

Ordinance 17 - 25

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 921 OF THE PORT CLINTON CODIFIED ORDINANCES AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY

WHEREAS, the City of Port Clinton has made a commitment to see the improvement of water, sanitary, and storm sewer lines and associated roadway pavement in key areas of the City as one phase of the Port Clinton Infrastructure Improvement Project (the Project); and

WHEREAS, this Council passed in 2020 Ordinance 28-20 which established the monthly Infrastructure Fee to fund this phase of the Project based on a detailed preliminary opinion of probable cost prepared by Poggemeyer Design Group, A Kleinfelder Company, in 2020; and

WHEREAS, the City faces increased costs associated with project construction and financing in 2025 that exceed monthly Infrastructure Fee revenue at current rates; and

WHEREAS, this Council finds monthly customer charges in the amount of \$10.00 for each water EDU and \$10.00 for each sewer EDU to be an adequate and necessary Infrastructure Fee to fund this phase of the Port Clinton Infrastructure Improvement Project; and

WHEREAS, this Council finds that it is necessary to amend Chapter 921 of the Codified Ordinances to adjust the Infrastructure Fee amount effective the first full billing cycle following the effective date of this ordinance in order to maintain financial feasibility of this phase of the Project; and

WHEREAS, this Council finds that it is necessary to increase funding for the Help 2 Others (H2O) financial assistance program for Port Clinton residents over the age of 65 who are assessed the Infrastructure Fee and who meet certain criteria.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED by the Council of the City of Port Clinton, County of Ottawa and State of Ohio:

Section 1. Chapter 921 is hereby amended:

921.01 MONTHLY INFRASTRUCTURE FEE.

Council reauthorizes the monthly Infrastructure Fee:

- (a) Council reauthorizes the monthly Infrastructure Fee at \$10.00 for each water EDU, equal to \$120.00 per calendar year; and \$10.00 for each sewer EDU, equal to \$120.00 per calendar year. The Infrastructure Fee may be adjusted by not

more than \$2.00 by the Director of Safety and Service at the discretion of the Director.

- (b) Council finds and determines that the reauthorized monthly Infrastructure Fee shall take effect the first full billing cycle following the effective date of this ordinance.
- (c) Council finds and determines that all Infrastructure Fee funds shall be dedicated solely to the rehabilitation, maintenance, and further planning with respect to the City's sanitary sewer, storm sewer, waterline, and associated pavement resurfacing improvements portion of the Port Clinton Infrastructure Improvement Project incorporated as Exhibit A attached to Original Ordinance 28-20.

921.02 HELP 2 OTHERS (H2O) FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM.

Council reauthorizes the Help 2 Others (H2O) financial assistance program:

- (a) The Director of Safety and Service is authorized and directed to provide and evaluate applications for financial assistance through the H2O program to Port Clinton residents who meet the following criteria:
 - (1) Applicant must be at least sixty-five (65) years of age;
 - (2) Applicant must be the utility billing customer residing at the service address as their primary residence; and
 - (3) Applicant must show that the Infrastructure Fee would cause a financial hardship if assessed.
- (b) This Council authorizes not less than \$25,000.00 per calendar year to be available for monthly Infrastructure Fee waivers through the H2O Program equal to the following:
 - (1) Water EDU: \$10.00 each month for a total of up to \$120.00 per calendar year.
 - (2) Sewer EDU: \$10.00 each month for a total of up to \$120.00 per calendar year.Full and/or partial waiver may be issued by the Director of Safety and Service at the discretion of the Director. The Director of Safety and Service is authorized to adjust the waiver amounts listed herein.
- (c) The H2O waivers will be allocated on a first come first serve basis and all customers must apply annually for waivers for the following calendar year.
- (d) Funds available for the H2O Program may be carried over into the following calendar year.
- (e) The Director of Safety and Service shall report to Council on a quarterly basis the number of customers who registered for the H2O Program and the number of

applicants who applied for the program but did not meet the criteria to be accepted.

Section 2. This Council finds and determines that all formal actions of this Council concerning and relating to the passage of this Ordinance were taken in an open meeting of this Council and that all deliberations of this Council and any of its committees that resulted in those formal actions were in meetings open to the public in compliance with law.

Section 3. This Ordinance is hereby declared to be an emergency measure necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health, and safety of the City, and for further reason that the immediate construction of the water and sanitary infrastructure improvements at the earliest possible time is necessary in order to protect the health of the inhabitants of the City by providing improvements to the City's water and sanitary infrastructure; wherefore, this ordinance shall be in full force and effect immediately upon its passage and approval by the Mayor.

Passed: _____, 2025

President of Council

Attest: _____
Clerk of Council

Approved: _____, 2025

Mayor