

ORDINANCE NO. 898

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE TROUTDALE MUNICIPAL CODE TITLE 3 REVENUE AND FINANCE AND ESTABLISHING CHAPTER 3.36 POLICE AND FIRE SERVICES FEE.

THE TROUTDALE CITY COUNCIL FINDS AS FOLLOWS:

1. That Police and Fire services safeguard, facilitate, and encourage the health, safety, and welfare of the residents and enterprises of the City of Troutdale.
2. That stable and reliable police and fire services provide a multitude of economic and social benefits to the public, including, but not limited to the protection of life and property, reduction in the incidence of fire and crime; dependable response by law enforcement, reliable fire and emergency medical aid, and promotion of business and industry.
3. That as in the coming fiscal year the costs of police and fire services are estimated to exceed City property tax revenues by more than two million dollars, there exists the necessity to provide a reliable funding mechanism to help fill this funding gap.
4. That a Police and Fire Services Fee is advisable and necessary to provide partial funding to help pay for the benefits of police and fire services, and to provide an acceptable level of service.
5. That it is in the best interest of the residents, businesses, and customers of the City to establish a Police and Fire Services Fee, which will serve a valuable, necessary and authorized public purpose, and that doing so is in the best interest of the City.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TROUTDALE:

Section 1. Title 3 Revenue And Finance of the Troutdale Municipal Code (TMC) shall be amended as set forth in Attachment A adding the new Chapter 3.36 Police and Fire Services Fee.

Section 2. The City Manager, Ray Young, and Finance Director, Erich Mueller, or designee (each an "City Official") are designated to act on behalf of and in the best interest of the City, and without further action by the Council, the City Officials are hereby

authorized, empowered and directed to execute and implement this Ordinance on behalf of the City, and to take any other action as may be advisable, convenient, necessary, or appropriate to give full force and effect to the terms and intent of this Ordinance, and the execution thereof by any such City Official shall be conclusive as to such determination.

Section 3. This Ordinance shall amend Title 3 Revenue And Finance of the TMC, and as part of the text codification process the word “ordinance” may be changed to “code”, “article”, “section”, “chapter” or another word, and the sections of the Ordinance may be renumbered, or re-lettered, and the City Recorder is authorized to apply such edits and to is authorized to correct any cross-references and any typographical errors.

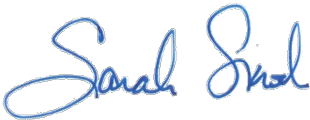
Section 4. The Finance Director is authorized to disburse funds, as necessary to fulfill the intent of this Ordinance, and is further directed to implement all such actions necessary to ensure budgetary compliance.

Section 5. This Ordinance shall be effective June 27, 2025.

YEAS: 6
NAYS: 0
ABSTAINED: 0



David Ripma, Mayor
Date: May 30, 2025



Sarah Skroch, City Recorder
Adopted: May 27, 2025

**Attachment “A” to
Ordinance #898**

Amending the Troutdale Municipal Code, adding

Chapter 3.36 POLICE AND FIRE SERVICES FEE

Sections:

- 3.36.010 Title.
- 3.36.020 Purpose.
- 3.36.030 Establishment of fee.
- 3.36.040 Use of fee.
- 3.36.050 Amount of fee.
- 3.36.060 Calculation of fee
- 3.36.070 Billing and collection.
- 3.36.080 Delinquency.
- 3.36.090 Adjustment and administration of accounts.
- 3.36.100 Administration.
- 3.36.110 Appeals.

3.36.010 Title.

This chapter shall be entitled "Police And Fire Services Fee."

3.36.020 Purpose

The purpose of the Police and Fire Services Fee is to provide a partial funding mechanism to pay for the benefits conferred on residents, customers, and businesses in the provision of police and fire services. Police and fire services safeguard, facilitate, and encourage the health, safety, and welfare of the residents and enterprises of the City of Troutdale.

3.36.030 Establishment of fee.

Effective July 1, 2025 there is hereby created a Police and Fire Services Fee for the purposes set forth in this chapter. The full monthly fee will be charged beginning in the July 2025 utility billing cycle.

3.36.040 Use of Police and Fire Services Fee.

- A. All fee revenues imposed by and paid under this chapter shall be collected in a separate dedicated revenue account to facilitate reporting and tracking. Such revenues shall be used for the costs of operations and/or contracted services to provide Police and Fire Services.
- B. To the extent that the fees collected may not be sufficient to properly meet the expenses of the Police and Fire Services, the cost of same may be paid from other city funds as may be determined by the council, but the council may order the reimbursement to such fund if additional fees are collected thereafter.
- C. The fees collected by virtue of this chapter shall not be used for general or other governmental purposes of the city except to pay for the equitable share of the cost of accounting, management, and other administrative costs attributable to the Police and Fire Services.
- D. The fees collected by virtue of this chapter may also be used for the acquisition, construction, operation, maintenance and repair (including renewal, replacement and improvement) and for the future establishment of either or both a police department or fire and emergency medical department or operation.

3.36.050 Amount of fee.

The council, by resolution, shall establish the rate amount of the fee and may, from time to time, by resolution, change the rate amount of the fee.

3.36.060 Calculation of the fee.

- A. The monthly rate amount set by the Council of the fee shall be applied to each Equivalent residential unit (ERU) and shall be paid by each account holder of the sanitary sewer utility system. For the purposes of assessing the monthly fee, an account holder will be charged for the same quantity of ERU's for which the account holder is charged for sanitary sewer service.
- B. The fee shall be prorated based on utility billing cycles and, for utility accounts that are opened or closed during the periods the fee is in effect, based on the date the utility account is opened or closed.
- C. Premises owned or operated by the City of Troutdale are not exempt from the fee.

3.36.070 Billings and collection.

- A. The fee shall be billed and collected with the monthly city utility bill. The bill shall be paid twenty calendar days after the end of the billing month.
- B. Partial payments on utility bills shall be allocated on a prorated basis to each utility and fee balance due.
- C. Any charge due hereunder which is not paid when due may be recovered from the account holder in an action at law by the city.

3.36.080 Delinquency.

- A. A fee is considered delinquent based on the same criteria as water, sanitary sewer, and storm water charges.
- B. If a customer's utility account for the fee is delinquent, the City may discontinue all water services billed on that account. The City may refuse to restore water service to the premises until the delinquent charges and other costs incurred are paid.
- C. Notwithstanding any provision herein to the contrary, the City may institute any legal proceedings to enforce the provisions of this chapter, including but not limited to injunctive relief and collection of charges owing. The City's enforcement rights shall be cumulative. If the City commences any legal proceedings to enforce the provisions of this chapter and the City prevails, the City is entitled to all fees and costs it incurred, as well as any sum that a court, including any appellate court, may deem reasonable as attorneys' fees.
- D. The council may set by resolution fees for extra services required in collecting delinquent customer accounts for the fee.

3.36.090 Adjustment and administration of accounts.

- A. Customers who believe their fee, as applied to their utility account, is not within the intent of this chapter may request, in writing, a review of their fee by the Finance Director. The Finance Director may initiate the review of a customer's fee. Similarly, if the City feels that the fee, as it applies to a particular utility account, is not within the intent of this chapter, it may be reviewed by the Finance Director.

1. If a customer's charge is reduced as a result of this review, the corrected fee shall begin with the next billing and a credit or refund shall be made retroactively, not to exceed one year from the last billing.
2. If a customer's charge is increased as a result of this review, the corrected fee shall begin with the next billing and the customer may be billed for the increase retroactively, not to exceed one year from the last billing.
- B. If an existing customer has not been billed for the fee, the fee shall begin with the next billing and the customer may be billed retroactively, not to exceed one year.
- C. Customers not satisfied with the results of the review by the Finance Director may appeal the decision to the City Manager.
- D. The Finance Director may write off closed accounts and retroactive bills if in the best interest of the City and may write off refunds, unless the customer requested otherwise, if the cost of making the refund would exceed the amount of the refund.

3.36.100 Administration.

The Finance Director shall be responsible for the administration of this chapter and for the collection of fees hereunder.

3.36.110 Appeals

Any person aggrieved by a decision of the City Finance Director under this chapter may appeal such decision to the City Manager by serving, within ten (10) days after receipt of the decision of the City Finance Director, a written notice of appeal specifying the grounds for objection to the decision. The City Manager shall consider the matter and may sustain, modify, or reverse the decision of the City Finance Director. The decision of the City Manager shall be final.