

**TOWNSHIP OF BLAIRSTOWN  
COUNTY OF WARREN  
STATE OF NEW JERSEY**

**ORDINANCE NO. 2019-13**

**AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND CHAPTER 190 OF THE CODE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF  
BLAIRSTOWN ENTITLED "WATER"**

**WHEREAS**, the Township Code contains a section regarding the Township's provision of water, regulation of water and setting forth certain fees associated with water provision; and

**WHEREAS**, the Township Committee has reviewed the matter and determined that it is necessary to amend the Code to set forth necessary fees associated with water provision; and

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT ORDAINED**, by the Township Committee of the Township of Blairstown, Warren County, New Jersey, that Chapter 190 entitled "Water", Section 190-4 entitled "Water Charges and Payment" of the Code of the Township of Blairstown be an is hereby amended as follows:

**SECTION 1.** Chapter 190 "Water", Section 190-4 shall be amended to read as follows:

§ 190-4 Water charges and payment.

A. All resident or nonresident users purchasing water from Blairstown Township shall have the amount of water received from said Township measured by meter. The amount to be paid to the Township by all said users, except for users qualifying for a discount pursuant to Subsection B below, shall be:

(1) For single unit structures: \$75 per quarter for the first 8,000 gallons or any portion thereof received during said quarter and an additional amount (i.e., payment) of \$6 for each additional 1,000 gallons or any part thereof received in excess of the initial 8,000 gallons.

(2) For multi-unit structures, the record owner of the premises shall be deemed to be the user and shall pay \$75 per unit per quarter and an additional amount (i.e., payment) of \$6 for each 1,000 gallons or any part thereof received in excess of the sum of the number of units located within the structure multiplied by 8,000 gallons.

B. The amount to be paid to the Township by senior citizens, surviving spouses of senior citizens and/or disabled persons, as defined in this chapter, shall, after having made application and demonstrated his or her eligibility for the herein provided discount by providing a copy of said claimant's prior year's federal income tax return or other acceptable proof, shall pay to the Township \$50 per quarter for the first 8,000 gallons or any portion thereof received during said quarter and an additional amount (i.e., payment) of \$6 for each additional 1,000 gallons or any part thereof received in excess of the initial 8,000 gallons; provided, however, that the discount shall only apply to the residence of the person receiving the discount.

C. Any residential or nonresidential user requiring a new hookup to the Township water distribution system for a property or premises not previously provided with water shall pay a hookup fee of \$1,500 per dwelling unit with respect to a residential use or \$1,500 for each separate nonresidential use being served by said hookup.

D. Turn-ons and shutoffs. Except in the case of the initial installation of water service and meter, no new customer shall be served with water unless an application, on a form to be furnished by the Township Department of Public Works, shall have been completed by the consumer and filed with the Township Department of Public Works. Such application shall be accompanied by payment of a turn-on fee, as set forth in Subsection F below. An application signed by a tenant shall also be signed by the owner. Consumers changing their place of residence within the Township shall also be required to execute the application and file the same with the Department of Public Works, but without payment of the fee. Water may be shut off by the Department of Public Works in receipt of a written request by a consumer. A shutoff and turn-on charge, as set forth in Subsection F below, shall be made for each turn off and each restoration of water service. If a house is vacant, no deduction from the minimum charge as set forth in Subsection F(2) below, shall be made as long as the curb stop shall remain open. Where a curb stop is closed at the request of the owner or occupant, there shall be a standby charge, as set forth in Subsection F(2) below.

E. Swimming pools. Before any tank or swimming pool having a capacity in excess of 2,500 gallons is filled or refilled with water drawn from the Township system, notice of filling or refilling such tank or swimming pool shall first be furnished to the Department of Public Works. The Township Department of Public Works shall consider the demand on the system and may, if necessary, limit the time of day, the rate of flow and number of hours when such withdrawals will be permitted, The Township shall not be liable to any consumer for any damage or loss resulting from the denial or limitation of service hereunder.

F. Water Rates and Service Fees

(1) Water Rates

- (a) Metered service shall be at the rate set forth in Subsection A above.
- (b) For all residential customers with unmetered water service, said service shall be charged quarterly at a rate of \$85 per quarter.
- (c) Discounted rates shall be available as set forth in Subsection B above. Additionally, discounted rates shall not be available for rental units owned by the applicant.

(2) Service Fees

- (a) Temporary service: \$75 per application
- (b) Resetting, repairing or replacing curb box: minimum of \$150 or time and materials cost, whichever is greater (including all labor and materials)
- (c) Discontinuation and/or restoration of service:
  - (i) \$20 per shutoff
  - (ii) \$20 per reconnect
  - (iii) Standby fee: \$15 per quarter
- (d) Meter testing: \$50
- (e) Fire protection sprinkler system: \$300 per year

- (f) Installation of new water meter for a new service: \$100 plus cost of meter
- (g) Replacement of water meter due to customer fault or negligence: \$200 plus cost of meter
- (h) Transfer of name on account: \$10 (paid by party requesting transfer)
- (i) Conversion from summer usage to year-round usage: \$150

G. If during any quarter a meter is found to be nonfunctional, the user shall pay a charge equal to the greater of \$75 per unit previously served by the meter, or the average of the last three quarterly charges.

H. All water charge payments shall be due and payable within 15 days of the due date printed on the water charge bill. A delinquency charge of 1 1/2% per month shall be assessed on any water charges not paid within 15 days of the due date.

I. If any water bill or any other charge imposed under this chapter is not paid within 60 days from the billing date, the Township shall notify the owner of the premises (as appears from the tax duplicate) and the person to whom such bill was rendered or charge made, if different from the owner, of such arrearage. If such bill or charge is not paid within 25 days of the date of such notice, the water service shall be shut off. No service shutoff for nonpayment shall be reinstated or reconnected until all water charge arrearages are paid in full and a reconnection fee in the amount of \$100 has been paid.

**SECTION 2.** All ordinances or parts of ordinances of the Township of Blirstown inconsistent herewith are repealed to the extent of such inconsistency.

**SECTION 3.** If any section, subsection, clause or phrase of this Ordinance is for any reason held to be unconstitutional or invalid by any court or competent jurisdiction, such decision shall not affect the remaining portion of this Ordinance.

**SECTION 4.** This law shall take effect immediately upon final passage, approval and publication as required by law.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN Ordinance 2019-13, an ordinance to amend Chapter 190 of the Code of the Township of Blirstown Entitled "Water", was introduced at a public meeting of the Township Committee, in the County of Warren and State of New Jersey, held on July 10, 2019. The ordinance was tabled with the public hearing being rescheduled for Wednesday, September 11, 2019 at the Twp. Municipal Building, 106 Route 94, Blirstown, NJ 07825. The ordinance addresses matters having to do with the water utility in Blirstown, New Jersey. Copies of the Ordinance are available for public inspection on the Twp. Bulletin Board, the Twp. website and copies can be requested free of charge in the Clerk's department.

Everett Falt, Township Clerk