

TOWN OF LOCH LYNN HEIGHTS

ORDINANCE 2025-02 SEWER USE RATES

AN ORDINANCE OF THE MAYOR AND TOWN COUNCIL OF LOCH LYNN HEIGHTS, MARYLAND, REPEALING ALL PRIOR ORDINANCES WHICH SET SEWER RATES, TO PROVIDE FOR SERVICE CHARGES TO BE LEVIED AND COLLECTED FOR THE PURPOSE OF THE INSTALLATION, REPAIR, AND MAINTENANCE OF THE TOWN SEWER SYSTEM AND THE REMOVAL OF SEWAGE WITHIN AND WITHOUT SAID TOWN, AND ENACTING NEW PROVISIONS IN THEIR PLACE AND STEAD.

WHEREAS, the Town of Loch Lynn Heights is empowered to bill and collect a service charge for the operation and maintenance of its sewer system, pursuant to Article 23A of the Annotated Code of Maryland and in the Loch Lynn Heights Town Charter as published in the Municipal Charters of Maryland, Volume 5; and,

WHEREAS, costs associated with sewerage treatment and the repair and maintenance of the sewerage collection system have continued to increase; and,

WHEREAS, the Town of Loch Lynn Heights is proceeding with payment of a 40-year USDA loan required for its major sewer rehabilitation project, and it has come to the attention of the Mayor and Town Council that the current rate structure will not generate sufficient funds for maintenance of the system and repayment of the necessary indebtedness; and,

WHEREAS, the Town of Loch Lynn Heights has not increased Sewer rates since 2006;

NOW, THEREFORE, THE MAYOR AND TOWN COUNCIL OF LOCH LYNN HEIGHTS DO HEREBY ORDAIN AND RESOLVE THE FOLLOWING:

- A.** Sewer rates are payable by the owner or renter of any habitable building which is connected to the Loch Lynn Heights sewer system. Unoccupied buildings, to include buildings unoccupied due to the Town's Minimum Livability Code, are not exempted from sewer fees.
- B.** Effective October 1, 2025, the quarterly minimum fee for up to 4,000 gallons of metered water and Inactive Water to be charged by the Mayor and Town Council of Loch Lynn Heights for sewer use customers within the Town of Loch Lynn Heights will increase approximately 5.00% (\$58.55) for FY26, 5.00% (\$61.50) for FY27 and 3.00% (\$63.35) for FY28. All usage greater than 4,000 gallons in a single quarter will increase approximately 5.00% (\$4.90) for FY26, 5.00% (\$5.15) for FY27 and with no increase for FY28, billed per 1,000 gallons of metered water per quarter. All in-town, un-metered customers shall pay a flat rate with an increase of approximately 5.00% (\$83.24) for FY26, 5.00% (\$90.75) for FY27 and 3.00% (\$93.50) for FY28, billed per quarter.

- C. The quarterly minimum fee to be charged by the Mayor and Council of Loch Lynn Heights for sewer use customers outside the corporation limits of Loch Lynn Heights will increase approximately 5.00% (\$68.10) for FY26, 5.00% (\$71.50) for FY27 and 3.00% (\$73.65) FY28, billed per quarter for up to 4,000 gallons of metered water. All usage greater than 4,000 gallons in a single quarter will increase approximately 5.00% (\$6.80) for FY26, 5.00% (\$7.15) for FY27 and with no increase for FY28, billed per 1,000 gallons of metered water per quarter. All out of town, un-metered customers shall pay a flat rate of \$97.79, billed per quarter.
- D. The Garrett County Department of Public Utilities shall bill the above rates to the owner or owners of the property or to the renter or renters of the property, on which the connections are located.
- E. Billing will be on a quarterly basis
- F. All bills shall be due and payable to the Garrett County Department of Public Utilities within the billing due date. A late fee of \$10.00 will be charged for any bill not paid by the due date.
- G. Failure to pay bills as stated may result in the discontinuance of service. Customers whose service is discontinued for non-payment of a sewer bill will be subject to a \$25.00 re-connection fee before service is restored. This fee will be waived if the customer has been assessed a re-connection by the Garrett County Department of Public Utilities during the same billing quarter.
- H. All bills shall indicate the names of the owner or renter of the property and the address or location of the property served.
- I. All service charges shall be a lien on the property collectible in the same manner as Town taxes or by suit at law.
- J. All service charges collected pursuant to this ordinance shall be applied to installation, administration, operation, repair, maintenance, security and debt service of the Town sewer system and for all other costs attributable to the removal and disposal of sewage within and without the Town of Loch Lynn Heights.

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED AND RESOLVED, that the Mayor and Town Council of Loch Lynn Heights shall, in the future, set any and all rates for Sewer fees, charges, assessments, and/or surcharges by Resolution, and in accordance with its policy for advertising and adoption of Resolutions and in accordance with State law.

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED AND RESOLVED, that this ordinance shall be in full force and effect after introduction, advertising, public hearing, and approval as provided by law.

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED AND RESOLVED, that any previous ordinance, resolution, act, or portion thereof, of the Mayor and Town Council of Loch Lynn Heights that are inconsistent herewith, are hereby repealed.

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED AND RESOLVED, this ordinance shall be duly advertised in accordance with the Policy for the Adoption of Ordinances by the Mayor and Town Council of Loch Lynn Heights and a public hearing on this Ordinance shall be held on the 4th day of September 2025 at 5:15 pm, at the Town Hall located at a 211 Bonnie Blvd, Loch Lynn Heights, MD. 21550

INTRODUCED this 14th day of August 2025.

SECOND READING AND ADOPTION this 4th day of September 2025.

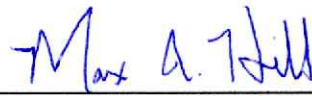
AND BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED AND RESOLVED that this Ordinance shall be effective as of October 1, 2025.

THIS ORDINANCE IS SUBJECT TO REFERENDUM AS OUTLINED IN ARTICLE 23A, SECTIONS 11 THROUGH 17 OF THE ANNOTATED CODE OF MARYLAND.

ATTEST:


Clerk / Treasurer


Mayor


Councilmember


Councilmember


Councilmember


Councilmember