

Questions

If you should have any questions regarding the franchise fee listed on a utility bill that you received, please call City Hall

(256)-723-2616

Local
Postal Customer

City of New Hope
5484 Main Dr.
P.O. Box 419
New Hope, AL 35760

New Hope's New Franchise Fee

A brief description of the new franchise fee listed on your Utility statement.

CITY OF NEW HOPE ALABAMA



What is the franchise fee about?

The City of New Hope recently granted franchise agreements to Huntsville Utilities for their use of the public rights-of-ways (ROW) within the City to install their electric and gas lines.

The franchise fee is a "rent" for the use of the ROW and it is typically passed on by utilities to their customers and itemized on their bills as a franchise fee.

What is a franchise?

A franchise is basically a contract between a city and a public or private utility provider who needs the ROW to deliver its services.



Who is this for?

The City requires all companies that use the ROW to enter a franchise with the City and to pay the City a franchise fee for its use.

Why is it being collected?

Utilities, like electric, water, or gas providers collect the fee in exchange for the right to operate within public rights- of way.

These are the streets, sidewalks, and alleys that utility companies must access to install and maintain their infrastructures, such as power lines and poles.

Alabama municipalities have the authority to impose a franchise fee as a means to collect additional operational funds.

