



731-968-5213 Water Systems
731-968-2917 Gas Department
731-968-6652 or 968-3238 Fax

Ordinance Number: 201809

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND TITLE 18 OF THE LEXINGTON MUNICIPAL CODE BY THE ADDITION OF CHAPTER 4 TO ESTABLISH STANDARDS AND LIMITS REGARDING THE ADJUSTMENTS OF WATER BILLS

WHEREAS, the City of Lexington established Lexington Water Systems to provide for the treatment of water and for waste water and the billings thereof; and,

WHEREAS, it is the desire of the Board of Mayor and Alderman for the City of Lexington to provide relief for customers of Lexington Water Systems that have experienced excessive charges due to a water leak,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED by the Board of Mayor and Aldermen of the City of Lexington, Tennessee that Title 18 Chapter 4 of the Lexington Municipal Code shall be deleted in its entirety and replaced as follows:

Water Leak Adjustments

1. Definitions for terms used in this ordinance:
 - A. Base Month- The highest water usage month by the customer during the 12 months prior to the leak.
 - B. Cost of Water- The annual average cost per thousand to purchase and treat water. This cost consists of (1) the purchase of water from BRWDA and (2) all other operating costs associated with the filter plant. This cost shall be set as of the 1st of September each year based on the prior fiscal year cost.
 - C. Major Leak- A leak from a broken water line on the customer's side of the meter resulting in an increase of \$100 or more over the highest water usage bill during the 12 months prior to the leak.
2. Bills for meters with uncommonly high readings due to a major leak will be adjusted down to the amount of the base month plus the cost of water for the excess amount over the base month usage.
3. Customer must sign a statement explaining what the problem was and what action they took to correct it. An adjustment will be made if the customer can provide one of the following acceptable means of verification: (1) a receipt for material and/or labor from a licensed plumber showing the leak has been repaired, or (2) if the customer made the repair and is unable to provide a receipt for purchase of materials, the repair must be verified by a Lexington Water Systems Service Technician.
4. Only one major leak adjustment will be permitted within a 12 month consecutive period. Exception would be a leak covering a two (2) month period due to the leak occurring during the end of one billing cycle but discovered and repaired during the next.
5. For accounts that qualify for a water adjustment and are also on city sewer, the corresponding sewer bill will be adjusted down to the base month.
6. Sewer adjustments for lawn watering and filling swimming pools will not be permitted. Customers should obtain a "lawn meter" to eliminate these sewer charges.
7. An "Adjustment Request" form shall be completed and approved (signed off on) by the General Manager or his/her designee prior to an adjustment being made. All information from the customer and the department pertaining to the adjustment shall be attached to the form. ONLY authorized personnel can enter adjustments onto the system.
8. No adjustment shall be made in excess of the cost of the water to Lexington Water Systems as defined in item 1.
9. All information pertaining to adjustments will be retained for a minimum of 5 years.
10. Excessive water use due to malfunctions of an automatic livestock waterer shall not qualify for an adjustment.

This ordinance shall take effect upon final passage, the public welfare requiring it.

Passed 1st Reading- October 2, 2018

Passed 2nd Reading- November 6, 2018