

ORDINANCE NO. 2026-1

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE CODE OF ORDINANCES FOR THE TOWN OF TAYLOR, MISSISSIPPI REQUIRING EMERGENCY BACKUP POWER WITH AUTOMATIC TRANSFER SWITCH FOR SEWAGE TREATMENT SYSTEMS AND COLLECTION FACILITIES LOCATED WITHIN THE MUNICIPAL LIMITS OF THE TOWN OF TAYLOR, MISSISSIPPI.

Section 1. Purpose and Findings

The Mayor and Board of Aldermen of the Town of Taylor, Mississippi, hereby find and declare as follows:

- (a) Sewage treatment systems are critical infrastructure necessary to protect public health, safety, welfare, and the environment;
- (b) Loss of electrical power to sewage treatment plants, lift stations, and pumping facilities during severe weather, and other emergencies, can result in system failures, sewage backups, overflows, and contamination of surface and groundwater;
- (c) The Town has experienced extended power outages during such emergencies that increase the risk of such failures;
- (d) Pursuant to Miss. Code Ann. § 21-19-1, the Town of Taylor has the power to make regulations to secure the general health of the Town; to prevent, remove, and abate nuisances; to regulate or prohibit the construction of privy vaults and cesspools, and to regulate or suppress those already constructed; and to compel and regulate the connection of all property with sewers and drains;
- (e) Pursuant to Miss. Code Ann. § 21-19-3, the Town of Taylor has the power to make regulations to prevent the introduction and spread of contagious or infectious diseases;
- (f) Pursuant to Miss. Code Ann. § 21-19-25, the Town of Taylor has the power to adopt building codes, plumbing codes, sanitary codes, or any other codes dealing with general public health, safety or welfare, or a combination of the same, by ordinance;
- (g) Pursuant to Miss. Code Ann. § 21-37-3, the Town of Taylor has the power to exercise full jurisdiction in the matter of sewers; and
- (h) It is, therefore, necessary and in the best interest of the Town of Taylor to require emergency backup power with automatic transfer capability to ensure continuity of essential wastewater services during power interruptions to sewage treatment systems and collection facilities.

Section 2. Applicability

This Ordinance shall apply to sewage treatment systems and collection facilities located within the Town of Taylor, including but not limited to municipal, privately owned, or non-municipal treatment plants, lift stations, and pumping facilities, whether existing as of the effective date of this Ordinance or constructed thereafter. This Ordinance shall not, however, apply to individual business or residential septic systems.

Section 3. Emergency Backup Power Requirement

All sewage treatment systems subject to this Ordinance shall be equipped with and maintain an approved emergency backup power source with an automatic transfer switch (ATS) capable of operating all essential components of the sewage treatment and conveyance system during loss of primary electrical service.

Section 4. Minimum Standards

The emergency backup power system shall, at a minimum:

- (a) Be permanently installed and equipped with an automatic transfer switch (ATS) that initiates power transfer upon loss of primary electrical service without the need for manual intervention;
- (b) Be of sufficient capacity to operate all essential equipment necessary to maintain treatment and conveyance functions under peak design flow conditions;
- (c) Provide on-site fuel storage or equivalent provisions sufficient to sustain continuous operation for a minimum of seventy-two (72) hours;
- (d) Be maintained in operable condition at all times and tested on a regular schedule in accordance with manufacturer recommendations;
- (e) Be accessible for inspection by the Town of Taylor or its designated representative; and
- (f) Portable generators, temporary connections, or manual transfer methods shall not comply with this Ordinance, except where specifically approved in writing by the Town as an interim measure during the compliance period for existing systems.

Section 5. Compliance Deadlines.

- (a) **Existing Systems.** Owners and operators of sewage treatment systems in operation as of the effective date of this Ordinance shall have twenty-four (24) months from the effective date to fully comply with the requirements herein.
- (b) **New Systems.** No building permit, certificate of occupancy, subdivision approval, site plan approval, or final development approval shall be issued for any development served by a sewage treatment system subject to this Ordinance unless compliance with this Ordinance is demonstrated prior to approval.

Section 6. Documentation and Certification

Owners and operators shall provide documentation to the Town demonstrating compliance with this Ordinance, including specifications of backup power equipment, ATS installation details,

capacity calculations, and maintenance/testing plans. The Town may require certification by a licensed engineer that the emergency power system is adequate for the facility served.

Section 7. Enforcement

Failure to comply with this Ordinance shall constitute a violation subject to enforcement in accordance with the Town’s code of ordinances. The Town may withhold or revoke permits, approvals, or certificates of occupancy, and may pursue any lawful remedies available to ensure compliance.

Section 8. Coordination with State Agencies

Nothing in this Ordinance shall be construed to conflict with or supersede the permitting authority of the Mississippi Department of Environmental Quality (MDEQ) or the Mississippi State Department of Health (MSDH). Compliance with this Ordinance shall be in addition to any state or federal requirements.

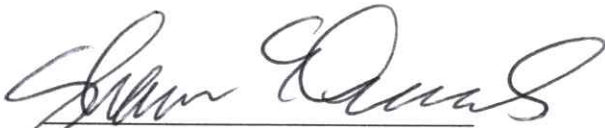
Section 9. Effective Date

All ordinances shall take effect and be in force as provided by law.

The above ordinance, having been first reduced to writing and read and considered section by section at a public meeting of the governing authorities of the Town of Taylor, Mississippi, on the motion of Alderman Carter, seconded by Alderman Taylor, and the roll being called, the same by the following votes:

Alderman Taylor	voted	aye
Alderman Carter	voted	aye
Alderman Corso	voted	absent
Alderman Hamilton	voted	aye
Alderman Roberts	voted	aye

So, approved and ordained, this, the 7th day of April, 2026.


Shawn Edwards, Mayor


Ashley Atkinson, Town Clerk

