



ORDINANCE NO. 2025-03

An Ordinance Amending Water Rates for the Little Swan Lake Sanitary District

WHEREAS, the Board of Trustees of the Little Swan Lake Sanitary District, a public water district, is charged with establishing rates and charges for the use and service of waterworks properties; and

WHEREAS, the Little Swan Lake Sanitary District has identified increased costs associated with the maintenance and upgrading of aging water infrastructure, including but not limited to repairs to water mains and improvements to water storage system; and

WHEREAS, a comprehensive utility rate study conducted by the Little Swan Lake Sanitary District has determined that current water rates are insufficient to meet the financial obligations of the District, including the increased costs of maintenance and infrastructure improvements; servicing debt; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Trustees has determined that an adjustment to water rates is necessary to ensure the long-term financial sustainability of the water system, maintain compliance with state and federal regulations, and provide safe and reliable water services to residents; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Trustees has provided opportunities for public input through a public hearing held on November 12th, 2025 in accordance with Illinois law, and has considered all comments and concerns raised by residents; and

WHEREAS, the proposed rate increase is designed to equitably distribute costs among users while minimizing the financial burden on residents; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED by the Board of Trustees of the Little Swan Lake Sanitary District, Warren County, Illinois, as follows:

Section 1: Findings

The Board of Trustees finds that the recitals set forth above are true and correct and are incorporated herein by reference.

Section 2: Amendment to Water Rates

Effective January 1, 2026, the water rates for the Little Swan Lake Sanitary District shall be amended as follows and replacing Section 8 of "Ordinance 2023-02 An Ordinance to Establish Rules, Rates and Regulations for the Operation of the Little Swan Lake Sanitary District" filed with the Warren County Clerk on February 26th, 2024

1. **Residential In-District Water Usage Rate:** The rate for water usage shall be \$50 per month for unmetered use.
2. **Residential Out of District Water Usage Rate:** The rate for water usage shall be \$70 per month for unmetered use for users outside of the limits of Little Swan Lake Sanitary District, prior to September 9th 2020, for residential, domestic, household use.
3. **Residential Out of District Water Usage Rate:** The rate for water usage shall be \$70 per month for unmetered use for users outside of the limits of Little Swan Lake Sanitary District, after September 9th 2020, for residential, domestic, household use.
4. **For excessive water used,** such as but not limited to, filling of pools, large hot tubs, excessive lawn sprinkling, excessive vehicle washing, leaks, etc. the monthly bill will be increased by a rate of \$12.00 per 1000 gallons used. This will be determined by the user, based on the flow rate of 3-5 gallons per minute for a garden hose or a ½ inch pipe. Payment for excessive water used will be on the honor system in an effort to delay raising of minimum rates as operation and maintenance costs increase.

Section 3: Purpose of Rate Increase

The rate increase and infrastructure fee are necessary to cover:

- Increased costs of maintaining and repairing aging water infrastructure.
- Rising operational costs, including energy, labor, and materials.
- Debt service obligations for planned capital improvement projects.

Section 5: Public Notification

The Little Swan Lake Sanitary District shall notify all customers of the rate increase through email notices using the One-Call system, USPS mail service and posting on the Little Swan Lake website at least 30 days prior to the effective date of the new rates.

Section 6: Severability

If any section, subsection, sentence, clause, or phrase of this Ordinance is for any reason held to be invalid or unconstitutional by a court of competent jurisdiction, such decision shall not affect the validity of the remaining portions of this Ordinance.

Section 7: Effective Date

This Ordinance shall take effect on January 1, 2026, and the new rates shall be reflected on utility bills issued on or after January 1, 2026.

ADOPTED this 12th day of November, 2025, by the Board of Trustees of the Little Swan Lake Sanitary District.

APPROVED:



Mat Douglass, President of the Board of Trustees

ATTEST:



Patrick McKinley, Secretary of the Board of Trustees

