

ORDINANCE NO. 935 N.S.

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF EL PASO DE ROBLES  
AMENDING SECTIONS 14.04.020 AND 14.16.020 OF THE CITY OF EL PASO DE ROBLES MUNICIPAL  
CODE TO ADJUST WATER USER FEES

WHEREAS, the City Council has approved participation in the Nacimiento Water Project to help assure a high quality and continuous supply of water to its citizens; and

WHEREAS, as the Nacimiento Water Project including the City's Water Treatment Facility will, based upon current construction costs, result in a new reoccurring annual cost of \$7.1 million; and

WHEREAS, the City Council proposes to collect said annual cost from a combination of user and impact fees; and

WHEREAS, it has been determined that it is necessary to raise fixed rate water user fees from \$36.00 per month to \$60 per month; and

WHEREAS, in order to mitigate the impact upon the City's water customers, the City Council desires to raise monthly rates by \$12.00 October 1, 2007 and every subsequent July 1<sup>st</sup> until the total rate reaches \$60 per month.

NOW, THEREFORE, THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF EL PASO DE ROBLES DOES ORDAIN AS FOLLOWS:

SECTION 1. Subdivision C of Section 14.04.020 of the Paso Robles Municipal Code is hereby amended to read as follows:

"C. FEES—WATER USAGE RATES. The monthly rates to be charged and collected by the water department for all water consumption including private fire lines, bulk water delivery, or fire hydrant usage from every person, school, firm, or corporation shall be charged at rates established by ordinance of the City Council. Other than as expressly set forth herein, such water usage rates may only be established or amended by a two-thirds vote of the city council in favor of such establishment or amendment of water usage rates.

Effective October 1, 2007, the base water usage fee in place at the time shall be increased by \$12.00 per customer per month and shall be further adjusted every July 1<sup>st</sup> thereafter through July 1, 2010 by an additional \$12.00 per customer per month.

Unless otherwise specifically adjusted by subsequent action of the City Council or by the annual inflationary adjustment provided for below, the variable consumption rate shall remain unchanged at \$1.28 per 100 cubic feet.

The base water usage fee and variable consumption rate established in this section shall be modified annually by the increase in the Consumer Price Index for the San Francisco-Oakland-San Jose Region as reported by the Bureau of Labor Statistics for the year ending April of each year and shall be applied to all billing statements calculated, generated and distributed beginning July 1<sup>st</sup> of each fiscal year.

The water usage fees shall further be reviewed no less than bi-annually in conjunction with the update of the City's budget to ensure that the sewer and water connection fees then in existence do not exceed the costs of providing water service within the City."

SECTION 2. Severability

If any action, subsection, sentence, clause or phrase of this ordinance is, for any reason, held by a court of competent jurisdiction to be invalid or unconstitutional, such decision shall not affect the validity of the remaining portions of this ordinance.

Introduced at a regular meeting of the City Council held on July 17, 2007 for first reading by the City Council of the City of El Paso de Robles, and adopted on the 7th day of August, 2007 by the following vote:

AYES: Hamon, Nemeth, Picanco, Strong, and Mecham

NOES:

ABSTAIN:

ABSENT:

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Frank R. Mecham, Mayor

ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Deborah Robinson, Deputy City Clerk