

***AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND VARIOUS SECTIONS OF CHAPTER 48
PERTAINING TO WATER AND ELECTRIC SERVICE CHARGES.***

BE IT ORDAINED by the Board of Aldermen of the City of Lamar, Missouri as follows:

Section 1. Section 48-2 of the Code of Ordinances is hereby amended and shall hereafter provide as follows:

Sec. 48-2. Water and electric service charges.

- (a) *On file at clerk's office.* The rates and charges for water and electricity service furnished by the city shall be on file at the office of the city clerk and shall be available for inspection by the public.
- (b) *Billing.* All bills for water and electricity service furnished by the city shall be mailed to each customer at his or her last known address on or about the first day of the month following the month for which the bills are issued.
- (c) *Date payable.* All bills for water and electricity service furnished by the city shall be due and payable on or before the 15th day of the month following the month for which the bills are issued.
- (d) *Interest added when delinquent.* All bills for water and electricity service furnished by the city remaining unpaid after close of business on the 15th day of the month following the month for which the bills are issued shall be considered delinquent, and a penalty charge in an amount of ten percent of the unpaid bill shall be added thereto. Should the 15th of the month fall on a Saturday or Sunday the customer will be given until the close of business on the following business day before penalty(s) are applied to the account.
- (e) *Termination of services.* The city shall make a list of all bills for water and electricity service furnished by the city remaining unpaid after close of business on the 20th day of the month following the month for which the bills are issued. Termination of services will begin the next business day.
- (f) *Renewal of services.* Any consumer of water or electricity furnished by the city whose service has been discontinued because of delinquency in the payment of his or her account shall not have the service renewed until the total amount of his or her account, including the ten percent penalty due the city, together with a service charge, as established by the board of aldermen and which is on file at the office of the city clerk for one electric meter and/or water meter (additional charges for

after hours), to cover the expense of renewing the service, has been paid to the city, who shall issue a receipt upon payment.

- (g) *Termination of services for other delinquencies*. Should a person or any entity be delinquent on any city bill, water and electricity services may be discontinued to any premises they own, rent or inhabit within the city upon notice as provided in this section.
- (h) *Notice of termination of services for other delinquencies*. Notice of discontinuation of water and electricity services, pursuant to this section, shall include the mailing or hand delivery of the original bill, or a photocopy thereof, and mailing of a second written notice or reminder of the amount owed to the city. The second written notice shall be given not less than five days after mailing or delivery of the first written notice. Discontinuation of services as provided herein shall not occur less than ten days after mailing or delivery of the first written notice. The city may also post a 24-hour discontinuation notice on the premises or at the primary premises of the entity in arrears as a final reminder. Mailing shall be deemed made upon depositing same with the U.S. Postal Service, first class postage prepaid.
- (i) *Renewal of services following termination thereof for other delinquencies*. Renewal of water and electricity services following termination made pursuant to subsection (h) of this section shall be consistent with this section, except there shall be no additional ten percent penalty added to the delinquencies which may or may not include penalties otherwise lawfully assessed.

Section 2. This ordinance shall be in full force and effect from and after the date of its passage and approval.

PASSED by the Board of Aldermen and **APPROVED** by the Mayor of the City of Lamar, Missouri this 16th day of May 2022.

Mike Hull, Mayor

Attest:

Sandra Phipps, Interim City Clerk Pro Tempore