



# St. James Parish Council

**Ryan Louque**  
Chairman

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**Vondra Etienne-Steib**  
Vice-Chairwoman

**Linda Hubbell**  
Secretary

## **PUBLIC NOTICE NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING**

**NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN** that the following entitled ordinance was introduced at a regular meeting of the Parish Council of the Parish of St. James, State of Louisiana, on July 17, 2024, and laid over for publication of notice:

### **PROPOSED ORDINANCE 24-18 ST. JAMES PARISH COUNCIL**

#### **AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 114 ARTICLE II, GAS, OF THE ST. JAMES PARISH CODE OF ORDINANCES TO CLEARLY DEFINE AND CATEGORIZE NATURAL GAS TAPPING FEES, INSTALLATION CHARGES, AND ADMINISTRATIVE FEES CHARGED BY THE ST. JAMES PARISH UTILITIES DIVISION TO MEET THE COSTS ASSOCIATED WITH THE DISTRIBUTION OF NATURAL GAS**

WHEREAS, St. James Parish Government operates and maintains a natural gas and water utility system for residential, commercial, and industrial consumers within St. James Parish, Louisiana,

WHEREAS, the utilities division of St. James Parish Government is considered an enterprise resource organization and taxes or millages do not exist to support its funding; and,

WHEREAS, the costs of operating and maintaining the St. James Parish gas and water utility system is funded solely by fees collected for products and services provided to consumers; and,

WHEREAS, the costs of installing new, or upgrading existing natural gas services continue to increase due to inflation, increased maintenance costs, and system upgrades;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED, BY THE ST. JAMES PARISH COUNCIL, that Chapter 114, Article II, Natural Gas, Section 114-26, Service Connections, Deposits, and Penalties; Paragraph (c) and (d) of the St. James Parish Code of Ordinances shall be deleted in their entirety and replaced with Exhibit A, attached hereto:

EXHIBIT A

- (c) The initial deposit fee charged for natural gas service shall be one-hundred-fifty dollars (\$150.00).
- (d) The tapping and installation fee charged for all new natural gas services shall be one-thousand-five-hundred dollars (\$1,500) for residential service up to two-hundred-seventy-five cubic feet per hour (275 CF/HR).
- (e) The charge for services requiring greater than two-hundred-seventy-five cubic feet per hour (275 CF/HR) shall be one-thousand-five-hundred dollars (\$1,500) plus the actual material, equipment, and labor charges for larger service connections.
- (f) Should the costs of tapping and installation of gas services exceed the fees listed above, the fees will be increased to cover the actual material, equipment, and labor costs associated with the gas service connection.
- (g) Administrative and clerical charges for utility connections shall be fifty dollars (\$50.00).
- (h) Administrative and clerical reconnection fees for services disconnected due to nonpayment shall be twenty-five (\$25.00).
- (i) The fee for the installation and reconnection of removed meters due to nonpayment shall be fifty dollars (\$50.00).
- (j) The fee for nonsufficient funds (NSF checks) shall be thirty dollars (\$30.00).

**NOTICE IS HEREBY, FURTHER, GIVEN** that the Parish Council of said Parish will meet at 6:00 p.m. on Wednesday, August 7, 2024, in the Council Chambers of the Parish Courthouse, 5800 Hwy 44, Convent, and on Wednesday, August 21, 2024 in the Council Chambers of the Parish Courthouse Annex, 2631 Hwy 20, Vacherie, at which time there will be a public hearing on the adoption of the aforesaid ordinance.

s/ Ryan Louque  
Chairman

s/Linda Hubbell  
Secretary

*Note: St. James Parish will provide, upon request, reasonable accommodation to any disabled individual wishing to attend the meeting. Anyone requiring reasonable accommodation is requested to contact 1-800-846-5277 (TDD), 1-800-947-5277 (Voice) or 562-2400 (Handicapped) to discuss the particular accommodation needed.*

Todd Poche	Courtney Long	Ryan Louque	Neal Poche	Anthony Jasmin	Vondra Steib	Donald Nash
District 1	District 2	District 3	District 4	District 5	District 6	District 7