

## ORDINANCE NO. 2023-02

### AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CITY OF WARD ORDINANCE 2014-07, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

**WHEREAS**, from time to time it becomes necessary for a governing body to modify existing, and even long-standing policies and procedures, for clarity; and,

**WHEREAS, THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE CITY OF WARD**, during their June 20, 2022 meeting discussed modifying the current “due date”, “late bill date” and “shut off date” and “reconnect fee”. Subsequent to the discussion a motion was made, seconded, and approved by majority vote, to modify the water bill dates and reconnect fee.

**WHEREAS**, during the July 2022 City Council Meeting, Ordinance 2022-09 was approved on its first reading. However, during the months of August, September, October and November, the proposed Ordinance (O-2022-09) failed to move forward and was then tabled during the November meeting to the new year (2023) so that a newly seated city council could address the issue.

**NOW THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE WARD CITY COUNCIL THAT WARD ORDINANCE 2014-07 BE CHANGED AS FOLLOWS:**

**SECTION 1:** Replace Section 5 to read as follows:

- a. The operation of the System shall be fully metered basis, with a meter installed for each water connection and there shall be only one user on a single meter with the exception of “Master Meters” installed at apartment complexes and other such facilities. All bills for water service shall be rendered in the net amount due on or about the last day of the month.
- b. ***All water bills are due upon receipt.***
- c. Water bills are considered late if not paid by close of business on the 15th of each month (grace period) and a 10% late penalty shall be added to the bill total. Any water bills not paid by the close of business on the 24<sup>th</sup> of each month will be disconnected. The City of Ward, nor the Ward Water and Sewer System, is not responsible for payments lost in the mail, delivered late, or not otherwise received by the Water Office on the date(s) described above. The following is provided for clarification.<sup>1</sup>
  - a. **Water Bills Sent Out:** On or about the last day of the month.
  - b. **Due Date: Bills are due when received.**

---

<sup>1</sup> Any date that falls on a weekend or observed holiday will extended to the next business day.

c. **Grace Period:** Bills must be paid by the close of business on the 15<sup>th</sup> of each month to avoid a 10% late penalty.

d. **Late Bill/Disconnect Notice:** Sent out on the 16<sup>th</sup> of each month

e. **Disconnect/Cut-Off Date:** Any account not paid in full to include any late fees by the close of business on the 24<sup>th</sup> of each month will be disconnected the next business day.

**SECTION 2: Add Section 5A – Authorized Adjustments**

- a. **Leak Adjustment:** Each customer is allowed one (1) leak adjustment per calendar year. See the Water Office to apply for this adjustment.
- b. **Pool Adjustment:** Each customer is allowed one (1) pool adjustment per calendar year to account for the water not treated by the Wastewater Treatment Plant. See the Water Office for procedures prior to filling your pool.

**Section 3: Add Section 5b – Customer Responsibility**

- a. The customer is responsible for any and all water that goes through the meter; and,
- b. The customer is responsible for all water lines from the meter box to the resident's home.

**THIS ORDINANCE** was properly read and if adopted will take effect the next billing cycle 30 days after said Ordinance is properly posted.

VOTES

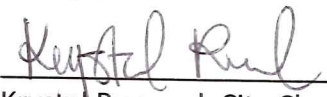
YEAS 4 NAYS 1 ABSTAINS 0

DATE APPROVED:

March 20, 2023

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Charles Gastineau, Mayor

ATTEST:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Krystal Rummel, City Clerk

City Seal