

CITY COUNCIL

READ FILE COVER SHEET

Subject: **Ordinance 1222 concerning Establishing the City's Water & Sewer Rates for FY 2027**

(Public Hearing)

Date: **5/5/2026**

Notice: Any comments made after 5:00 p.m. on the Thursday before the Council Meeting will not be seen in the agenda packet.

- Purpose:
- FYI
 - Read and Comment as Needed**
 - Action Required by May 11, 2026**
 - In Confidential File Drawer

Approve:

Johnny Boker Yes No No Comment
Comment: _____

Casi Boyer Yes No No Comment
Comment: _____

Matthew Ellis Yes No No Comment
Comment: _____

Vicki Jones Yes No No Comment
Comment: _____

Jim Ringsaker Yes No No Comment
Comment: _____

Tammy Lynn Schneegas Yes No No Comment
Comment: _____

Note: N/A

CITY COUNCIL
OF
HAVRE DE GRACE, MARYLAND

ORDINANCE NO. 1222

Introduced by _____ Council Member Ellis

AN ORDINANCE BY THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL OF HAVRE DE GRACE, MARYLAND, ADOPTED PURSUANT TO THE AUTHORITY OF ARTICLE XI-E OF THE MARYLAND CONSTITUTION, THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ARTICLE OF THE ANNOTATED CODE OF MARYLAND, SECTIONS 33 AND 34 OF THE HAVRE DE GRACE CITY CHARTER, CITY CODE CHAPTER 196 AND EXHIBIT A THERETO, ESTABLISHING THE CITY WATER AND SEWER RATES AND SERVICE PARTICIPATION FEES FOR THE USERS OF THE CITY WATER AND SEWER SYSTEM

On: May 4, 2026

at: 7:00 p.m.

Ordinance introduced, read first time, ordered posted and public hearing scheduled.

PUBLIC HEARING

A Public Hearing is scheduled for May 11, 2026 at 6:00 p.m.

EXPLANATION
Underlining indicates matter added to existing law.
[Bold Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.
Amendments proposed prior to final adoption will be noted on a separate page with line references or by handwritten changes on the draft legislation.

33 **WHEREAS**, the Mayor and City Council of Havre de Grace has purchased, constructed
34 and maintained a water production and distribution system and a sewage collection and treatment
35 system in the City of Havre de Grace and surrounding areas, and has established the applicability,
36 rates, and procedures relating thereto pursuant to the authority granted by law and the Charter of
37 the City of Havre de Grace; and
38

39 **WHEREAS**, Section 37A of the Charter of the Mayor and City Council of Havre de Grace
40 requires that, on or before the first City Council Meeting in June of each year, the City Council
41 shall set the City water and sewer rates by ordinance.
42

43 **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ENACTED**, in accordance with the authority vested in the
44 Mayor and City Council of Havre de Grace, by law and the Charter of the City of Havre de Grace,
45 that the terms and conditions of this Ordinance be and the same is hereby adopted for the purpose
46 of establishing the City water and sewer rates for the fiscal years July 1, 2026 to June 30, 2027,
47 July 1, 2027 to June 30, 2028, and July 1, 2028 to June 30, 2029 as follows:
48

49 1. The terms and provisions of City Code Chapter 196 and its Exhibit A, which contains
50 a schedule listing all of the rates, charges or fees that the Mayor and City Council
51 authorizes and imposes in connection with the City Water and Sewer System, are
52 hereby reenacted and incorporated herein by reference without change, except for the
53 following:

54 2. In Section 196-1 entitled “Cost Schedule” delete the language in its entirety and replace
55 it with the following:

56 A. The attached Exhibit A to Chapter 196 of the Code, entitled “Havre de Grace
57 Water and Sewer Cost Schedule,” is a schedule listing all of the rates, charges
58 and fees that the Mayor and City Council of Havre de Grace authorize and
59 impose in connection with the City water and sewer system for the period
60 beginning July 1, 2026, and ending June 30, 2027, the basic metered water and
61 sewer charges for the period beginning July 1, 2027, and July 1, 2028, and the
62 basic metered water and sewer charges for the period beginning July 1, 2028,
63 and ending June 30, 2029, together with certain procedures as to the
64 applicability and collection of the water and sewer rates, capital cost recovery
65 charges, fees and service participation fees, which Exhibit A is hereby amended
66 and shall be enacted to read as set forth below.

67 B. In Exhibit A Section One entitled “Water Service Within the City,” delete the
68 language in its entirety and replace it with the following:

69 Beginning July 1, 2026, the basic rate for City water service shall be \$ 8.00
70 per 1,000 gallons delivered. Beginning July 1, 2027, the basic rate for City
71 water service shall be \$8.00 per 1,000 gallons delivered. Beginning July 1,
72 2028, the basic rate for City water service shall be \$ 8.00 per 1,000 gallons
73 delivered. Such users shall pay the basic rates in effect when billed. User
74 charges shall be payable quarterly upon receipt of bill.

75 C. In Exhibit A Section Three entitled “City Sewer Charges Within the City,”
76 delete the language and replace it with the following:

Beginning July 1, 2026, the basic rate for City sewer service shall be \$10.20 per 1,000 gallons of water delivered. Beginning July 1, 2027, the basic rate for City sewer service shall be \$10.20 per 1,000 gallons delivered. Beginning July 1, 2028, the basic rate for City sewer service shall be \$10.20 per 1,000 gallons delivered. Such users shall pay the basic rate in effect when billed.

D. In Exhibit A Section Five entitled “Capital Cost Recovery Charges,” delete the language in its entirety and replace it with the following:

Capital Cost Recovery Charges are applicable to any new connections to the system that increase the demand on the water and sewer system. This includes changes in the use of an existing structure which increase the demand on the system as determined by fixture unit calculations.

Capital Cost Recovery Charges are not applicable to the replacement of a residence or the redevelopment of a property, provided such replacement or redevelopment occurs within three years from the disconnection from the water and/or sewer system prior to the issuance of a use and occupancy permit, and the replacement or redevelopment of the property does not increase the demand on the system as determined by fixture unit calculations.

The charges are as follows:

Residential Units:

- 1. Water - \$11,800, July 1, 2026 to June 30, 2027 per unit
- 2. Sewer - \$13,200, July 1, 2026 to June 30, 2027 per unit

Commercial/Industrial Units:

- 1. Charge determined by calculation of water use and type of sewer production above and beyond one residential capital cost recovery charge which is the minimum fee.
- 2. Charge for fire suppression use: Any commercial sprinkler system, stand pipe system, or combination thereof, will be assessed a capital cost recovery charge for water only. Charges will be based upon units of flow and charged at the residential rate per unit. One unit will be equal to a flow rate of 220 gallons per minute (220 gpm) (i.e., 1 to 220 gpm will equal 1 unit; 221 to 440 gpm will equal 2 units; 441 to 660 gpm will equal 3 units; 661 to 880 gpm will equal 4 units; and so on). A unit will be calculated using a factor of 10% of the total peak flow of the entire sprinkler system, stand pipe system or a total combination of both systems. All commercial sprinkler systems and stand pipe systems will be supplied by a dedicated line from the street main and shall be equipped with the proper back flow preventers and a meter. Upon installation, the customer will be responsible for all charges associated with the connection to the City water system. Each installed system will have

121 the meter read quarterly and will be billed for the base service
122 charge, as hereinafter defined in Paragraph 10, and any gallons used.

123 E. In Exhibit A Section Ten entitled “Base Service Charge and Infrastructure
124 Reinvestment Program Charge.” Delete the language in its entirety and replace
125 it with the following:

126 A. A base service charge will be included on each quarterly water and/or sewer
127 bill. The amount of the charge will be based upon the size of the water meter
128 connected to the City water system and the rates in effect beginning July 1,
129 2026, are as follows:

| Meter Size (inches) | Quarterly Base Service Charge |
|------------------------|----------------------------------|
| 5/8 | \$20.00 |
| 3/4 | \$20.00 |
| 1 | \$20.00 |
| 1 1/2 | \$85.00 |
| 2 | \$130.00 |
| 3 | \$210.00 |
| 4 | \$350.00 |
| 6 | \$550.00 |
| 8 | \$885.00 |

141 B. Any water meter connected to the City water system that is used solely for
142 the purpose of supplying a fire suppression system, regardless of the meter
143 size, shall be charged the base service charge as a one-inch meter.
144

145 C. An Infrastructure Reinvestment Program service charge will be included on
146 each quarterly water and/or sewer bill. The amount of the charge will be
147 based upon the size of the water meter connected to the City water system
148 and the rates in effect beginning July 1, 2026, are as follows:

| Meter Size (inches) | Quarterly IRP Service Charge |
|------------------------|---------------------------------|
| 5/8 | \$30.00 |
| 3/4 | \$30.00 |
| 1 | \$30.00 |
| 1 1/2 | \$100.00 |
| 2 | \$200.00 |
| 3 | \$300.00 |
| 4 | \$400.00 |
| 6 | \$1,000.00 |
| 8 | \$1,000.00 |

160

D. Any water meter connected to the City water system that is used solely for the purpose of supplying a fire suppression system, regardless of the meter size, shall not be charged the Infrastructure Reinvestment Program service charge.

BE IT FURTHER ENACTED AND ORDAINED that this Ordinance shall take effect on July 1, 2026.

NOW THEREFORE, it is determined, decided, and ordained by the City Council that the foregoing amendments to the City Code are hereby approved.

ADOPTED by the City Council of Havre de Grace, Maryland this ___ day of ____, 2026.

SIGNED by the Mayor and attested by the Director of Administration this ___ day of ____, 2026.

| | |
|---|--|
| ATTEST: _____ Christopher Ricci Director of Administration | MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL OF HAVRE DE GRACE _____ William T. Martin Mayor |
|---|--|

Introduced/First Reading: 5/4/2026
 Public Hearing:
 Second Reading/Adopted:
 Effective Date: