

**CITY OF LAS ANIMAS,  
COLORADO**

**ORDINANCE**

**AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF LAS ANIMAS, COLORADO PERMITTING  
ANNUAL CONSUMER PRICE INDEX (CPI) ADJUSTMENTS TO WATER, SEWER,  
AND SANITATION RATES AND FEES**

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to Sections 31-15-401 and 31-23-301, C.R.S., the City of Las Animas (“the City”) has broad authority to exercise its police powers to promote and protect the health, safety and welfare of the community and its residents; and

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to C.R.S. Section 31-15-103 the City has the authority to create and publish ordinances; and

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to Article XXV of the Colorado Constitution, the City of Las Animas City Council (“City Council”) has the authority to establish and operate municipal utilities serving the Town and pass rates, rules, and regulations governing the operation of those municipal utilities; and; and

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to this authority, the City Council has established water, sewer, and sanitation utilities; and

**WHEREAS**, it is important that the City maintain fiscally healthy utility enterprises; and

**WHEREAS**, the price inputs for utility service are annually effected by changes in inflation, as measured by the consumer price index (“CPI”); and

**WHEREAS**, failure to align utility rates and fees with annual changes in CPI requires larger, more irregular, changes in utility rates which are disruptive to ratepayers; and

**WHEREAS**, the City Council desires to approve this ordinance to permit annual adjustments to water, sewer, and sanitation fees and rates based on CPI.

**NOW THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LAS ANIMAS, COLORADO:**

Section 1. Recitals Incorporated. The recitals set forth above are hereby incorporated by reference and are adopted as findings and determinations of the City Council.

Section 2. A new Chapter 20, Article I, Section 20-2 of the Municipal Code of the City of Las Animas is hereby added to read as to read as follows:

On January 1 of each year, rates and fees for water, sewer, and sanitation shall be

adjusted in accordance with the estimated Consumer Price Index (CPI) as established by the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics for the Denver-Aurora-Lakewood area. Rates shall be rounded to the nearest five-cent increment.

Section 3. Renumbering. Subsequent sections of Chapter 20, Article I, Section 20-2 are renumbered accordingly.

Section 4. Severability. Should any one or more sections or provisions of this Ordinance be judicially determined invalid or unenforceable, such judgment shall not affect, impair or invalidate the remaining provisions of this Ordinance, the intention being that the various sections and provisions are severable.

Section 5. Repeal. All other ordinances or resolutions or parts of ordinances or resolutions in conflict with the provisions of this Ordinance are hereby repealed, provided that such repeal shall not repeal any repealer clauses in such ordinances nor revive any ordinance thereby.

Section 6. Effective Date. This Ordinance shall become effective thirty (30) days after publication.

Section 7. Codification Amendments. The codifier of the City's Municipal Code, is hereby authorized to make such numerical and formatting changes as may be necessary to incorporate the provisions of Section 2 of this Ordinance within the City Municipal Code.

**INTRODUCED AND PASSED ON FIRST READING THIS 15 DAY OF NOVEMBER , 2023.**

**INTRODUCED, PASSED, ADOPTED AND ORDERED PUBLISHED THIS \_\_\_ DAY OF \_\_\_\_\_, 2023.**

**CITY OF LAS ANIMAS, COLORADO**

\_\_\_\_\_  
By: Mayor

ATTEST:

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Charmaine Tripp, City Clerk