

**RESOLUTION #22-003**  
**AMENDMENT TO CITY ORDINANCE § 12-35 & 12-36**  
**THE CITY OF VIDALIA, GEORGIA**

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF VIDALIA, GEORGIA, AND IT IS HEREBY ORDAINED BY AUTHORITY THEREOF THAT THE CODE OF THE CITY OF VIDALIA IS HEREBY AMENDED BY DELETING THE ENTIRE CURRENT SECTIONS 12-35 AND 12-36 AND REPLACING THE SAME WITH THE FOLLOWING:

**Sec. 12-35. - Due date; shut-off for nonpayment; restoration of service.**

- (a) Water bills shall be established and mailed on or about the 5<sup>th</sup> of each month. Bills are due on the 20<sup>th</sup> of each month. If the water bill has not been paid in full by the 20<sup>th</sup> of each month, a late fee of 10% of the total amount due shall be added to the bill. If the water bill is not paid by the 25<sup>th</sup> of each month, water service to the premises for which the bill was rendered may be disconnected by the city. Once service has been disconnected, service shall not be restored until the water bill has been paid in full. If a customer has had service for six (6) months and is in good standing (has not been late or disconnected in the previous five (5) months, the customer will not be disconnected. Customers can elect to have a payment arrangement for a date within the current billing month once every 6 months, but the customer must still pay the late fee, but with no penalty (as defined below), if paid according to the agreed-upon arrangement. All arrangements must be made prior to the due date of the 20<sup>th</sup>. A penalty (duly established and on file in the City Clerk's office) shall be added if the water bill is not paid by the 25<sup>th</sup> of each month. The disconnection date will not occur before the 25<sup>th</sup> of each month, but the actual disconnection date may vary later due to weekends, holidays, etc.
- (b) In the event of nonpayment and disconnection, the customer must pay the bill in full, including the late fee, and penalty fee, if applicable. The customer must also pay a deposit if it was either waived, previously refunded, or was used to make any required payments defined herein.

**Sec. 12-36. - Fixtures and equipment.**

- (a) The city will furnish and maintain at its own cost all necessary fittings, pipes, appliances, including all meters and meter boxes, to deliver water and sewer to the consumer's pipeline once the appropriate tap fees and meter fee has been paid by the customer, and the same shall be installed

just past the curb line or right-of-way, just past those areas on customer's property, or using the best option as determined by public works and the City; all such fittings, pipes, appliances, meters and meter boxes shall remain the property of city, and shall at all times be accessible to city and under its control. The service line from the curb box or meter to the consumer's premises (house) shall be laid and maintained by the customer at the customer's own cost, meeting all code requirements and inspections as required by the City. The line shall be of ample size, of standard weight and quality, and all cutoffs, valves, backflow preventers, fixtures and appliances furnished by the customer shall be maintained in good order and condition. All builders or developers, as the case may be, must install a "bleed valve" on all water lines installed in street cul-de-sacs and meet all codes present and adopted in the future.

- (b) All service laterals are the pipes that run from the property owner's home and connect to the water and sewer services provided by the City of Vidalia. Property owners are responsible for maintaining the water and sewer service laterals that run through their property which begin at the point where it connects to the city owned water meter and sewer tap (at property line), also known as the water and/or sewer connection. Should a leak, break or blockage occur on the property owner's side of the water and sewer service connection, the property owner is responsible for damages, repairs and all associated costs. Should such leak, break or blockage occur on the property owner's side of the water and sewer service connection within the city's right-of-way, then the property owner's repairs can only be conducted under the direct supervision of the appropriate authorized or designated city official. It shall be unlawful for any property owner to conduct any water maintenance within the city right-of-way regardless of where the water connection point might be, without permission and direction of the city, even though all such work shall be at the sole expense of the property owner.

It is the intention of the governing body, and it is hereby ordained, that the provisions of these ordinances shall become and be made part of the Code of Ordinances, City of Vidalia, Georgia, and the sections or subsections of these ordinances may be renumbered to accomplish such intention, as necessary.

THESE ORDINANCE AMENDMENTS SHALL BECOME EFFECTIVE IMMEDIATELY UPON ADOPTION AS PROVIDED FOR BY THE CHARTER OF THE CITY OF VIDALIA, GEORGIA.

FIRST READING:

5-9-2022

SECOND READING:

6-13-2022

ADOPTED THIS 13<sup>th</sup> DAY OF June, 2022.

  
DOUG P. ROPER, III, MAYOR

ATTEST:   
AMY W. MURRAY, CITY CLERK

