



CITY OF OBETZ  
RECORD OF ORDINANCES

ORDINANCE: 20 – 26

PASSED: March 23, 2026

**AN ORDINANCE HARMONIZING AND CODIFYING UPDATED SECTION 939.03 CONCERNING WATER, SEWER, AND REFUSE RATES; AMENDING SECTIONS 935.16 AND 939.02 OF THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES TO ESTABLISH RATE SCHEDULES AND UPDATING SEWER CAPACITY CHARGES; AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY**

**WHEREAS**, the City of Obetz owns and operates municipal water, sanitary sewer, and refuse systems that are essential to the public health, safety, and welfare of its residents and businesses; and,

**WHEREAS**, City Council adopted Ordinance No. 08-25 on February 10, 2025, which amended Section 939.03 of the Codified Ordinances and established a revised framework for water, sanitary sewer, and refuse rates; and,

**WHEREAS**, City Council subsequently adopted Ordinance No. 08-26 on February 2, 2026, which established updated rates for water, sanitary sewer, and refuse services and provided that conflicting provisions are repealed to the extent of such conflict; and,

**WHEREAS**, Ordinance No. 08-26 established updated rates but did not restate Section 939.03 in its entirety, resulting in the current rate structure being reflected across multiple legislative enactments; and,

**WHEREAS**, it is in the best interest of the City and its residents to consolidate and clarify these provisions into a single, harmonized section of the Codified Ordinances for ease of administration, transparency, and public understanding; and,

**WHEREAS**, this Ordinance harmonizes and restates Section 939.03 by combining the framework established in Ordinance No. 08-25 with the rates adopted in Ordinance No. 08-26, without changing the substance or effective date of those previously adopted rates; and,

**WHEREAS**, City Council also finds it necessary to establish and update water and sanitary sewer system capacity charges as a result of increase in the City of Columbus system capacity charges, which the City of Obetz is contractually obligated to pay;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF OBETZ THAT:**

**Section 1. Harmonization of Prior Enactments; Restatement of Rates**

(a) *Findings.* This Council finds and determines that:

- (1) Section 939.03 of the Codified Ordinances of the City of Obetz was amended in its entirety by Ordinance No. 08-25, adopted February 10, 2025, which set forth a revised version of such section, however, such amended version has not yet been incorporated into the City's codified ordinances;
- (2) Ordinance No. 08-26, adopted February 2, 2026, subsequently amended the rates set forth in Section 939.03 by establishing revised water, sanitary sewer, and refuse rates and providing that all conflicting ordinances are repealed to the extent of such conflict, but did not include a fully integrated and restated version of Section 939.03;
- (3) Pursuant to Section 4.10(B) of the Charter of the City of Obetz, ordinances may amend or repeal existing provisions, including by implication, and both Ordinance No. 08-25 and Ordinance No. 08-26 constitute valid and enforceable legislative enactments of Council;
- (4) As a result, the current law governing such rates is reflected in a combination of (i) Section 939.03 as amended in its entirety by Ordinance No. 08-25, and (ii) the subsequent amendments to such rates adopted by Ordinance No. 08-26, which must be read together and harmonized to give full effect to each enactment; and
- (5) The codified ordinances, as periodically updated for convenience and reference, do not supersede duly enacted ordinances of Council, and the absence of a codified update does not affect the validity or controlling effect of Ordinance No. 08-25.

(b) *Harmonization.* Applying the principle that legislative enactments relating to the same subject matter should be harmonized where reasonably capable of simultaneous operation, City Council hereby declares that (i) the version of Section 939.03 as set forth in Ordinance No. 08-25 shall serve as the base text, and (ii) the rate adjustments adopted by Ordinance No. 08-26 shall be applied to and incorporated into such base text.

The provisions of Ordinance No. 08-25, Ordinance No. 08-26, and the Codified Ordinances shall be read together and reconciled so as to give effect to each to the fullest extent possible. In the event of a direct and irreconcilable conflict, the provisions of Ordinance No. 08-26 shall control to the extent of such conflict.

For purposes of clarity and codification, Exhibit A attached hereto sets forth City Council's intended composite version of Section 939.03, reflecting the base text established by Ordinance No. 08-25 as modified by the rate adjustments adopted in Ordinance No. 08-26. The rates and charges reflected in such composite version are set forth in Exhibit B attached hereto, which is derived from and reflects the rate schedule adopted by Ordinance No. 08-26.

Exhibit A and Exhibit B are hereby adopted together as the harmonized and restated version of Section 939.03.

- (c) *Clarification; No Substantive Change.* Section 1 of this Ordinance, including Exhibits A and B, is intended solely to clarify, harmonize, and restate existing law. It shall not be construed to modify, amend, or reestablish the effective date of any water, sanitary sewer, or refuse rate previously adopted by Council, all of which shall remain in effect as of the effective date established by Ordinance No. 08-26.

The use of a rate schedule in Exhibit B is intended to reflect the rates previously adopted by Ordinance No. 08-26 in a consolidated and administratively convenient format and does not establish new or additional rates.

- (d) *Codified Section.* The version of Section 939.03 set forth in Exhibit A, together with the rates set forth in Exhibit B, shall constitute the operative and controlling version of such section for all purposes, including codification.

Section 2.     **Sewer System Capacity Charges.** Section 935.16 of the Codified Ordinances of the City of Obetz is hereby amended to read as follows:

**“935.16 SEWER CAPACITY RATES**

- (a) *Imposition.* A sewer system capacity charge shall be imposed for each connection to the City’s sanitary sewer system and for any increase in service capacity, as determined by the City.
- (b) *Amount.* The amount of the sewer system capacity charge shall be as established in the rate schedule adopted by Council, as may be amended from time to time by ordinance.
- (c) *Payment.* The sewer system capacity charge shall be paid at such time and in such manner as determined by the City, including as a condition of connection or issuance of permits.
- (d) *Additional Charges.* The sewer system capacity charge is in addition to all other applicable rates, fees, and charges.
- (e) *Sewer Improvement Fund.* All sewer system capacity charges shall be credited to the Sewer Improvement Fund of the City of Obetz for use within the Sewer Department for infrastructure maintenance and construction.”

Section 3.     **Water System Capacity Charges.** Section 939.02(b) of the Codified Ordinances of the City of Obetz is hereby amended to read as follows:

**“939.02 WATER CHARGES AND SERVICE FEES**

**(b) Water System Capacity Charge**

- (1) *Imposition.* A water system capacity charge shall be imposed for each connection to the City’s water system and for any increase in service capacity.
- (2) *Amount.* The amount of such charge shall be as established in the rate schedule adopted by Council, as may be amended from time to time by ordinance. Such rate schedule may include a reduced rate for taps used to provide for fire protection only.
- (3) *Payment.* The water system capacity charge shall be paid at such time and in such manner as determined by the City, including as a condition of connection or issuance of permits.

- (4) *Additional Charges.* The water system capacity charge is in addition to all other applicable rates, fees, and charges.
- (5) *Water Improvement Fund.* All water system capacity charges shall be credited to the Water Improvement Fund of the City of Obetz for use within the Water Department for infrastructure maintenance and construction.”

Section 4.      **Adoption of Water and Sewer Capacity Rate Schedule.** City Council hereby adopts the water and sanitary sewer capacity charges set forth in Exhibit C attached hereto (the “Water and Sewer System Capacity Rate Schedule”).

The Water and Sewer System Capacity Rate Schedule may be amended from time to time by ordinance of Council. The charges set forth therein shall apply to all applications for connection or increases in service capacity submitted on or after the effective date of this Ordinance, unless otherwise provided in a written agreement approved by Council.

Section 5.      It is hereby found and determined that all formal actions of this Council concerning and relating to the adoption of this Ordinance were adopted in an open meeting of this Council, and that any and all deliberations of this Council and any of its committees that resulted in such formal action were in meetings open to the public, in compliance with all legal requirements of the laws of the State of Ohio.

Section 6.      This Ordinance is hereby declared to be an emergency measure necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health, safety, and welfare of the City of Obetz, in that it is necessary to promptly clarify, harmonize, and implement the City’s water, sanitary sewer, and refuse rate structure, as previously adopted by Council, and to establish and administer capacity charges in a manner that ensures the continued financial stability of the City’s utility systems, including the City’s ability to meet its financial obligations to the City of Columbus and to operate and maintain critical water and sewer infrastructure.

WHEREFORE, this Ordinance shall take effect and be in force immediately upon passage.

Passed this 23 day of March, 2025.

ATTESTS:

Stacey Boumis  
Stacey Boumis, Clerk of Council

Angela M. Kirk  
Angela M. Kirk, Mayor

[Signature]  
Derek Varney, Council Pres. Pro-Tem

APPROVED AS TO FORM

Eugene Hollins  
Eugene Hollins, Esq., Law Director

**CERTIFICATION OF PUBLICATION**

Pursuant to the City Charter, I, Stacey E. Boumis, Clerk of Council of the City of Obetz, Ohio, do hereby certify that Ordinance 20-26 was duly posted at 11:00 AM (time) on the 31 day of March, 2025, at the Obetz Government Center, Obetz Athletic Club, and Obetz Community Center as well as on the Obetz website.



Stacey Boumis  
Stacey Boumis, Clerk

3/31/26  
Date

**EXHIBIT A**  
**HARMONIZED SECTION 939.03**

**939.03 WATER, SEWER, AND REFUSE RATES**

## (a) Administration

- (1) The Administrator shall make rules regulating the conditions under which water service shall be rendered.
- (2) Any rules and regulations issued by the Administrator are effective for all consumers of water from the system of the Division of Water, both within and outside the Municipal limits.
- (3) The Administrator is authorized, within their discretion and in accordance with rules and regulations promulgated herein, to order the discontinuance of water service to any person, home, commercial, or industrial user in violation of any rules, ordinances, and regulations.
- (4) Where the Administrator has ordered a discontinuance of water service for a violation of any rule, ordinance, or regulation, there shall be charged the fees provided for in Section 939.02(g).

## (b) Rate Schedule

- (1) *Imposition.* Charges for water service, sanitary sewer service, and refuse collection and disposal services provided by the City shall be imposed on all users of such services in accordance with this Section.
- (2) *Rate Schedule.* The rates and charges for such services shall be as set forth in the rate schedule established by ordinance of Council, as may be amended from time to time by ordinance. Such rate schedule may include, without limitation, base charges, usage charges, minimum charges, surcharges, and other rate components for water, sanitary sewer, and refuse services.
- (3) *Applicability.* The rates and charges set forth in the rate schedule shall apply to all users of the City's water, sanitary sewer, and refuse systems, except as otherwise expressly provided by ordinance, contract, or duly approved agreement.
- (4) *Administration.* The City Administrator or the Administrator's designee is authorized to administer and apply the rate schedule, including classification of users, determination of billing categories, and implementation of billing procedures consistent with this Section.
- (5) *Conflict.* In the event of any conflict between the provisions of this Section and the rate schedule with respect to the amount of rates or charges, the rate schedule shall control.

## (c) Notice of Rate Changes

- (1) Except as otherwise provided by ordinance of Council, including ordinances establishing or adjusting rates on an emergency basis, the City shall provide notice of any increase in rates by publication on the monthly bill or by other reasonable means at least one billing cycle prior to the effective date of such increase, to the extent practicable.

## (d) Owner's Liability for Charges; Penalties

- (1) Each water charge assessed under this chapter is made a lien upon the corresponding lot, parcel of land, building, or premises served by a connection to the municipal water system.
- (2) If a charge is not paid within ninety (90) days after it becomes due, it shall be certified to the Auditor of Franklin County for collection as a tax lien, along with applicable interest and penalties.
- (3) Owners of real estate premises maintaining water service are liable for all water, sewer, and refuse charges incurred at such premises.
- (4) Tenants may contract for water and sewer service but doing so shall not relieve the property owner of liability for unpaid charges.
- (5) The Municipality is authorized to shut off water service to properties with unpaid water, sewer, or refuse charges after certification of delinquency.

## (e) Collection and Disbursement of Funds

- (1) All moneys payable to the Administrator or Water Superintendent shall be collected by the Water Department or Administrator at their usual place of business and deposited with the Finance Director within forty-eight (48) hours.
- (2) Revenue collected under this chapter shall be allocated into separate funds for maintenance, repair, operation, debt service, and capital improvements as determined by the Finance Director.

## (f) Water Master Meter Connection

- (1) Developers installing a new master meter connection to the City of Columbus system shall pay all associated capacity fees, meter fees, water tap costs, and installation expenses.
- (2) These costs may be credited against future water connection fees owed to the City, based on the current rate at the time of connection.
- (3) This credit agreement shall expire after ten (10) years, after which the developer shall have no further claim for reimbursement.

**EXHIBIT B  
2026 WATER, SANITARY SEWER, AND REFUSE RATES**

(As Adopted by Ordinance No. 08-26)

Following are the monthly minimum service charges based on meter size:

Meter Size	Water Service Charge	Sewer Service
3/4"	\$18.00	\$19.80
1"	\$72.95	\$54.60
1 1/2"	\$139.74	\$101.73
2"	\$196.52	\$156.31
3"	\$269.22	\$281.16
4"	\$397.67	\$439.16
6" and up	\$681.51	\$851.83

Following are the commodity charges by 1000 gallon increments:

Class	Water Commodity Charge	Sewer Commodity Charge
Residential	\$7.50 per 1000 gallons	\$9.14 per 1000 gallons of Water
Commercial	\$8.60 per 1000 gallons	\$9.41 per 1000 gallons of Water
Industrial	\$9.20 per 1000 gallons	\$9.86 per 1000 gallons of Water

*\*Low Income Program may reduce the Water Service Charge by 50% and the Water Commodity Charge by 50%. Contact the Utilities Department for details.*

Following are the Wet Weather Charges:

Residential	Commercial
\$3.55 per month/per ERU	\$3.55 per month/per ERU

*\*ERU is an "Equivalent Residential Unit" as determined by the City of Columbus. Currently, each residence is charged 1 ERU. Commercial and Industrial users are charge 1 ERU per 2,000 square feet of impervious surface area.*

Following are the Residential monthly Refuse Charges(no recycling):

Residential
\$22.18

*\*Residents 65 or Older Receive a 10% Discount from their Monthly Refuse Bill*

EXHIBIT C

2026 WATER AND SEWER SYSTEM CAPACITY RATE CHARGES

EFFECTIVE: APRIL 1, 2026

SEWER SYSTEM CAPACITY RATE CHARGE

WATER SYSTEM CAPACITY RATE CHARGE

Meter Size	Obetz Rate	F.S.O. Rate
3/4	\$1,850	N/A
1	\$3,400	\$2,720
1-1/2	\$9,000	\$7,200
2	\$15,500	\$12,400
3	\$32,300	\$25,840
4	\$50,400	\$40,320
6	\$114,400	\$91,520
8	\$201,300	\$161,040
10	\$314,000	\$251,200
12	\$452,300	\$361,840
F.S.O. = Fire Service Only		

SEWER SYSTEM CAPACITY RATE CHARGE

Meter Size	Obetz Rate	Columbus Rate	Total Fee*
3/4	\$3,892	\$3,892	\$7,784
1	\$6,116	\$6,116	\$12,232
1-1/2	\$13,334	\$13,334	\$26,668
2	\$20,851	\$27,801	\$48,652
3	\$41,701	\$55,601	\$97,302
4	\$66,722	\$111,203	\$177,925
6	\$106,755	\$177,925	\$284,680
8	\$186,821	\$311,368	\$498,189
10	\$305,808	\$611,616	\$917,424
12	\$472,612	\$945,224	\$1,417,836
* = Obetz collects entire Sewer System Capacity Charge			