



Town of Simmesport
Honorable, Reverend Leslie Draper, III - Mayor
372 Mission Drive
Simmesport, LA 71369

Rev. Leslie Draper, III
Mayor

Glenn Gautreaux
Alderman – Dist. 1

Tiesha Kennedy
Alderman – Dist. 2

Patrick Wright
Alderman – Dist. 3

Sherman Bell
Alderman – Dist. 4

Romaro Turner
Alderman – At Large

Jalesia Batiste
Town Clerk

Daniel Firmin
Chief of Police

Kirk P. LaCour, Esq.
Magistrate / Town Atty.

ORDINANCE NUMBER: 03-2024-01

AN ORDINANCE TO SET WATER RATES.

This Ordinance was offered for adoption by Alderman Gautreaux and seconded by Alderman Wright who moved for its adoption:

WHEREAS, The Town of Simmesport has commissioned a Water Rate Study to be conducted by the Louisiana Rural Water Association;

WHEREAS, The Louisiana Rural Water Association Water Rate Study provided a recommendation that the Town of Simmesport increase the rates charged for water.

WHEREAS, The Town of Simmesport has been ordered into Fiscal Administration in accordance with La. 39:1351, *et. seq.* by the 12th Judicial District Court for Avoyelles Parish on or about January 12, 2024;

WHEREAS, the 12th Judicial District Court has appointed Mr. Joel Robideaux as the Fiscal Administrator for the Town of Simmesport;

WHEREAS, the Fiscal Administrator, Mr. Joel Robideaux, has determined that the new water rates proposed by the Louisiana Rural Water Association Rate Study are reasonable, appropriate, and represent fair market value that customers should be charged for municipal water services;

WHEREAS, the Fiscal Administrator, finding that the current rates charged for municipal water services are not sufficient to meet the fair market value for these services.

WHEREAS, the Fiscal Administrator does now recommend to the Town Council for the Town of Simmesport that an ordinance be presented, heard, and ultimately passed increasing the rates charged for municipal water services by the Town of Simmesport as proposed herein.

WHEREAS, this Ordinance was introduced by a Resolution at a regular meeting of the Town Council for the Town of Simmesport on March 11, 2024;

WHEREAS, this Ordinance was published in the Official Journal of the Town of Simmesport in accordance with Louisiana Law¹;

WHEREAS, the Town Council, by Resolution at a regular meeting of the Town Council for the Town of Simmesport on March 11, 2024, set this matter for public hearing on April 15, 2024;

WHEREAS, a public meeting, properly announced, was called to order and had on April 15, 2024;

¹ La. R.S. 33:406



WHEREAS, Amendment # 1 to the proposed ordinance was moved by Alderwoman Kennedy and seconded by Alderman Gautreaux and passed by unanimous vote of the members of the Town Council for the Town of Simmesport present removing the master meter at the Scallan Apartments (217 North Live Oak Street) and discontinue the flat rate charged to the owners so that the residents can pay for their own water usage;

WHEREAS, Amendment # 2 to the proposed ordinance was moved by Alderman Gautreaux and seconded by Alderman Wright and passed by unanimous vote of the members of the Town Council for the Town of Simmesport present stating that Shenandoah Apartments Flat Rate Special Agreement shall remain in effect at a total monthly rate of One Thousand Three Hundred Fifty-Seven and 55/100 Dollars (\$1,357.55), which shall include service to the apartment complex and the laundry complex until further amended by the Town of Simmesport;

WHEREAS, Amendment # 3 to the proposed ordinance was moved by Alderwoman Kennedy and seconded by Alderman Wright and passed by unanimous vote of the members of the Town Council for the Town of Simmesport present terminating the “Flat Rate” Special Agreement for Simmesport Square and declaring that the Simmesport Square shall be billed for actual at the Commercial Rates established by the Town of Simmesport for each water meter servicing the property of the Simmesport Square;

WHEREAS, Amendment # 4 to the proposed ordinance was moved by Alderwoman Kennedy and seconded by Alderman Gautreaux and passed by unanimous vote of the members of the Town Council for the Town of Simmesport present terminating the “Flat Rate” Special Agreement for Simmesport Housing Authority and declaring that the Simmesport Housing Authority shall be billed for actual usage at the Commercial Rates established by the Town of Simmesport for each water meter servicing the property of the Simmesport Housing Authority;

WHEREAS, Amendment # 5 to the proposed ordinance was moved by Alderwoman Kennedy and seconded by Alderman Gautreaux and passed by unanimous vote of the members of the Town Council for the Town of Simmesport present terminating the “Flat Rate” Special Agreement for Jeansonne Trailer Park and declaring that the Jeansonne Trailer Park shall be billed for actual usage at the Commercial Rates established by the Town of Simmesport for each water meter servicing the property of the Jeansonne Trailer Park; and

WHEREAS, Amendment # 6 to the proposed ordinance was moved Alderwoman Kennedy and seconded by Alderman Gautreaux and passed by unanimous vote of the members of the Town Council for the Town of Simmesport present suggesting that the Commercial Rate for water charged by the Town of Simmesport shall be amended to \$20.00 for the first 2,000 gallons of water used then \$4.50 per each 1,000 gallons of water thereafter used.

NOW, THEREFORE BE ORDAINED, that the Town Council for the Town of Simmesport on recommendation and suggestion of the Fiscal Administrator, Mr. Joel Robideaux, based on the Water Rate Study commissioned and performed by the Louisiana Rural Water Association does adopt, enact, and ordain to increase the rates charged by the Town of Simmesport for municipal water services to the rates set forth herein until further action by this board:

Residential	Rates
Monthly Minimum (including first 2,000 gallons)	\$ 19.50
Charge per 1,000 gallons	\$ 3.50
Commercial	Rates
Monthly Minimum (including first 2,000 gallons)	\$ 20.00
Charge per 1,000 gallons	\$ 4.50
Special Accounts	Rates
<i>Shenandoah Apartments</i>	
Commercial Rates Not Applicable - Flat Rate	\$ 1,357.55




A quorum of the board of aldermen of the town of Simmesport met in regular session on the 15th day of April, 2024. The aforesaid Ordinance, as amended, having been read in full and submitted to a vote, the rollcall vote thereon was as follows.

Council Member	Yea	Nea	Abstain	Absent
Glenn Gautreaux	<u>X</u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
Tiesha Kennedy	<u>X</u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
Patrick Wright	<u>X</u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
Sherman Bell	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u>X</u>
Romaro Turner	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u>X</u>


WHEREUPON, the ordinance was declared adopted on the 15th day of April, 2024.

ATTEST:



Honorable Leslie Draper, MI
Mayor

ATTEST:



Honorable Jalesia Batiste
Town Clerk