

**ORDINANCE 576**

**AN ORDINANCE AMENDING WATER RATES, SEWER RATES AND SOLID WASTE COLLECTION RATES, ESTABLISHING NEW FEES AND RATES FOR BASE WATER, SEWER AND TRASH COLLECTION OF THE CITY OF PANHANDLE TEXAS; AND AMENDING SECTIONS 2,3, AND 5 OF ORDINANCE 549 AND SECTION 1 OF ORDINANCE 554.**

**WHEREAS,** The current fee for residential, commercial, and industrial water service sold by the City of Panhandle is as follows:

**Residential:**

First 2,000 gallons minimum	\$23.05
Each 1,000 gallons over Minimum	\$ 2.50

**Commercial:**

First 2000 gallons minimum	\$23.05
Each 1,000 gallons over min.	\$2.50

**Industrial:**

First 2000 gallons minimum	\$23.05
Each 1,000 gallons over min.	\$2.50

For water service outside the City limits, the rates are 1 and 1/2 times the above amounts.

**WHEREAS,** the availability of these services shall be in accordance with the Texas Local Government Code §212.012.

**WHEREAS,** Current refuse collection fees for the City of Panhandle are as follows:

a) Fair and reasonable charges to the owner, occupant, tenant, or lessee based on the volume of garbage shall be and are hereby shown in terms of dollars and cents for the different types of premises served for a calendar month as follows:

CATEGORY	CHARGE
I	\$19.50
II	\$32.25
III	\$46.50
IV	\$62.75
V	\$77.50
VI	\$62.75 (minimum)

**WHEREAS**, Current sewer rates for the City of Panhandle are as follows:

Residential Minimum	\$ 8.50
Additional if over the Minimum	\$20.00
Mercantile Minimum	\$ 9.80
Additional if over the Minimum	\$14.00
Service Stations, wash racks, equipment repair, Garages, cafes laundries and schools Minimum	\$9.80
Additional if over the Minimum	\$14.00
Multiple units on single bill	\$19.50

1 ½ times the rates for all sewer service outside the City limits of the City of Panhandle.

**WHEREAS**, the Mayor and the City Council desire to maintain financial responsibility and have determined that in the best interest of the City of Panhandle, a rate increase is necessary to meet current maintenance and operation cost as well as to meet combination tax and revenue certificate of obligation debt services.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED** by the City Council of the City of Panhandle the following rates and fees are adopted and effective beginning with service on October 1, 2014 and will be reflected on utility billings mailed on November 1, 2014;

**I. Water Rates for the City of Panhandle shall be as follows:**

Residential:

First 2,000 gallons minimum	\$25.55
2,001 – 10,000 gallons	\$2.50 per 1,000 gallons
10,001- 15,000 gallons	\$2.53 per 1,000 gallons
15,001 – 25,000 gallons	\$2.55 per 1,000 gallons
25,001 – 50,000 gallons	\$2.60 per 1,000 gallons
Over 50,000 gallons	\$2.70 per 1,000 gallons

Commercial:

First 2000 gallons minimum	\$30.00
2,001 – 10,000 gallons	\$2.50 per 1,000 gallons
10,001- 15,000 gallons	\$2.75 per 1,000 gallons
15,001 – 25,000 gallons	\$2.90 per 1,000 gallons
25,001 – 50,000 gallons	\$3.15 per 1,000 gallons
Over 50,000 gallons	\$3.50 per 1,000 gallons

Industrial:

First 2000 gallons minimum	\$40.00
2,001 – 10,000 gallons	\$2.50 per 1,000 gallons
10,001- 15,000 gallons	\$2.90 per 1,000 gallons
15,001 – 25,000 gallons	\$3.15 per 1,000 gallons
25,001 – 50,000 gallons	\$3.50 per 1,000 gallons
Over 50,000 gallons	\$3.75 per 1,000 gallons

For water service outside the City limits, the rates are 1 and 1/2 times the above amounts.

**II. Refuse Collection Fees for the City of Panhandle shall be as follows:**

- a) Fair and reasonable charges to the owner, occupant, tenant, or lessee based on the volume of garbage shall be and are hereby shown in terms of dollars and cents for the different types of premises served for a calendar month as follows:

CATEGORY	CHARGE
I	\$21.00
II	\$33.75
III	\$48.00
IV	\$64.25
V	\$79.00
VI	\$64.25 (minimum)

Categories of customers shall be determined by the following minimum criteria:

- (1) Category I: Residential, single-family dwellings, duplexes (per unit), apartments (per unit), mobile home parks (per unit space, whether occupied or not, unless on individual water meters).
- (2) Category II: Professional services, churches, and light retail.
- (3) Category III: Retail, service stations, and automobile repair garages.
- (4) Category IV: Food stores, restaurants, and hotels/motels of not more than ten (10) units.
- (5) Category V: Commercial.
- (6) Category VI: Special services, including location of a container at a designated location requested by the customer for the sole use and convenience of the customer, collection at times or frequency other than that designated by the city, or providing a

container of greater capacity than, in the opinion of the designated city official, is necessary for normal accumulation of refuse at that location. The charges for special services shall be calculated in the following manner: \$10.50 per cubic yard of container size, times the number of collections per week, with a minimum charge of \$62.75 per month.

(b) Customers in Category I shall be scheduled to receive collection once weekly. Customers in Categories II-VI shall be scheduled to receive collection twice weekly.

(c) Any customer outside the corporate limits of the City of Panhandle, Texas shall, in addition to the charges established by the appropriate category of service, pay a fifty percent (50%) surcharge for said service.

(d) Premises not specifically enumerated in the above schedule and those listed in the above schedules which are found by the city manager not to be fair and equitable will be classified in a different category to be determined by the city manager.

**III. Sewer rates for the City of Panhandle shall be as follows:**

Residential Minimum	\$ 10.27
Additional if over the Minimum	\$20.00
Mercantile Minimum	\$ 11.57
Additional if over the Minimum	\$20.00
Service Stations, wash racks, equipment repair, Garages, cafes laundries and schools Minimum	\$11.57
Additional if over the Minimum	\$20.00
Multiple units on single bill	\$31.57

1 ½ times the rates for all sewer service outside the City limits of the City of Panhandle.

**IV. Severability**

If any section, subsection, sentence, paragraph, clause or phrase of this Ordinance is, for any reason, held to be unconstitutional or invalid, such holding shall not affect the validity of the remaining portions of this Ordinance. The City Council of the City of Panhandle hereby declares that it would have passed this Ordinance and each section, subsection, sentence, paragraph, clause or phrase hereof irrespective of the fact that any one or more sections, subsections, sentences, paragraphs, clauses or phrases be declared unconstitutional or invalid.

**V. Ordinances Repealed**

This Ordinance repeals sections 2, 3, and 5 of Ordinance 549; and section 1 of Ordinance 554. Any other Ordinances, or parts thereof, in conflict with this Ordinance are expressly repealed.

**PASSED, APPROVED AND ADOPTED** this 11<sup>th</sup> day of September 2014