FEES AND BILLS REQUIRED.

Bills for the monthly charges and fees hereinbefore mentioned shall be submitted and shall be payable on the 1st day of each month for such service, the water service to the consumer shall be subject to termination by the County. Such discontinued service shall be restored pursuant to the procedures for service restoration including the posting of appropriate service deposit and restoration charges.

SECTION 7. NO SERVICE FREE.

No water service shall be furnished or rendered free of charges to any person, firm or corporation whatsoever, and the County and each and every agency, department or instrumentality which uses such service shall pay therefor at the rate fixed by this Ordinance.

SECTION 8. SEPARATE CONNECTIONS FOR EACH SEPARATE UNIT.

Each residential unit whether occupying one or more lots and whether is shall occupy any lot or parcel jointly with any other residential unit shall be considered a separate unit for the payment of the water fees, and separate connections and meters will be required for each of such units.

SECTION 9. PENALTIES.

Any person, firm or corporation violating any of the provisions of this Ordinance shall, upon conviction thereof, for each such offense, be subject to a fine of not to exceed Three Hundred Dollars (\$300.00) or imprisonment for not to exceed ninety (90) days.

SECTION 10. REPEALING.

All ordinances or parts of ordinances and all sections or parts of sections of Ordinances of the County of Hernando, Florida, in conflict herewith are hereby repealed.


SECTION 11. EFFECTIVE DATE.

This Ordinance shall be come effective immediately upon its passage.

ADOPTED in Regular Session this 27th day of December, 1977.


BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
HERNANDO COUNTY, FLORIDA

BY



CHARLES R. SMITH, CHAIRMAN

ATTEST



HAROLD WILLIAM BROWN, CLERK

