

**Notice of Public Hearing of the Amherst County Board of Supervisors**

The Amherst County Board of Supervisors will conduct a public hearing during its regular meeting commencing at 7:00 P.M. on Tuesday, November 15, 2022, in the Amherst County Administration Building, 153 Washington Street, Amherst, Virginia 24521. The Amherst County Board of Supervisors will consider adoption of the following ordinance:

Ordinance 2022-12: Amending §§ 15-121, 15-124, 15-127, 15-129, 15-151, and 15-153 of Article IV of Chapter 15 of the Amherst County Code to promote economic development in Amherst County and facilitate operations and administration of Amherst County Service Authority.

Amendments to the Service Authority’s availability fees and County Code text include the following:

**§ Sec. 15-121. – Definitions:** The term “Availability Fee” is replaced with “System Development Fee.” A new definition for System Development Fee shall read: “System Development Fee means a one-time charge paid prior to connection to the water or sewer facilities of the Service Authority based on the meter size to be used by the connection.”

**§ Sec. 15-124. – Tables:** Tables 1 & 2 are replaced with the following new tables:

TABLE 1: WATER SYSTEM DEVELOPMENT CHARGES

	WATER METER SIZE	SYSTEM DEVELOPMENT FEE
a.	5/8 INCH & 3/4 INCH	\$3,000.00
b.	1 INCH	7,500.00
c.	1-1/2 INCH	15,000.00
d.	2 INCH	24,000.00
e.	3 INCH	48,000.00
f.	4 INCH	75,000.00
g.	6 INCH	150,000.00

TABLE 2: SEWER SYSTEM DEVELOPMENT CHARGES

	WATER METER SIZE	SYSTEM DEVELOPMENT FEE
a.	5/8 INCH & 3/4 INCH	\$4,500.00
b.	1 INCH	11,250.00
c.	1-1/2 INCH	22,500.00
d.	2 INCH	36,000.00

e.	3 INCH	72,000.00
f.	4 INCH	112,500.00
g.	6 INCH	225,000.00

§ **Sec. 15-127. – Connection charges** **Subsection (a):** The last sentence shall read: “The establishment of water service through a master meter has no impact and shifts no responsibility as to responsible persons on the requirement that water or sewer system development fees must be paid in accordance with Section 15-129 of this chapter.”

§ **Sec. 15-127. – Connection charges** **Subsection (b):** Shall read: “Water and sewer connection charges are due and payable at the time that sewer and water system development fees are due and payable, provided in the case of existing dwellings at the time of line availability, in cases of demonstrated hardship as determined by the Service Authority Executive Director, the applicant may be permitted to pay the connection charge in twelve (12) bimonthly installments over a twenty-four-month period.”

§ **Sec. 15-129. – Availability fees:** This Section is replaced and shall read:

“**Sec. 15-129. – System development fees.**

(a) Any person or entity applying for connection of any existing premises or any planned premises to the Service Authority public sanitary sewer system and/or public water system shall be charged a water and/or sanitary sewer system development fee(s). Upon application for service, the fee(s) are due and payable. No connection shall be activated unless system development fee(s) are paid in full; provided in the case of dwellings existing at the time of line availability, in cases of demonstrated hardship, as determined by the Service Authority Executive Director, the applicant may be permitted to pay the system development fee(s) balance in twelve (12) bimonthly installments over a twenty-four-month period, or for such longer period as the Executive Director may establish.

The addition of any building, facility, plant, or unit to an existing facility or land served by the Service Authority public water and/or sewer lines shall constitute the creation of separate premises. Water and/or sewer service(s) may be supplied to such separate premises upon the filing of an application and payment of the applicable system development fee(s).

(1) Water system development fee: For residential and nonresidential premises, the water system development fee shall be based on:

- Section 15-124, Table 1

In no instance shall the water availability system development fee be less than \$3,000.00.

(2) Sanitary sewer system development fee: For residential and nonresidential premises, the sewer system development fee shall be based on:

- Section 15-124, Table 2

In no instance shall the sewer availability fee be less than \$4,500.00.

(b) For nonresidential premises already connected to the Service Authority sanitary sewer and/or water system(s), with system development fee(s) for the property having been previously paid, that experience a site expansion, change in site use, or other change resulting in increased sewage discharge or water use, additional system development fee(s) may be assessed, at the discretion of the Service Authority Executive Director. In such cases, system development fee(s) will be

determined in accordance with Section 15-129(a), previously paid system development fees will be deducted, and the result assessed for payment.

- (c) For any residential premises having a utilized private sewage treatment system that is disconnected from the private system and connected to the Service Authority sanitary sewer system, the sanitary sewer system development fee shall be forty (40) percent of the amount specified in this Section per dwelling unit, provided connection to the Service Authority system is made within the first twelve (12) months following availability of the public sanitary sewer line. After the first twelve (12) months following line availability, the fee shall be four thousand five hundred dollars (\$4,500.00) per unit.
- (d) For multiple-unit residential premises connecting to a public sanitary sewer and/or public water line, refer to Section 15-124, Tables 1 and 2, for system development fee(s).

**§ Sec. 15-151. – Construction by property owner; reimbursement:** The last sentence shall read: “Frontfoot fees shall be charged by the Service Authority in addition to any connection, system development fee, or other applicable fee or charge levied by the Service Authority.”

**§ Sec. 15-153. – Cost borne by developer:** The last sentence shall read: “Where oversized lines or pumping stations are required, the developer may be compensated only for the added cost of oversizing, to the extent of ninety (90) percent of the extra cost by the Service Authority from fifty (50) percent of the connection fees or system development fees collected from the development benefiting from the oversizing for a period of ten (10) years from completion of construction of the line.”

Ordinance 2022-12 will take effect upon adoption by the Board of Supervisors.

The preliminary rate schedule and proposed ordinance is available for review from Monday through Friday from 9:00 A.M. to 5:00 P.M. at the Water Office of the Amherst County Service Authority, 113 Phelps Road, Madison Heights, VA 24572, and in the County Administrator’s office, 153 Washington St., Amherst, VA 24521

Accommodations for disabled persons may be made by calling 434-946-9400 at least five (5) days prior to the hearing date.

Robert A. Hopkins, P.E.  
Executive Director

Jeremy S. Bryant  
Interim Amherst County Administrator