

**TOWN OF BOONTON
ORDINANCE 04-10**

AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWN OF BOONTON AMENDING CHAPTER 229 OF THE CODE OF THE TOWN OF BOONTON ESTABLISHING WATER AND SEWER RATES FOR ALL CUSTOMERS

WHEREAS, it has been the long and well established practice and policy of the Town of Boonton that its Water Utility and the Sewer Utility be financially self-sustaining; and

WHEREAS, the Town has become concerned with the decrease in water usage and water revenues and similarly concerned with the revenues generated by the Sewer Utility; and

WHEREAS, the Town commissioned a water and sewer rate and rate design study by Public Works Management, LLC, which study was completed on or about February 22, 2010 and a copy of same is on file with the Town Clerk; and

WHEREAS, the study declares that the water and sewer rates need to be increased in order for the utilities to be financially self-sustaining in the year 2010; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED, by the Mayor and Board of Aldermen of the Town of Boonton, County of Morris, as follows:

SECTION 1 – WATER RATES

RESIDENTIAL RATES	VOLUME (GALLONS PER QUARTER)
\$47.00 Minimum Charge	Up to 8,500
\$9.04 per 1,000 gallons	8,500 to 27,000
\$9.58 per 1,000 gallons	Over 27,000

COMMERCIAL/INDUSTRIAL RATES	VOLUME (GALLONS PER QUARTER)
\$47.00 Minimum Charge	Up to 4,000
\$11.40 per 1,000 gallons	Over 4,000

RESIDENTIAL/COMMERCIAL/ INDUSTRIAL IRRIGATION RATE	VOLUME
\$12.54 per 1,000 gallons, which volume is exempt from sewer charges	No limit

PRIVATE FIRE PROTECTION RATE	VOLUME (GALLONS PER QUARTER)
\$47.00 Minimum Charge	No limit for fire protection.

SECTION 2 – CLASSIFICATION OF WATER CUSTOMERS

- A. Classification of customers whose water is used for both residential and commercial purposes shall be: If the property’s commercial function consumes a significant amount of water, it shall be classified as commercial. A significant amount of commercial water consumption shall be defined as meeting either one of the following definitions: daily commercial water consumption exceeds 300 GPD during any one quarter of the year; daily commercial water consumption exceeds 33% of the property’s water consumption during any one quarter of the year.
- B. Customers may, at their cost, install separate meters for their residential and commercial consumptions, which will be billed separately at their applicable rates. The meter, which will be specified by the Town or provided by the Town for a fee, must be installed with operating gate valves on either side of the meter. The meter’s touchpad or similar device for reading the meter must be located in an accessible location next to the touchpad for the existing domestic meter or if an existing touchpad or similar device is not present on the outside of the building, on the front of the building. The customer must prove to the Town’s satisfaction that the commercial and residential meters are not interconnected and the residential meter serves only residential uses.

- C. To be classified as an industrial water user, twenty percent of more of water consumption must be used in a manufacturing process.

SECTION 3 – IRRIGATION

- A. The irrigation rate is \$12.54 per 1,000 gallons. There is no minimum charge.
- B. The volume of water charged at the irrigation rate is exempt from sewer charges.
- C. In order to qualify for the irrigation rate, the property owner must have their irrigation system separately and properly metered with a backflow prevention device specified by local and state plumbing codes. The meter, which will be specified by the Town or provided by the Town for a fee, must be installed with operating gate valves on either side of the meter and backflow prevention device upstream of the meter. The meter’s touchpad or similar device for reading the meter must be located in an accessible location next to the touchpad for the existing domestic meter, or if an existing touchpad or similar device is not present, on the outside of the front of the building. The irrigation rate shall not be charged until the owner’s meter and backflow prevention device have been inspected by the Town and found to be in accordance with these requirements.

SECTION 4 – FIRE PROTECTION

The private fire protection water rate shall be \$47 per quarter.

Use of water from fire service lines and fire protection systems for any purpose other than fire prevention is prohibited.

SECTION 5 – WATER INTERCONNECTIONS

Any approved interconnection of the Town’s water with any other water supply including private wells and other water systems must have a proper backflow prevention device installed upstream of the Town’s meter and require proof, at owner’s expense, that the backflow device is working properly by a tester certified in backflow prevention device testing in accordance with NJDEP regulations. The Town’s plumbing subcode official and water utility would conduct the inspections.

SECTION 6 – RESIDENTIAL SEWER RATES

RESIDENTIAL SEWER RATE	VOLUME (GALLONS OF WATER CONSUMPTION PER QUARTER)
\$67.50 per assigned Service Unit	Up to 13,700 per Service Unit
\$4.93	Per 1,000 over assigned Service Units’ volume

Assign sewer Service Units to existing industrial customers based on fact-based estimates of the facility’s metered water consumption including private wells and other non-town utility water sources and the amount of water used in the manufacturing process that does not enter the sewer, which is subtracted from the estimated water consumption. These estimates must be certified by a professional engineer registered in the State of New Jersey. Alternatively, the Town may, at any time and at its sole discretion, set the number of assigned Service Units to an existing industrial customer at 66.7% of the customer’s highest annual water consumption during the last five years.

SECTION 7 – COMMERCIAL INDUSTRIAL SEWER RATE

COMMERCIAL/INDUSTRIAL SEWER RATE	VOLUME (GALLONS OF WATER CONSUMPTION PER QUARTER)
\$78.30 per assigned Service Unit	Up to 13,700 per Service Unit
\$5.72	Per 1,000 over assigned Service Units' volume

Service Unit rates are minimum charges regardless of water consumption.

SECTION 8 – SEWER RATE FOR CUSTOMERS USING PRIVATE WELLS OR OTHER WATER SYSTEMS

A sewer customer that uses water from sources other than the Town including private wells or other water systems that a) is used inside the building, b) may enter the sewer system, or c) is interconnected with the water from the Town, must meter, at owner's expense, each of the non-town water sources in accordance with the Town's requirements with meters specified by or supplied by the Town for a fee. The meters shall be read by the Town for the purpose of charging sewer charges. If the customer uses metered water from another public water utility, the readings of that utility's meter may be used.

SECTION 9 – CLASSIFICATION OF SEWER CUSTOMERS

Industrial customers are defined as commercial establishments with 20% or more of their water used in a manufacturing process.

SECTION 10

This Ordinance and the revised rates shall be effective and applicable for all water and sewer services rendered after January 1, 2010.

Introduced: March 15, 2010

Adopted: April 19, 2010

MAYOR AND BOARD OF ALDERMEN
OF THE TOWN OF BOONTON

ATTEST:

Cynthia A. Oravits, Town Clerk

By: _____
Cyril Wekilsky