

ORDINANCE NO. 2024-10

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF MERCEDES, TEXAS (CITY) ADDING TO ORDINANCE NO. 2022-08; ADOPTING AN ADDITIONAL UTILITY BASE RATE FOR WATER AND SEWER; INCLUDING AN ADDITIONAL MINIMUM CHARGE EACH YEAR FROM EFFECTIVE DATE THROUGH OCTOBER 2026; SAID RATE INCREASE TO GO INTO EFFECT AND FOR EACH SUBSEQUENT YEAR THEREAFTER THROUGH OCTOBER 2026 UNLESS THE CITY TAKES ACTION TO REVISE THIS ORDINANCE; AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO ORDER THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE ADDITIONAL BASE RATE TO THE RATE SCHEDULE WITHIN THE CITY'S SERVICE AREA; DECLARING AN EMERGENCY ORDINANCE AS PER CITY CHARTER SECTION 2.13; DECLARING A PUBLIC PURPOSE; PROVIDING A REPEALER; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; AND SETTING AN EFFECTIVE DATE

WHEREAS, the City of Mercedes wishes to amend its utility rate schedule as approved and implemented by Ordinance No. 2022-08 and Ordinance 2023-03; and

WHEREAS, the governing body of the City has determined the rates for providing municipal utility services requires adjustment in order to reflect its actual costs and to assure the City's continued financial ability to provide these services; and

WHEREAS, the water and wastewater systems continue to grow at increased levels each year the expansion, rehabilitation and improvement needs of existing infrastructure is critical; and

WHEREAS, funding the water and wastewater system's capital expansion and improvement plans will require the issuance of revenue and other bonds, the repayment of which will come primarily from the revenues generated by the respective system's user fees and charges; now

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF MERCEDES, TEXAS THAT:

SECTION 1: AUTHORIZATION The utility base rate shall increase up to \$8.50 per account in addition to the utility rate schedule as per ordinance 2022-08. The Mayor is authorized to order the implementation of the added rate schedule within the City of Mercedes service area.

SECTION 2: INCORPORATION OF RECITALS The City Commission finds the recitals contained in the preamble to this ordinance are estimates and may be subject to change based on an updated rate schedule.

SECTION 3: REPEALER All ordinances or parts of ordinances in conflict herewith are hereby repealed to the extent of such conflict.

SECTION 4: SEVERABILITY If any section, subsection, phrase, sentence, clause or phrase of this Ordinance is for any reason held to be unconstitutional or illegal, such decision shall not affect the validity of the remaining sections of this Ordinance. The City Commission hereby declares that it would have passed this Ordinance, and each section, subsection, clauses, or phrases be declared void; and that in lieu of each clause or provision of this Ordinance that is invalid, illegal, or unenforceable there be added by the Mayor as necessary with the approval of the City Attorney


as to form, and as a part of the Ordinance a clause or provision as similar in terms to such invalid, illegal or unenforceable clause or provision as may be possible, legal, valid and enforceable.

SECTION 5: EFFECTIVE DATE This Ordinance shall become and be effective in accordance with the City Charter of the City of Mercedes, Texas and the laws of the State of Texas. The utility base rate change shall become effective October 1, 2024.

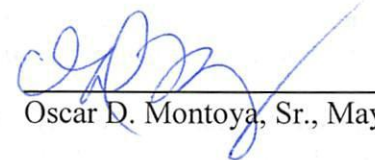
PASSED, APPROVED, AND ADOPTED ON FIRST READING THIS THE 29TH DAY OF AUGUST, 2024.

PASSED, APPROVED, AND ADOPTED ON SECOND READING THIS THE 29TH DAY OF AUGUST, 2024.

ATTEST:



Joselynn Castillo, City Secretary



Oscar D. Montoya, Sr., Mayor

APPROVED:



Martie Garcia-Vela, City Attorney