

ORDINANCE NO. 0-2014-04

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 40, UTILITIES, ARTICLE III, WATER SYSTEM, DIVISION 1, GENERALLY, SEC. 40-125, DATES BILLS DUE AND PAST DUE; SEC. 40-126 SERVICE CHARGE FOR LATE PAYMENTS AND SEC. 40-127 DISCONTINUANCE OF SERVICE WHEN BILL NOT PAID BY DUE DATE; CHAPTER 40, UTILITIES, ARTICLE V, ELECTRICAL SYSTEM, DIVISION 2, CHARGES, BILLINGS AND PAYMENTS, SEC. 40-378, DUE AND PAST DUE DATES FOR PAYMENTS, AND SEC. 40-380, DISCONTINUANCE OF SERVICE OF THE CITY CODE OF ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF LAURINBURG

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LAURINBURG:

Section 1: Chapter 40, Utilities, Article III, Water System, Division 1, Generally, Sec. 40-125, Dates bills due and past due, of the City Code of the City of Laurinburg shall be deleted in its entirety and replaced with the following:

Sec. 40-125. Dates bills due and past due.

All water bills shall be due and payable on the first day of each month and shall be deemed past due on the 20th day of the same month. Failure of a customer to receive such bill does not relieve the customer from the responsibility of paying a utility bill when due.

Section 2: Chapter 40, Utilities, Article III, Water System, Division 1, Generally, Sec. 40-126, Service charge for late payments, of the City Code of the City of Laurinburg shall be deleted in its entirety and replaced with the following:

Sec. 40-126. Service charge for late payments.

A service charge shall be made in all cases in which a bill for water service remains unpaid on the 20th day of the month in which the bill is rendered. Such service charge shall be 1.5% of the balance after the 20th day of the month in which the bill is rendered, or a minimum charge as established by the city council from time to time and kept on file in the office of the city clerk and the consumer billing department.

Section 3: Chapter 40, Utilities, Article III, Water System, Sec. 40-127. Discontinuance of service when bill not paid by due date, of the City Code of the City of Laurinburg shall be deleted in its entirety and replaced with the following:

Sec. 40-127. Discontinuance of service when bill not paid by due date.

(a) A reminder notice may be sent to the customer after the 20th of each month. If payment is not received by the fifth of the month following billing, services will be disconnected without further notice. Failure of a customer to receive such notice does

not relieve the customer from the responsibility of paying a utility bill when due.

(b) If payment is not received by the specified by the specified cut-off date, service could be disconnected and an additional fee will be added to the account. If this is a business or medical alert account, a 24-hour notice will be given before disconnection and the service charge will be added to the account. If after the 24-hour period, payment has not been received, the customer will be disconnected and another service fee will be added. (Medical alert customers must have a written statement from a medical doctor stating they have a life-threatening problem without water.)

Section 4: Chapter 40, Utilities, Article V, Electrical System, Division 2, Charges, billings and payments, Sec. 40-378, Due and past due dates for payments, of the City Code of the City of Laurinburg shall be deleted in its entirety and replaced with the following:

Section 40-378. Due and past due dates for payments.

All electric bills shall be due and payable on the first day of each month and shall be deemed past due on the 20th of the same month. Failure of a customer to receive such bill does not relieve the customer from the responsibility of paying a utility bill when due.

Section 5: Chapter 40, Utilities, Article V, Electrical System, Division 2, Charges, billings and payments, Section 40-380, Discontinuance of service, of the City Code of the City of Laurinburg shall be deleted in its entirety and replaced with the following:

Section 40-380. Discontinuance of Service.

If payment is not received by the specified cut-off date, service could be disconnected and an additional fee will be added to the account. If this is a business or medical alert account, a 24-hour notice will be given before disconnection and the service charge will be added to the account. If after the 24-hour period, payment has not been received, the customer will be disconnected and another service fee will be added. (Medical alert customers must have a written statement from a medical doctor stating they have a life-threatening problem without electricity.) A reminder notice may be sent to customers after the 20th of each month. Failure of a customer to receive such notice does not relieve the customer from the responsibility of paying a utility bill when due. Regulations for discontinuance of service are as set forth in the utility service regulations which are adopted by the city council and on file the city clerk's office.

Section 6. This ordinance shall be in full force on and after its adoption.

ADOPTED this the 18th day of March, 2014.

Thomas W. Parker, III, Mayor

Jennifer A. Tippet, City Clerk