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Incorporated 1889

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## CITY POLICY FOR WATER AND SEWER MINIMUM CHARGES 01 March 2021

The City of Livingston instituted a Water Minimum Charge and a Sewer Minimum Charge to more equitably share water and sewer system maintenance costs across all users independent of usage charges which are targeted towards water and sewer system operations costs. This philosophy sets a minimum water and sewer charge regardless of whether or not a system user has any usage for any particular month. System users will be defined as any property that has a tap into a City water main or sewer main and is not effected by whether or not a system user has an installed meter. This applies to all parcels including parcels without improvements. Only parcels that have no tap into a City water or sewer main will be exempt from the water or sewer minimum charges.

The City of Livingston accrues significant maintenance costs to the water and sewer systems that are independent of water and sewer usage. Water mains, wells, water treatment systems, lift stations, sewer mains, and water reclamation facilities all have associated maintenance regardless of the level of use. Using a fixed minimum charge ensures an equitable distribution of these costs across all users regardless of when users actually reside in their homes. Users that are seasonal residents drive as much of these maintenance costs as full-time residents and should share equally in meeting those obligations.

## This policy will remain in effect until rescinded or superseded.

Michael J. Kardoes

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City Manager