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ORDINANCE NO. 84:
NEW WATER RATE STRUCTURE

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ORDINANCE NO. 31
BY ESTABLISHING RATE FOR WATER SERVICE OF THE FORESTVILLE WATER DISTRICT
EFFECTIVE AS OF JULY 1, 2024

BE IT ORDAINED by the Board of Directors of Forestville Water District, Sonoma County, California, as follows:

SECTION 1: Section 400 of Article 18 of Ordinance No. 31 (as amended by subsequent ordinances) of the Forestville Water District, is hereby amended to read and provide in its entirety as follows:

ARTICLE 18. RATES

400. RATES FOR WATER SERVICE.

The Forestville Water District (the District) shall charge its customers for water service in accordance with the water rate and billing structure described herein.

Equivalent Dwelling Unit:

The use of the term Equivalent Dwelling Unit and abbreviation EDU has been selected to differentiate from the term Equivalent Standard Dwelling and abbreviation ESD, which is already in use to describe sewer customers serviced by the District. One (1) EDU shall not be assumed to be equivalent to one (1) ESD, as they are calculated from different data. For the purposes of this Ordinance, one (1) EDU shall be defined as the average bi-monthly volume of water used by all single-family residential customers. The volume associated with one (1) EDU may be evaluated by the District on an annual basis and updated accordingly to reflect the changing water use patterns of District customers.

For non-residential customers, the number of EDUs assigned shall be based upon the average bi-monthly water used by that customer in the 12 months prior and as reassessed by the District. The average bi-monthly use of the customer shall be divided by the volume associated with the current definition of an EDU, and one (1) EDU shall be assigned for each whole number or fraction thereof from the resultant number.

New non-residential customers without water usage for the 12 months prior shall have an EDU assigned based upon the flows indicated in the attached Exhibit A, Equivalent Single-Family Dwelling Billing Unit for Sonoma Valley CSD or other appropriate reference approved by the District Board to determine an approximate anticipated water usage.

Non-residential customers who believe that they have significantly changed their usage due to improved water use technology, operational changes, and/or tenant changes may request, in writing, that the District re-evaluate their assigned number of EDUs. Unless the property occupant or tenant has changed more frequently, this request may only be made once within a 12-month period.

Fixed Charge: Each bi-monthly billing shall include a fixed charge. A bi-monthly fixed charge of \$33.31 shall be billed for each EDU assigned to the customer. The fixed charge amount is based upon the District's overhead costs to operate and manage the system regardless of increased or decreased customer water usage. The District may elect to evaluate and adopt a new fixed charge on an annual basis, or more frequently if special circumstances arise.

Volumetric Charge: Each bi-monthly billing shall include a volumetric charge based on the quantity of water delivered by the District to each customer as measured through the customer's water meter. Customers shall be billed a volumetric charge for each gallon of water used. The volumetric charge shall be calculated based upon the quantity of water used under each of the tiered thresholds and associated tiered rates indicated in the following table.

	Tier 1	Tier 2	Tier 3
Gallons Metered under Tier per EDU	0 to 12,000	12,001 – 23,000	23,001 and greater
Rate Charged for Each Gallon Metered in Tier (\$ per 1,000 gallons in Tier)	\$7.45	\$9.31	\$11.18

The establishment of the Tier 1 threshold shall be based upon the average bi-monthly usage for all single-family residential customers. The Tier 1 threshold shall also be utilized to establish the bi-monthly volume of water associated with a single Equivalent Dwelling Unit (EDU). All Tiers may be adjusted accordingly based on evaluation of the current EDU as well as the cost to the District of purchasing water. This may include clauses or penalties present in agreements in place with the District and the entity from which water is purchased (currently Sonoma Water).

The District may use its discretion to round threshold values up or down to the nearest 1,000 gallons.

Each customer class is billed within the new structure as outlined below:

Single-Family Residential Billing: Each single-family residential customer is assigned one EDU. Each single-family residential billing is therefore billed one (1) bi-monthly fixed charge as well as a volumetric charge for each gallon used within a given Tier. The Volumetric Charge shall be billed at the Tier 1 rate for each gallon used up to 12,000 gallons, at the Tier 2 rate for each gallon used between 12,001 gallons and 23,000 gallons, and at the Tier 3 rate for each gallon used over 23,000 gallons.

Multi-Family Residential Billing: Multi-family residential bi-monthly billing shall be done in a similar manner to that as for single-family residential customers, except that the total number of dwelling units on a property shall be equal to the number of EDUs assigned to the customer. Multi-family residential customers shall be charged one (1) fixed fee for each EDU assigned. The thresholds of each Tier shall also be multiplied by the number of EDUs assigned to the customer when calculating the Volumetric Charge for that customer. Therefore, a multi-family property with two (2) dwelling units would be assigned two (2) EDU and the Volumetric Charge would be billed at the Tier 1 rate for each gallon used up to 24,000 gallons, at the Tier 2 rate for each gallon used between 24,001 gallons and 46,000 gallons, and at the Tier 3 rate for each gallon used over 46,000 gallons.

Non-Residential Billing: Each non-residential customer shall be assigned the number of EDUs as determined in accord with the above sections of this Ordinance. Non-residential customers shall be charged one (1) fixed fee for each EDU assigned. The thresholds of each Tier shall also be multiplied by the number of EDUs assigned to the customer when calculating the Volumetric Charge for that customer. Therefore, the Volumetric Charge for a non-residential customer assigned three (3) EDU would be billed at the Tier 1 rate for each gallon used up to 36,000 gallons, at the Tier 2 rate for each gallon used between 36,001 gallons and 69,000 gallons, and at the Tier 3 rate for each gallon used over 69,000 gallons.

Leak Adjustments: Leak adjustments shall be addressed in a similar manner as the current policies in place for water billing as well as sewer direct service charges. Customers shall be allowed a one-time leak adjustment every 7 years if it can be substantiated that the customer took prompt actions to correct the condition. If the customer is non-residential, the leak adjustment shall be taken into account when calculating the next year's EDU assignment.

Surplus Billing: All surplus water shall be sold by the District at the Tier 3 billing rate in effect at the time the water is sold.

AND, BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED by the Board of Directors of the Forestville Water District, Sonoma County, California, and following a Public Hearing held on May 14, 2024 prior to a regular Board Meeting of the Board of Directors, and under

The rates established by this Ordinance shall be **effective as of July 1, 2024**.

This Ordinance shall become effective from and after its adoption and publication as required by law.

DIRECTORS:

Griffith Aye McDermott Abstained Monroe Aye Stapleton Aye Stuart Aye

DULY AND REGULARLY ADOPTED this 14th day of May 2024.

FORESTVILLE WATER DISTRICT

BY: Matt McDermott
Chairman of the Board

ATTEST:

Dawn Leith
Clerk of the Board