

ORDINANCE NO. 2026- 19

**AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 10.02
OF THE FERDINAND MUNICIPAL CODE
REGARDING WATER RATES AND CHARGES**

WHEREAS, the Town Council has received and reviewed information that from time to time the water supply systems necessary to provide adequate water systems have been tampered with by the property owner or their contractors without notice to or the consent of the Water Department; and

WHEREAS, this is a public health concern because it relates to drinking water.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED by the Ferdinand Town Council;

1. Section 10.02.125 of the Ferdinand Municipal Code is added and will read as follows:

10.02.125

Penalties for Tampering. It is unlawful for any person, whether they be residential, commercial, or industrial, not authorized by the Town, to use, remove, damage, or tamper with the town water supply systems including, but not limited to, meters, valves, meter pits or meter registers.

A reconnection fee will be added to the bill of any user if such tampering takes place. For the purpose of this Ordinance tampering shall be defined as any unauthorized adjustment or change of any water meter, water pipes, or appurtenances thereto which results in an inaccurate water meter read or unauthorized use of water including turning water back on after it has been turned off and such tampering shall be evidence of fraudulent manipulation.

Any damage resulting from unauthorized use or tampering with the water systems will result in a minimum fine levied against the user for \$1,000.00. If the materials and labor to repair damage exceeds \$1,000.00 the user will be fined for \$1,000.00 plus the cost of repair, time and materials, which exceed \$1,000.000 plus 10% administrative costs.

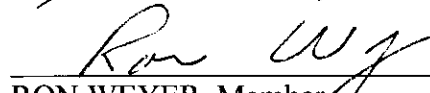
The Town may, at its option, additionally seek injunctive relief, court costs and attorney fees.

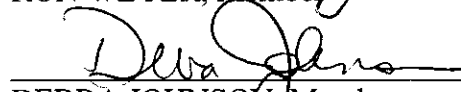
2. All other provisions of the Ferdinand Code Chapter 10.02 entitled Water Rates and Charges shall remain unchanged.

3. This Ordinance shall be in full force and effect from and after its passage and any publication required by law.

Adopted this 20 day of October, 2026.


KENNETH J. SICARD, President


RON WEYER, Member


DEBRA JOHNSON, Member

ATTEST:


TAMARA M. MILLER, Clerk-Treasurer