

ORDINANCE NO. 26-0007

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF TRINITY, TEXAS, AMENDING ORDINANCE NO. 24-0013 ESTABLISHING RESIDENTIAL AND COMMERCIAL WATER AND SEWER TAP FEES; PROVIDING FOR INSPECTIONS; ESTABLISHING OWNERSHIP AND RESPONSIBILITY FOR PRIVATE GRINDER PUMPS, LIFT STATIONS, AND OTHER PRIVATE SEWER SERVICE EQUIPMENT; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; REPEALING CONFLICTING ORDINANCES; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

WHEREAS,

the City Council of the City of Trinity, Texas, previously adopted Ordinance No. 16-0005 establishing water and sewer tap fees and related requirements; and

WHEREAS,

the City Council finds it necessary to clarify the responsibilities of property owners and the City regarding grinder pumps, lift stations, sewage ejectors, and other private sewer service equipment; and

WHEREAS,

the City Council finds that these amendments are necessary to protect the City's public sewer infrastructure and clearly establish the responsibilities of property owners connecting to the City's wastewater collection system.

SECTION 1. Definitions

For the purposes of this ordinance, the following definitions shall apply:

Residential – Any structure especially constructed and designed for habitation, excluding hotels and motels.

Commercial – Any structure not classified as residential.

Tap – The cutting into and connection of a residential or commercial service line to a City-owned and maintained water or sewer main.

Single Meter Tap – A single water tap served by one water meter.

Service – The privately owned water and/or sewer service line extending from the building or structure to the point of connection with the City's utility system.

Main – Water or sewer mains owned and maintained by the City of Trinity for providing utility service.

SECTION 2. Water and Sewer Tap Fees

The following fees are hereby established and shall apply to all applications requesting a new water or sewer tap.

Residential

Water Tap \$1,500.00

Sewer Tap \$650.00

Commercial

Water Tap \$1,500.00

Sewer Tap \$650.00

All tap fees shall be paid in full prior to installation.

Only one (1) water tap and one (1) sewer tap shall be issued for each physical address or separately platted tract of land. No additional water or sewer taps shall be issued or installed to serve the same address or separately platted tract unless specifically approved by the City Council.

SECTION 3. Inspection of Taps

Before any new water or sewer service is placed into operation, the installation shall be inspected and approved by the City's designated plumbing inspector. The plumbing inspector shall verify that the installation complies with all applicable codes and that approved materials and installation methods have been used.

No water or sewer service shall be placed into operation until the required inspection has been completed and approved.

SECTION 4. Ownership and Responsibility for Private Sewer Service Equipment

1. The City's responsibility for sewer service shall terminate at the approved sewer tap connected to the public sewer main.
2. If a grinder pump, sewage ejector, lift station, or other pumping equipment is required to convey wastewater from a private building or structure to the City's sewer system because of elevation, site conditions, or other circumstances, the equipment shall be considered part of the property's private plumbing system.
3. The property owner shall be solely responsible for the purchase, installation, permitting, inspection, electrical service, operation, maintenance, repair, replacement, and all associated costs of any grinder pump, sewage ejector, lift station, or other private pumping equipment.
4. The City of Trinity shall not be responsible for furnishing, installing, operating, maintaining, repairing, or replacing privately owned grinder pumps, lift stations, sewage ejectors, or related equipment unless specifically authorized by the City Council through a written agreement executed by the Mayor on behalf of the City.

5. Approval of a sewer tap by the City does not guarantee that wastewater from a private structure will flow by gravity to the public sewer system. It shall be the responsibility of the property owner to determine whether a grinder pump, sewage ejector, lift station, or other pumping equipment is necessary to provide sewer service to the property.

6. Any request for the City of Trinity to furnish, install, operate, maintain, repair, replace, or otherwise assume responsibility for a grinder pump, sewage ejector, lift station, or other private sewer service equipment shall be submitted in writing to the City Council and considered only at a duly posted City Council meeting. No request shall be considered approved unless authorized by a majority vote of the City Council and reflected in the official meeting minutes.

SECTION 5. Repealer

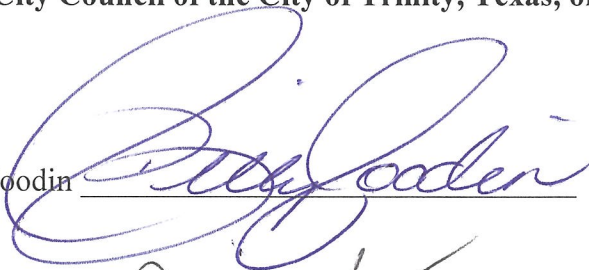
All ordinances or parts of ordinances in conflict with this ordinance are hereby repealed to the extent of such conflict.

SECTION 6. Severability

If any section, subsection, sentence, clause, phrase, or provision of this ordinance is held to be invalid or unconstitutional by a court of competent jurisdiction, such decision shall not affect the validity of the remaining portions of this ordinance. The City Council declares that it would have adopted this ordinance regardless of the invalidity of any one or more provisions.

PASSED AND APPROVED by the City Council of the City of Trinity, Texas, on this 13th day of August, 2026.

City of Trinity, Texas Mayor - Billy Goodin



ATTEST: City Manager – Tracy Hutto

