

RESOLUTION NO. UA 2006-04

A RESOLUTION RESCINDING AND RESTATING THE SCHEDULE OF SERVICE CHARGES CONTAINED IN RESOLUTION NO. UA 2005-07; 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, SUPERSEDING AND RESCINDING THOSE SERVICE CHARGES SET FORTH IN RESOLUTION NO. UA 2005-07 OF FORT PIERCE UTILITIES AUTHORITY; ESTABLISHING THE NEW ANNEXATION AGREEMENT PROCESSING AND RECORDING FEES; CAPITAL CHARGE INSTALLMENT PAYMENT AGREEMENT/RELEASE OF LIEN PROCESSING AND RECORDING FEES; NEW FALSE GAS LEAK CALL FEE 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 (Authority), FORT PIERCE, FLORIDA:

SECTION I. INTRODUCTION. This Resolution establishes the Service Charge policy of the Authority 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 workday and/or workweek when there is not a regularly scheduled crew working.

SECTION II. SERVICE CHARGE SCHEDULE

A. ANNEXATION AGREEMENT PROCESSING FEE: A charge to cover the cost of processing the annexation agreement for new water/waste water services. This charge is a pass through based on the following standard fees for annexation agreements signed by: (i) individuals, \$50; (ii) corporation(s), \$100; and (iii) developers (one agreement per subdivision), \$400. If individual or corporate, the fee is payable at the time the customer pays its capital improvement charges (or enters into a

Installment Payment Agreement) to establish service. If developer, the fee is payable at the time the developer files his signed supply agreement and pays all associated charges.

<u>Service</u>	<u>Fee</u>
Individual Annexation	\$ 50
Corporate Annexation	100
Developer Annexation	400

B. ANNEXATION AGREEMENT RECORDING FEE: A charge to cover the cost of recording the annexation agreement for new water/wastewater services. This charge is a pass-through based on the actual cost to record the annexation agreement in the Public Records of St. Lucie County, Florida, which at the current time is \$10 for the first page and \$8.50 for each additional page of the annexation agreement. If individual, the fee is payable at the time the customer pays its capital improvement charges (or enters into a Capital Charge Installment Payment Agreement) to establish service. If developer, the fee is payable at the time the developer files his signed supply agreement and pays all associated charges.

C. AUTOMATED METER READING (AMR) METER CONVERSION: A charge applied to those Customers requesting an AMR meter where the AMR meter provides no benefit to the Authority. See Section FF (2) for the cost.

D. CAPITAL CHARGE INSTALLMENT PAYMENT AGREEMENT/RELEASE OF LIEN PROCESSING FEE: A charge to cover the cost of processing the Capital Charge Installment Payment Agreement for new water/wastewater services and to cover the cost of releasing that lien upon payment in full. This charge is a pass-through based on the following standard fees: (i) individual(s), \$75; and (ii) corporation(s), \$125. Whether individual or corporate, the fee is payable at the time the customer signs the Capital Charge Installment Payment Agreement.

<u>Service</u>	<u>Fee</u>
Individual Processing Fee	\$ 75
Corporation Processing Fee	125

E. CAPITAL CHARGE INSTALLMENT PAYMENT AGREEMENT/RELEASE OF LIEN RECORDING FEE: A charge to cover the cost of recording the Capital Charge Installment Payment Agreement for new water/wastewater services and to cover the cost of recording the association Release of Lien upon payment in full. This charge is a pass-through based on the actual cost to record the Capital Charge Installment Payment Agreement/Release of Lien in the Public Records of St. Lucie County, Florida, which at the current time is \$10 for the first page and \$8.50 for each additional page of the agreement. This fee is payable at the time the customer signs the Capital Charge Installment Payment Agreement.

F. CERTIFIED LETTER NOTIFICATION: A charge applied to those Customers who have advised the Authority 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

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

<u>Service</u>	<u>Regular Hours</u>
Electric	\$25 per meter
Gas	40
Wastewater	40
Water	40

H. 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 is intended to discourage unnecessary Overtime Hours requests. Efforts will be made by Authority 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

I. CUT SEAL AND TAMPERING: See separate resolution.

J. 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) \$25, if the face value does not exceed \$50.
- b) \$30, 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.

When a Customer has presented two (2) Dishonored Payment Instruments for their account within a twelve-month (12) period, the Authority will not accept payment instruments on the account for twelve (12) months. The Customer must pay by cash or money order until the twelve-month period is over.

K. FALSE GAS LEAK CALL: A charge to recover costs associated with an emergency service call that is proven to be not just. This charge is to discourage the Customer from calling to get service on appliances that could be serviced during the normal workday. This charge will apply when it is evident that the Customer was too impatient to have the work scheduled and completed during normal working hours.

<u>Service</u>	<u>Regular Hours</u>	<u>Overtime Hours</u>
False Gas Leak Call	\$25	\$100

L. 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>
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Electric	\$35	\$150
Electric Current Transformer (CT)	200	200
Electric Pole	75	150
Gas - Residential	35	150
Gas - Commercial	Time & Materials	Time & Materials (Not less than \$150)
Water	35	150

If a water Customer also receives electric service from the Authority at the same Service Address and only one trip by the Authority 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 Authority, 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.

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

Service	LABOR CHARGE	
	Regular Hours	Overtime Hours
Performed by one (1) person	Minimum of \$50 for the first half-hour or fraction thereof, \$15 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 \$75.	One and one-half (1-1/2) times the amount of charges for regular hours.

The above Labor Charges do not include the cost of parts or materials. To the extent parts or materials are provided by the Authority, the cost of such parts or materials shall be added to the Labor Charges. The Director of Utilities has the authority, at the recommendation of the staff, to offer specials to maximize staff utilization and enhance revenues.

No charge will be made for services that are in the public interest. Public interest shall include, but not be limited to, investigation of leaks, calls from the Fire or Police Departments, and calls of any nature that, in the opinion of the Authority's Gas Superintendent, should be services rendered without charge.

N. GAS MAIN EXTENSIONS TO BE AMORTIZED: Under normal circumstances, the Authority shall extend mains without cost to the Customer whenever it is determined that the cost of the extension can be amortized within a four-year period from revenues to be derived or received from Customers inside the general area requesting such an extension. However, every extension shall be analyzed based on the cost of extension versus revenues derived (both short-term and long-term), potential for future growth, benefits to the Authority to install facilities from an operational and/or future service capability standpoint, and other factors related specifically to each individual extension.

O. GREASE TRAP INSPECTION: The Authority's Grease Trap Policy requires that grease traps connected to its wastewater system be cleaned at intervals sufficient to assure fifty percent (50%) grease retainage capacity. To assure compliance with this requirement, the Authority performs

quarterly inspections of all grease traps operated by Commercial Customers. The Grease Trap Inspection Charge recovers the cost of these inspections.

Grease Trap Inspection Charge **\$35 per inspection**

P. INITIATION OF SERVICE - EXISTING UTILITY SERVICE: A charge for the subsequent re-establishment of Utility Service to the premises where such service was previously disconnected without cause. Under normal circumstances, these Service Charges shall be paid in full before the re-establishment of Utility Service.

<u>Service</u>	<u>Regular Hours</u>	<u>Overtime Hours</u>
Electric, Water, and/or Wastewater	\$ 15	\$150
Gas - Residential	15	150
Gas - Commercial	Time & Materials	Time & Materials (Not less than \$150)

If re-establishment of Utility Service requires more than one trip by the Authority, 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.

Q. IRRIGATION INSTALLATION: A charge for the installation of water service that will not enter the Authority'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 Authority, 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 Authority'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 Authority, and where the Applicant desires a Meter for water use that does not enter into the Authority'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.

R. 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 Authority prepares the bill for the month following the delinquent bill month. This charge is in addition to the Penalty Charge.

Late Payment Charge **\$15**

S. METER RE-READ: FPUA encourages its Customers to learn to read their meters and compare their reads to their billed reads. Then, if the customer determines a need for a re-read, one can be provided. 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

T. 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.

<u>Meter Test</u>	<u>Charge</u>
Electric	\$60
Gas	Actual cost
Water ≤ 2-inch	75
Water > 2-inch	Actual cost

U. METER VERIFICATION FEE: A charge to recover the costs associated with verifying and matching new meters to a new multi-family residence/account or new business/account. This charge only applies to residential or business developments where multiple meters serve multiple residences or businesses. This fee is payable by the developer at the time the developer pays its Capital Improvement charges to establish service and files the signed supply agreement and pays all other associated charges. This charge does not apply to single-family or single business buildings.

<u>Service</u>	<u>Fee</u>
Meter Verification Charge per Meter	\$ 15

V. 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 Authority personnel in regard to 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

W. OUTDOOR SECURITY LIGHTING DISCONNECT: See Electric Rate Resolution.

X. PENALTY: Payment for all accounts or bills for all Utility Services shall be due and payable to the Authority by Customers thereof when rendered. After the 20th 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.

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 Authority at any time for emergency usage of the fire hydrant without any liability to the Authority 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 Authority 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. Authority employees shall perform all removal of Meters; removal by anyone other than Authority personnel shall incur charges as established in the Authority’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

BB. WASTEWATER CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT: See separate resolution.

CC. WASTEWATER INDUSTRIAL PRETREATMENT AND STRONG WASTE: See separate resolution.

DD. WASTEWATER LAB TEST: See separate resolution.

EE. WATER CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT: See separate resolution.

FF. UTILITY INSTALLATION: A charge for the installation of 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. AMR technology is required on all new installations.

(1) **AMR Water Meter and Service Installation:** Where Authority 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	\$ 785
1 Inch	1,100
1-1/2 Inch	1,775
2 Inch	2,075
Greater than 2 Inch	Actual cost to the Authority, but not less than \$2,075. The cost of the service line is the responsibility of the Applicant and is not included in this charge.

(2) **AMR Water 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	\$ 320
1 Inch	600

1-1/2 Inch	1,250
2 Inch	1,550
Greater than 2 Inch	Actual cost to the Authority, but not less than \$1,550.

(3) **Electric Installation:** For New Electric Utility Service only. Premises being redeveloped shall receive credit for previously existing service. Charges are per meter.

<u>Service</u>	<u>Regular Hours</u>	<u>Overtime Hours</u>
Electric Single Phase Service	\$ 130	\$ 255
Three Phase Self Contained	450	575
Three Phase CT rated metering System	930	1,055

GG. 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%

HH. INCENTIVE PROGRAM FOR THE RELOCATION OF OVERHEAD ELECTRIC UTILITY FACILITIES TO UNDERGROUND: Customers, either individually or as members of a Special Assessment District, desiring to relocate overhead Authority electric utility facilities Underground, shall do so in accordance with the General Rules and Regulations for Utility Service and shall receive a 25% discount on the costs of the relocation.

SECTION III. This Resolution shall be and become effective on June 7, 2006.

PASSED AND ADOPTED this _____ day of _____, 2006.

ATTEST: FORT PIERCE UTILITIES AUTHORITY

Secretary

Chairman

Approved as to form and correctness by:

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