

VILLAGE OF HAMERSVILLE, OHIO ORDINANCE NO. 2026-02

AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING A MANDATORY SEWER PROTECTION PLAN AND MONTHLY FEE FOR ALL SEWER CUSTOMERS, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY

WHEREAS, the Village of Hamersville owns and operates a sanitary sewer system for the benefit of its residents and businesses;

WHEREAS, the Village has experienced increased costs associated with sewer pump maintenance, pump outs, and replacements caused by negligence and the introduction of unapproved materials into the sewer system;

WHEREAS, Ohio Revised Code § 735.271 and related provisions authorize a village to manage, maintain, and operate its utility systems and establish rates and charges necessary for their operation;

WHEREAS, the Village Council finds it necessary to establish a Sewer Protection Plan and fee structure to ensure the continued operation, maintenance, and financial stability of the sewer system;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED by the Council of the Village of Hamersville, Ohio:

SECTION 1. SEWER PROTECTION PLAN ESTABLISHED

There is hereby established a Village of Hamersville Sewer Protection Plan to provide limited coverage for sewer pump outs and pump replacements caused by negligence or the introduction of unapproved items into the sewer system.

SECTION 2. MANDATORY MONTHLY FEE

(A) All residential and commercial sewer customers are required to pay a Sewer Protection Fee of Eighteen Dollars (\$18.00) per month.

(B) Said fee shall be billed in conjunction with the regular sewer bill and shall appear as a separate line item on each customer's utility bill.

SECTION 3. COVERAGE PROVIDED

(A) Each sewer account shall be entitled to one (1) pump replacement or two (2) pump outs per calendar year when a sewer pod becomes blocked or disabled due to negligence or unapproved items.

(B) Negligence or unapproved items include, but are not limited to: grease, wipes (including flushable wipes), sanitary products, paper towels, foreign objects, or any material not intended for disposal in a

sanitary sewer system.

SECTION 4. MULTIPLE RESIDENCES ON ONE CROCK

(A) Where multiple residences are connected to a single sewer crock, coverage shall be increased proportionally based on the number of residences served.

(B) Two (2) residences connected to one crock shall receive double the standard coverage, equating to four (4) pump outs per calendar year, two (2) pump replacements, or a combination thereof as determined by the Village.

SECTION 5. ADDITIONAL CHARGES AND LIABILITY

(A) On the third (3rd) pump out within the same calendar year, the account holder shall be billed One Hundred Fifty Dollars (\$150.00) per occurrence, plus the cost of any required equipment repair or replacement.

(B) On the second (2nd) pump replacement within the same calendar year, the account holder shall be billed for the full cost of the pump replacement.

(C) Any pump replacements or major repairs caused by negligence beyond the coverage limits established herein shall be the sole responsibility of the account holder.

SECTION 6. ADMINISTRATION AND AUTHORITY

The Village Administrator, Fiscal Officer, and/or their designees are authorized to administer and enforce the provisions of this Ordinance. The Village reserves the right to amend this Plan and associated fees as necessary.

SECTION 7. SEVERABILITY

If any provision of this Ordinance is determined to be invalid or unenforceable, such determination shall not affect the validity of the remaining provisions.

SECTION 8. EFFECTIVE DATE

This Ordinance shall take effect for the April, 2026 reading of meters, to be billed in May, 2026.

READINGS & ADOPTION

First Reading: February 2, 2026

Second Reading: February 24, 2026

PASSED: March 23, 2026

Mayor: Just Jones

Fiscal Officer: Melissa J. Zahra