

## **RESOLUTION NO. UA 2003-7**

**A RESOLUTION AMENDING THE SCHEDULE OF SERVICE CHARGES CONTAINED IN RESOLUTION NO. UA 2002-9; FOR THE FACILITIES AND SERVICES FURNISHED BY FORT PIERCE UTILITIES AUTHORITY, FORT PIERCE, FLORIDA, IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE CHARTER OF THE CITY OF FORT PIERCE, FLORIDA, ARTICLE XII, ESTABLISHING A SERVICE CHARGE FOR CERTIFIED LETTER NOTIFICATION; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE HEREOF.**

**WHEREAS**, Fort Pierce Utilities Authority was created and established by the City Commission of the City of Fort Pierce, Florida, through a referendum election held in said City on May 30, 1972, and

**WHEREAS**, the Charter of the City of Fort Pierce, Florida, Article XII, grants to said Fort Pierce Utilities Authority the power and duty to fix rates to be charged for gas, electricity, water, wastewater (sanitary sewer), and other utility services sold and services rendered by said Fort Pierce Utilities Authority,

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY FORT PIERCE UTILITIES AUTHORITY (UA), FORT PIERCE, FLORIDA:**

**SECTION I. INTRODUCTION.** This resolution establishes the Service Charge policy of the UA with the intent of recovering the cost of providing such services while discouraging unnecessary customer requests.

Unless the context otherwise requires, the terms defined in this Resolution shall have the meanings specified in this Section. Terms not otherwise defined in this Section shall have the meanings specified in the resolution entitled General Rules and Regulations Governing the Provision of Utility Service. Overtime Hours means any time other than during a normal work day and/or work week when there is not a regularly scheduled crew working.

### **SECTION II. SERVICE CHARGE SCHEDULE**

**A. AUTOMATED METER READING (AMR) METER CONVERSION:** A charge applied to those Customers requesting an AMR meter, or where the UA requires an AMR meter,

due to the Customer making the existing Meter inaccessible. The AMR meter allows UA staff to read the Meter from the street as opposed to locating and gaining direct access to the Meter.

**AMR Meter Conversion Charge                      \$90 per meter**

**B. CERTIFIED LETTER NOTIFICATION:** A charge applied to those Customers who have advised the UA in writing of the necessity for Life Sustaining Medical Equipment, and whose delinquent account requires certified letter notification of the disconnection of services.

**Certified Letter Notification Charge                      \$5 per letter**

**C. CONNECTION – NEW UTILITY SERVICE:** A charge for the establishment of Utility Service to the premises where such service did not previously exist. Under normal circumstances, these Service Charge(s) shall be paid in full before the establishment of Utility Service:

<u>Service</u>	<u>Regular Hours</u>	<u>Overtime Hours</u>
Electric (service drop and/or Meter box)	\$25	\$150
Gas	40	150
Wastewater	40	150
Water	40	150

When an Applicant desires Utility Service with an Inaccessible Meter, the UA may require, or the Applicant may request, installation of an automated meter reading (AMR) meter. In this event, there shall be an additional Connection Charge of \$50, which is the approximate differential cost of the AMR meter.

**D. CUSTOMER CALL OUT (OVERTIME HOURS):** A charge to recover the costs associated with providing call out service to Customers requesting emergency or non-emergency turn on and/or turn off service and the like, and that is intended to discourage unnecessary Overtime Hours requests. Efforts will be made by UA personnel to assist the Customer with resolving turn on and/or turn off problems.

<u>Service</u>	<u>Charge per Trip</u>
Performed by one (1) person	\$ 75
Performed by two (2) persons	150

**E. CUT SEAL AND TAMPERING:** See separate resolution.

**F. DISHONORED PAYMENT INSTRUMENT:** A charge that shall be assessed for each Dishonored Payment Instrument. It is based on Florida Statute 68.065, which is subject to change.

- a) Twenty-five dollars, if the face value does not exceed \$50.
- b) Thirty dollars, if the face value is more than \$50 but does not exceed \$300.

- c) The greater of \$40 or 5% of the face value, if the face value is more than \$300.

**G. FIELD RECONNECTION – DELINQUENT ACCOUNT:** A charge to defray the cost of disconnecting and reconnecting Utility Service previously discontinued or ordered discontinued for cause or because of nonpayment of amounts due. This charge is in addition to the Penalty and Late Payment Charges. Under normal circumstances, these Service Charge(s) shall be paid in full before the re-establishment of Utility Service(s).

<u>Service</u>	<u>Regular Hours</u>	<u>Overtime Hours</u>
Electric	\$35	\$150
Electric Current Transformer (CT)	200	200
Electric Pole	75	150
Gas	35	150
Water	35	150

If a water Customer also receives electric service from the UA at the same Service Address and only one trip by the UA is required to reconnect both the water and electric services, only the electric Field Reconnection Charge shall apply. However, if reconnection of the water and electric services requires two separate trips by the UA, such as an electric reconnect at the pole by an electric crew and a water Meter reconnect by a water crew, then the Customer shall be required to pay the applicable electric Field Reconnection Charge and the applicable water Field Reconnection Charge.

**H. GAS MAINTENANCE, REPAIR, AND INSTALLATION WORK ON CUSTOMER'S PREMISES:** A charge for gas maintenance, repair, and installation work performed by the UA on a Customer's premises.

<b>SERVICE</b>	<b>LABOR CHARGE</b>	
	<b>Regular Hours</b>	<b>Overtime Hours</b>
Performed by one (1) person	Minimum of \$35 for the first half-hour or fraction thereof; \$10 for each succeeding half-hour or fraction thereof.	One and one-half (1-1/2) times the amount of charges for regular hours.
Performed by two (2) persons	One and one-half (1-1/2) times the amount of charges for the services by one (1) person; minimum of \$52.50.	One and one-half (1-1/2) times the amount of charges for regular hours.



If re-establishment of Utility Service requires more than one trip by the UA, such as an electric Meter connect by an electric crew, a water Meter connect by a water crew, and a gas Meter connect by a gas crew, then the Customer shall be required to pay the applicable electric Initiation of Service Charge, the applicable water Initiation of Service Charge and the applicable gas Initiation of Service Charge.

**M. IRRIGATION INSTALLATION:** A charge for the installation of water service that will not enter the UA's wastewater system (for example, irrigation purposes). Under normal circumstances, this Service Charge shall be paid in full before the establishment of Utility Service.

**(1) Existing Water Customer:** Where the Applicant is an existing water Customer of the UA, and where the size of the service is not required to be increased, and where the Applicant desires a separate Meter for water use that does not enter into the UA's wastewater system, the Applicant may request an Irrigation Installation. The charge for this installation will be the appropriate Water Meter Only Installation Charge, Capital Improvement Charge, and Security Deposit.

**(2) New Water Customer:** Where the Applicant is not an existing water Customer of the UA, and where the Applicant desires a Meter for water use that does not enter into the UA's wastewater system, the Applicant may request an Irrigation Installation. The charge for this installation will be the appropriate Water Meter and Service Installation Charge, Capital Improvement Charge, and Security Deposit, except in the case when the irrigation Meter is installed in conjunction with the domestic Meter. In this case, the Water Meter Only Installation Charge shall apply.

**N. LATE PAYMENT:** A charge to defray the cost of dispatching field personnel to disconnect service for nonpayment of amounts due. The Late Payment Charge shall be applied to each account when the past due amount plus the Penalty Charge is not paid before the UA prepares the bill for the month following the delinquent bill month. This charge is in addition to the Penalty Charge.

**Late Payment Charge** **\$15**

**O. METER RE-READ:** If a Customer requests a Meter re-read and the Meter is found to have been read properly during the first read, there shall be a Meter Re-Read Charge. If the re-read shows that the first read was incorrect, there will be no charge.

**Meter Re-Read Charge** **\$15**

**P. METER TEST:** If a Customer requests a Meter test more than once during a consecutive twelve-month period and the Meter is determined to be accurate, there shall be a Service Charge for each test after the initial test. Should the Meter prove to be inaccurate, there shall be no Service Charge and the Customer will be rendered a corrected bill. The initial Meter test during any consecutive twelve-month period shall be at no charge to the Customer.

**Meter Test** **Charge**

Electric	\$60
Gas	Actual cost
Water ≤ 2-inch	75
Water > 2-inch	Actual cost

**Q. MISSED APPOINTMENT - CUSTOMER CALL OUT (REGULAR HOURS):** A charge to recover the costs associated with providing repeat call out service to Customers requesting a turn on of utilities, and that is intended to discourage multiple trips caused by the Customer not being at the premises at the appointed time. Efforts will be made by UA personnel with resolving turn on problems. This charge will apply when more than two (2) trips are required to provide service during regular hours.

**Missed Appointment Charge                      \$15 per trip**

**R. OUTDOOR SECURITY LIGHTING DISCONNECT:** See Electric Rate Resolution.

**S. PENALTY:** Payment for all accounts or bills for all Utility Services shall be due and payable to the UA by Customers thereof when rendered. After the 20<sup>th</sup> day from the date billed for such accounts, and to the amount due of all such accounts which are not paid before or on the “total amount due date” stated on the bill, a Penalty Charge shall be applied.

- a) Those accounts listed as government exempt under Florida Statutes Chapter 212 are exempt from the penalty charge. Non-governmental accounts leasing or using government-owned buildings or facilities are not exempt from the penalty charge.
- b) Any account, after thorough examination, may also be approved for penalty-exempt status.

**Penalty Charge:                      On past due accounts greater than  
\$50, 1.5% of past due amount.**

**T. PUBLIC STREET AND HIGHWAY LIGHTING:** See Electric Rate Resolution.

**U. TEMPORARY SERVICE:** A charge to recover the cost of installing and removing a temporary Meter and associated facilities. Temporary Service is for short-term uses such as construction purposes where a permanent service and Meter are not available.

The providing of Temporary Service to Customers will be at the sole discretion of the UA and subject to the provisions of this section and other applicable rules, regulations, and policies of the UA. Temporary Service shall be available to Customers requesting such service and paying the applicable Service Charge and Security Deposit for said Temporary Service. Customers will

not be permitted to periodically switch Temporary Service Meters from one location to another to avoid permanent service at a fixed location.

When water is delivered through a fire hydrant Meter on a temporary basis, the Applicant shall agree that such service may be discontinued by the UA at any time for emergency usage of the fire hydrant without any liability to the UA whatsoever for such discontinuance of supply. The temporary water billing rate will be at the 5/8 x 3/4 inch Meter rate unless, as determined by UA staff, demand and/or usage warrants a different rate.

Temporary Service shall be terminated at the earlier of 1) the end of the special use or construction period, or 2) twelve consecutive months from the date when Temporary Service was initiated. All removal of Meters shall be performed by UA employees; removal by anyone other than UA personnel shall incur charges as established in the UA's Cut Seal and Tampering Resolution.

Service Charges for Temporary Service shall be as follows:

<u>Temporary Service</u>	<u>Charge</u>
Electric	\$60
Water (Fire Hydrant)	50
Moving a Meter (Fire Hydrant)	No Charge

**V. WASTEWATER CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT:** See separate resolution.

**W. WASTEWATER INDUSTRIAL PRETREATMENT AND STRONG WASTE:**  
See separate resolution.

**X. WASTEWATER LAB TEST:** See separate resolution.

**Y. WATER CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT:** See separate resolution.

**Z. WATER INSTALLATION:** A charge for the installation of water service for Customers located both within and outside the City limits. Under normal circumstances, this Service Charge shall be paid in full before the establishment of Utility Service.

**(1) Water Meter and Service Installation:** Where UA personnel install the complete service (service line, Meter, and backflow preventer).

<u>Meter and Service</u>	<u>Charge</u>
5/8 x 3/4 Inch	\$ 575
1 Inch	900
1-1/2 Inch	1,570
2 Inch	1,870
Greater than 2 Inch	Actual cost to the UA, but not less than \$1,870. The cost of the service line is the responsibility of the

Applicant  
charge.

and is not included in this

**(2) Meter Only Installation:** Where service lines have been installed at the expense of the owner or developer of a subdivision.

<u>Meter</u>	<u>Charge</u>	
5/8 x 3/4 Inch	\$ 110	
1 Inch	400	
1-1/2 Inch	1,045	
2 Inch	1,340	
Greater than 2 Inch		Actual cost to the UA, \$1,340.

but not less than

**AA. WATER SERVICE OR METER - CHANGE IN LOCATION OR SIZE:**  
Customers desiring a change in the location or arrangement of water service lines or the Meter location, whether it involves a change in size or not, must bear all cost of labor, materials, equipment, and overhead necessary to effect the desired change.

Where an increase in the size of the water service line or Meter is required, the Applicant shall bear all costs of labor, materials, equipment, overhead, and Capital Improvement Charges, up to and including the Meter, reduced by an allowance for the existing Meter trade-in value as set forth hereinafter. Meter trade-in values shall be computed on a five-year basis and shall include the cost of the Meter only. No Meter trade-in allowance shall be granted for Meters in service for more than five years. Allowances for Meter trade-in values (all types of water Meters) are:

<u>Months in Service</u>	<u>Percent of Current New Meter Value</u>
Up to 12	83%
13 to 24	67%
25 to 36	50%
37 to 48	33%
49 to 60	17%

**SECTION III.** This Resolution shall be and become effective the first billing Cycle in June, 2003.

This the 3rd day of June, 2003.A.D.

ATTEST: FORT PIERCE UTILITIES AUTHORITY

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Secretary

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Chairman

Approved for form and correctness:

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R.N. Koblegard, III, Attorney for  
Fort Pierce Utilities Authority