

ORDINANCE 2026-02
AN ORDINANCE TO PROVIDE FOR A MAINTENANCE FEE FOR WATER/SEWER FOR THE REPLACEMENT OF WATER METERS THROUGHOUT THE CITY OF BULL SHOALS AND MAINTENANCE OF THE WATER TOWERS AND SEWER INFRASTRUCTURE; TO ESTABLISH A DEPRECIATION FUND WITHIN THE WATER/SEWER BUDGET FOR FUTURE MAINTENANCE; REPEALING AND REPLACING ORDINANCE 2015-04

WHEREAS, this ordinance replaces Ordinance 2015-04, and all ordinances or parts of ordinances in conflict herewith are hereby repealed.

WHEREAS, The City of Bull Shoals owns and operates the water and sewer distribution lines and

WHEREAS, it is of the highest importance for the City to provide, protect, maintain, and preserve a clean and workable water and sewer system; and

WHEREAS, it is vitally important to all customers of the City of Bull Shoals water and sewer system to have a safe and stable water supply and sewer system, an important part of which is the maintenance of these systems. Both systems require constant repairs and upgrades. The water maintenance fee of five dollars (\$5.00) has not been increased since it was initiated in 2011, and the cost of repair materials has doubled, if not tripled, during that time. The water and sewer departments need to have monthly contributions to both systems' depreciation funds;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED by the City Council of the City of Bull Shoals, Marion County, Arkansas, that:

SECTION 1. In order to revitalize, update, and establish a Depreciation Fund for both the water and sewer department budgets, a seven-dollar (\$7.00) per month maintenance fee shall be added to the water portion of the bill(s), and a three-dollar (\$3.00) per month maintenance fee shall be added to the sewer portion of the bill(s). A portion of the seven-dollar (\$7.00) water maintenance fee, specifically two dollars (\$2.00), shall be placed in an account to pay for a yearly maintenance contract for both water towers for the next ten (10) years.

SECTION 2. The fee shall be assessed on all water meters that are active during a billing period or any part thereof. Customers with sewer service only shall be charged the three-dollar (\$3.00) maintenance fee, and those with water service only shall be charged the seven-dollar (\$7.00) maintenance fee.

SECTION 3. If any provision, clause, sentence, paragraph, or section of this ordinance, or the application thereof, shall be held invalid by a court of competent jurisdiction, such invalidity shall not affect the other provisions of this ordinance which can be given effect without the

invalid provision or application, and to this end the provisions of this ordinance are declared severable.

SECTION 4. This ordinance shall be in full force and effect from and after its passage.

EMERGENCY CLAUSE. It is hereby determined that the maintenance and budgetary operation of the Bull Shoals Water/Sewer System is in critical condition. The loss of water due to overused, outdated, and failing water meters, along with sewer lines cracked and allowing groundwater infiltration, has placed an undue burden on the Water/Sewer Department budgets. To continue to upgrade and provide this essential service and to maintain a safe and healthy system, an emergency is hereby declared to exist, and this ordinance shall be in full force and effect from and after the date of passage.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the City Council of the City of Bull Shoals, Marion County, Arkansas on this 29th day of JANUARY, 2026.

APPROVED: 
Mayor Bill Stahlman

COUNCIL VOTE: 4 YEAS 0 NAYS

ATTESTED: 
Paula Reynolds Recorder/Treasurer

I, Paula Reynolds, Recorder/Treasurer, certify that this Ordinance has been posted in five (5) of the most public places in the City of Bull Shoals, Arkansas.

POSTED: Feb 2, 2026

POSTED BY: 