

ORDINANCE NO 224

AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING RATES FOR WATER SERVICE PROVIDED BY THE GARFIELD RURAL WATER SYSTEM AND THE GARFIELD RURAL WATER SYSTEM SUGAR CREEK EXTENSION AND REPEALING PRIOR RATES FOR SUCH SERVICES

WHEREAS, the City of Garfield, Arkansas (the "City") owns and operates the Garfield Rural Water System and the Garfield Rural Water System Sugar Creek extension ("Garfield Public Waterworks District"); and

WHEREAS the City must recover through rates charged to the customers of the Garfield Public Waterworks District, the costs associated with the operation and maintenance of the Garfield Public Waterworks District, together with the costs of certain betterments and improvements to the system which are necessary to make the systems adequate to serve the needs of the customers; and

WHEREAS, in accordance with Arkansas Code 14-234-801 and Act 605 of 2021, the City conducted a Water Rate Study in March 2025. The Rate Study applied an analysis of the financial sustainability measures consisting of calculations of operating ratio, debt service ratio, operating reserve, and affordability rate.

WHEREAS, existing water rates and charges established by Ordinance 215, adopted and approved December 10th, 2024, are not sufficient to meet the rate recommendations contained in the March 2025 Rate Study; and

WHEREAS it is necessary that Ordinance 215 be repealed to increase rates charged for the services of the Garfield Public Waterworks District; and

WHEREAS, the Garfield City Council, after a necessary and complete review, proposes to increase water rates. Effective upon passage of this ordinance, to insure we continue safe, efficient, and economical operations of the Garfield Public Waterworks District; and

NOW, THEREFORE, be it ordained by the City Council of the Garfield, AR.

Section 1: All previously adopted resolutions and ordinances are now permanently incorporated into the Garfield Public Waterworks District rate structure, and all other prior Ordinances and or Resolutions, in conflict with this Ordinance, are hereby repealed

Section 2: Monthly Water Rates: That the following monthly base charges and volumetric rates are as follows.

MONTHLY WATER RATES

RATE CODE 1: MONTHLY RESIDENTIAL RATES FOR THE GARFIELD RURAL WATER SYSTEM, INSIDE CITY LIMITS

The minimum monthly base charge of \$21.92 includes the first 1,000 gallons used. The volumetric rate of \$18.22 is charged per 1,000 gallons after first 1,000 gallons. Customers will be billed for inside State, County, and City sales tax, trash service, assessments, and fees.

RATE CODE 3: MONTHLY RESIDENTIAL RATES FOR THE GARFIELD RURAL WATER SYSTEM, OUTSIDE THE CITY LIMITS

The minimum monthly base charge of \$24.01 includes the first 1,000 gallons used. The volumetric rate of \$19.86 is charged per 1,000 gallons after first 1,000 gallons. Customers will be billed for State & County sales tax, trash service, assessments, and fees.

RATE 4: MONTHLY COMMERCIAL RATES FOR THE GARFIELD RURAL WATER SYSTEM, INSIDE CITY LIMITS

The minimum monthly base charge of \$21.92 includes the first 1,000 gallons used. The volumetric rate of \$18.22 is charged per 1,000 gallons after first 1,000 gallons. Customers will be billed for State, County, and inside City sales tax, trash service, assessments, and fees.

RATE 6: MONTHLY COMMERCIAL RATES FOR THE GARFIELD RURAL WATER SYSTEM, OUTSIDE CITY LIMITS

The minimum monthly base charge of \$24.01 includes the first 1,000 gallons used. The volumetric rate of \$19.86 is charged per 1,000 gallons after first 1,000 gallons. Customers will be billed for State and County tax, trash service, assessments, and fees.

RATE 7: MONTHLY COMMERCIAL RATES FOR THE GARFIELD RURAL WATER SYSTEM, HIGH FLOW (PRNMP)

The minimum monthly base charge of \$24.01 includes the first 1,000 gallons used. The volumetric rate of \$19.86 is charged per 1,000 gallons after first 1,000 gallons. Customers will be billed for State, County, and outside City sales tax, assessments, and fees.

RATE 16. BULK WATER RATES

The minimum monthly base charge \$29.73, plus a volumetric rate of; \$19.70, per 1,000 gallons. Customers will be billed for State, County, and (if appropriate) inside City sales tax, assessments, and fees.

RATE 17: MONTHLY TRASH ONLY

The charge for trash only service is determined by the 1. Size of container provided, 2. frequency of pick-up, 3. plus a service/process fee of \$3.00.

Section 3: Meters Required

There shall be no free water furnished by the Garfield Public Waterworks District. All buildings and consumers using and receiving water must be equipped with an adequate water meter furnished by the Garfield Public Waterworks District. Additionally, all customers must install/provide a shut-off valve and dual check valve on their side of the water meter. Bulk water will be metered with a Fire Hydrant meter.

Section 4: Contingency Clause

The City reserves the right to increase rates should the wholesaler raise their rates in the future.

Section 5: Severability

If any section or provision of this Ordinance shall be held to be unconstitutional or invalid, such holding shall not render the remaining sections or provisions of this Ordinance unconstitutional or affect the validity of the same.

Section 6: Emergency Clause

It is determined that the providing of a safe and sufficient supply of treated water is essential to the wellbeing of the City and its inhabitants. That an emergency is declared to exist, in that the current water rates do not comply with Arkansas Code 14-234-801 and Act 605 of 2021, and the Water Rate Study conducted in March 2025. Therefore, due to this emergency and as this Ordinance is necessary to preserve the health, safety, and welfare of the City and its inhabitants this ordinance shall be in full force and effect as of January 1, 2026.

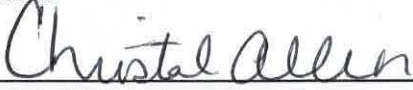
PASSED AND APPROVED THIS 9TH DAY OF DECEMBER 2025

APPROVED:



Gary Blackburn, Mayor

Attest:



Christal Allen, Recorder-Treasurer