

ORDINANCE 2023-04

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING § 260-17.D(1)(2)(3) ANNUAL USER FEES AND § 280-3.E COLLECTION AND FEES

WHEREAS, there exists a need to amend § 260-17.D(3) of the Township code in order to facilitate calculation of accurate sewer rates for certain non-residential, commercial, mixed use, industrial, and institutional users; and

WHEREAS, the Township Engineer and Township Attorney have recommended that all properties served by the Oxford Township Wastewater Treatment System be charged on an EDU basis with flowrates derived from all available property data available to the Township and pursuant to the flowrates set forth in N.J.A.C. 7:14A-23.3; and

WHEREAS, there also exists a need to amend § 280-3.E of the Township code in order to facilitate the collection of garbage fees in order to ensure the fiscal health of the garbage utility and the Township's ability to provide necessary services;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township Committee of the Township of Oxford in the County of Warren, State of New Jersey, that the following amendments to be made to the respective chapters of the Township Code as specified herein:

§ 260-17.D(1) ANNUAL USER FEES, shall be amended as follows:

Single-family dwellings, apartments and mobile homes situated within Oxford Township: 100% of the annual charge per EDU as set by resolution of the Township Committee annually.

§ 260-17.D(2) ANNUAL USER FEES, shall be amended as follows:

Single-family dwellings, apartments and mobile homes not situated within Oxford Township: 112.5% of the annual charge per EDU as set by resolution of the Township Committee annually.

§ 260-17.D(3) ANNUAL USER FEES, shall be amended as follows:

Non-residential, commercial, mixed use, industrial, municipal and institutional users; EDUs shall be assessed based on available tax and property data available to the Township and pursuant to the flowrates set forth in N.J.A.C. 7:14A-23.3 which shall be calculated by the Township Engineer and certified to the Township Committee. Any owner of a property as described herein wishing to appeal the assessment of flow may request a hearing at a regular meeting of the Township Committee by submitting an appeal in writing to the Township Engineer which shall, at minimum, provide not less six (6) months of water utility bills. Upon receipt of a request for appeal the Township Committee shall hold a hearing within thirty (30) days in order to allow the property owner to present their evidence. The Township Committee shall have the option to render a decision immediately or carry the hearing to a later date to be determined by the Committee. Any decision rendered by the Township Committee with the advice and consent of the Township Engineer shall be final and binding.

§ 280-3.E COLLECTION AND FEES, shall be amended as follows:

Past due amounts as lien. Garbage fees as provided herein shall be a first lien or charge against the property billed for the services rendered. Any part of the amount due and payable interest shall accrue at a rate of interest equivalent of that established for delinquent garbage fees pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40:48-2.14. Liens levied in accordance with this section shall be enforceable in the manner provided for real property tax liens in Section 5 of Title 54 of the Revised Statutes. At any such time where quarterly payment(s) become(s) past due, collection/pickup will be suspended immediately and without further notice.

Owners/occupants of residential dwellings and/or commercial establishments without collection service will be required to remove or otherwise dispose of any and all refuse, rubbish or solid waste from the premises within 72 hours after the receipt of written notice to that effect. In the event the Township finds it necessary to provide services for the removal or destruction of the solid waste when the owner or tenant refuses or neglects to remove or destroy the solid waste in the manner and within the time required by this ordinance, service fees will continue to accrue and past due amounts shall be a first lien or charge against the property billed for the services rendered as set forth in this ordinance.

NOTICE

NOTICE is hereby given that the foregoing Ordinance was introduced to pass on first reading at a regular meeting of the Committee of the Township of Oxford held on February 15, 2023 at 7:00 PM and ordered published in accordance with the law. Said Ordinance will be considered for final reading and adoption at a regular meeting of the Township Committee to be held on March 15, 2023, at 7:00 PM, or as soon thereafter as the Township Committee may hear this Ordinance at the Municipal Building, 11 Green Street, Oxford, New Jersey, at which time all persons interested may appear for or against the passage of said Ordinance.

Laurie A. Courter, RMC
Municipal Clerk