



AGENDA INFORMATION TIFFIN CITY COUNCIL COMMUNICATION

DATE: July 1, 2025

AGENDA ITEM: Ordinance 2025-520 – Water Rate Increase 2025

ACTION: Motion to Pass and Adopt

Background

This ordinance was introduced and approved on first reading on **June 3, 2025**, and passed its second reading on **June 17, 2025**. The proposed amendment adjusts both the base rate and the flow (usage) rate for municipal water service.

Rate adjustments were recommended following an internal review of current water revenues, operating expenses, and capital needs associated with Tiffin’s water infrastructure, maintenance, and long-term service delivery goals.

Water Rate Schedule

Effective July 1, 2025:

- **Base Rate:** \$15.00/month (up from \$7.00)
- **Flow Rate:** \$5.75 per 1,000 gallons

Effective July 1, 2026:

- **Base Rate:** \$15.00/month
- **Flow Rate:** \$7.85 per 1,000 gallons

Effective July 1, 2027:

- **Base Rate:** \$15.00/month
- **Flow Rate:** \$10.15 per 1,000 gallons

Justification for the Rate Increase

- **Maintain System Sustainability:** Ensures the City can meet the rising costs of water treatment, distribution, and maintenance.
- **Support Future Growth:** Helps prepare for system expansions required by Tiffin’s continued residential and commercial development.
- **Align With Regional Trends:** Adjustments bring Tiffin’s rates closer to those of similarly sized and neighboring communities.
- **Avoid Reactive Hikes:** This phased model prevents sharp, sudden increases by forecasting and spreading out revenue needs.

Public Outreach & Transparency

- Staff shared information about the proposed increase via City Council meetings and utility bill inserts.
- No formal objections have been filed.
- Staff remains available to respond to individual resident inquiries about billing impact.

MAYOR/COUNCIL ACTION: Pass and Adopt

ATTACHMENTS: Ordinance

PREPARED BY: Ashley Platz, Asst. City Administrator

CITY OF TIFFIN ORDINANCE NO. 2025-520

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE MUNICIPAL CODE OF TIFFIN, IOWA, SECTION 92.02 OF CHAPTER 92, RATES FOR SERVICE

BE IT ENACTED by the City Council of the City of Tiffin, Iowa:

Section I. Purpose: The purpose of this ordinance is to amend Section 92.02 of Chapter 92 of the Municipal Code of Tiffin, Iowa, to change the rate structure of water charges – Rates for Service.

Section II. Amendment. Section 92.02 of Chapter 92 is hereby amended as follows:

CHAPTER 92 WATER RATES

92.02 RATES FOR SERVICE. Water service shall be furnished at the following rates:

(Code of Iowa, Sec. 384.84)

1. Monthly Rates Within the City Limits – **Effective July 1, 2025**
 - a. Base Rate - ~~\$7.00~~ **\$15.00** per month
 - b. Flow Rate - ~~\$5.50~~ – **\$5.75 per 1000 gallons**, equal to ~~\$0.0055~~ **\$0.00575** per gallon
2. Monthly Rates Within the City Limits – **Effective July 1, 2026**
 - a. Base Rate - **\$15.00** per month
 - b. Flow Rate - **\$7.85** per 1000 gallons, equal to **\$0.00785** per gallon
3. Monthly Rates Within the City Limits – **Effective July 1, 2027**
 - a. Base Rate - **\$15.00** per month
 - b. Flow Rate - **\$10.15** per 1000 gallons, equal to **\$0.01015** per gallon

Section III. Repealer. All ordinances or parts of ordinances in conflict with the provisions of this Ordinance are hereby repealed.

Section IV. Severability Clause. If any section, provision or part of this ordinance shall be adjudged invalid or unconstitutional, such adjudication shall not affect the validity of the ordinance as a whole or any section, provision or part thereof not adjudged invalid or unconstitutional.

Section V. When Effective. This ordinance shall be in effect after its final passage, approval, and posting as provided by law.

On the 3rd day of June, 2025, at a regular meeting of the Tiffin City Council, Tiffin, Iowa, Councilperson Olney introduced Ordinance No. 2025-520, and moved that it be given its first reading. The motion was seconded by Councilperson Havens.

Ayes: Havens, Orris, Olney, Schnedler, Limkemann.

Nays: None.

Five members of the Council being present and having voted "Aye", Mayor Tim Kasperek declared the motion carried, and Ordinance No. 2025-520, was read the first time, discussed, and placed on record.

On the 17th day of June 2025, at a regular meeting of the Tiffin City Council, Tiffin, Iowa, Councilperson Olney introduced Ordinance No. 2025-520, and moved that it be given its second reading. The motion was seconded by Councilperson Havens.

Ayes: Schnedler, Limkemann, Havens, Orris, Olney.

Nays: None.

Five members of the Council being present and having voted "Aye", Mayor Tim Kasperek declared the motion carried, and Ordinance No. 2025-520, was read the second time and discussed and placed on record.

On the 1st day of July 2025, at a regular meeting of the Tiffin City Council, Tiffin, Iowa, Councilperson _____ introduced Ordinance No. 2025-520, and moved that it be given its third and last reading. The motion was seconded by Councilperson _____.

Ayes:

Nays:

_____ members of the Council being present and having voted "Aye", Mayor Tim Kasperek declared the motion carried, and the ordinance was passed and adopted.

Whereupon the Mayor declared that Ordinance No. 2025-520 be adopted and signified his approval of same by fixing his signature thereto. Passed by the Council on the 1st day of July 2025 and approved by the Mayor on the 2nd day of July 2025.

CITY OF TIFFIN, IOWA:

By: _____
Tim Kasperek, Mayor

ATTEST:

Abigail Hora, City Clerk

I, Abigail Hora, City Clerk of the City of Tiffin, Iowa, state that an ordinance entitled AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE MUNICIPAL CODE OF TIFFIN, IOWA, SECTION 92.02 OF CHAPTER 92, RATES FOR SERVICE and known as No. 2025-520 was duly passed by the Council on the _____th day of _____ 2025, and signed by the Mayor on the _____th day of _____ 2025, and published on the _____th day of _____ 2025, by posting copies thereof in three public places within the limits of the City of Tiffin, Iowa. That I posted copies of Ordinance No. 2025-520 in the following places:

The Depot, Tiffin, Iowa
Casey's, Tiffin, Iowa
Solon State Bank, Tiffin, Iowa

Abigail Hora, City Clerk