

ORDINANCE NO:3218

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CITY CODE, CHAPTER 78 – UTILITIES, SECTION 78-2, SECTION 78-48, AND SECTION 78-49

WHEREAS, the City of Highland, Madison County, Illinois (hereinafter “City”), is a non-home rule municipality duly established, existing and operating in accordance with the provisions of the Illinois Municipal Code (Section 5/1-1-1 et seq. of Chapter 65 of the Illinois Compiled Statutes); and

WHEREAS, the Director of Light and Power recommends amendments to the City Code pertaining to security deposits for utility accounts because the amount required has not been increased for over 30 years, and the security deposit charged must reflect the increase in cost of service; and

WHEREAS, the Director of Light and Power recommends amendments to the City Code, including removing the provision allowing persons who have had their power turned off for non-payment or other violations to have it turned back on after business hours; and

WHEREAS, the Director of Light and Power has informed the City Council that after-hours calls to turn power back on forces the City to charge an additional fee to those who already have difficulty paying their bills, and is not cost effective for City; and

WHEREAS, the City Council finds that the City Manager and/or Mayor should be authorized and directed, on behalf of the City, to execute whatever documents are necessary to amend the City Code to reflect the changes suggested by the Director of Light and Power.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED, by the City Council of the City of Highland, Illinois, as follows:

Section 1. The foregoing recitals are incorporated herein as findings of the City Council of the City of Highland, Illinois.

Section 2. Chapter 78-Utilities, Section 78-2. Security deposit, shall be amended to state:

Sec. 78-2. Security deposit.

- (a) All persons making application for city utility services, unless qualified exempt under subsection (b) of this section, shall pay a security deposit of \$100 for residential service, or \$200 for non-residential service.

Section 3. Chapter 78-Utilities, Sec. 78-48. Discontinuance authorized, shall be amended to state:

Sec. 78-48. Discontinuance authorized.

- (d) Customer's right to request, in writing, a formal hearing before the delinquent utility bill review committee on a disputed bill for electric service. A customer who has received a disconnection notice shall be able to request, in writing, a formal hearing before the delinquent utility bill review committee on a disputed bill for electric service by complying with the procedure set forth in section 78-9.

Section 4. Chapter 78-Utilities, Sec. 78-49. Reconnection after disconnection of electric service, shall be amended to state:

Sec. 78-49. Reconnection after disconnection of electric service.

- (a) If electric service to any customer has been disconnected for any of the reasons set forth in section 78-48(c)(1), the customer's electric service shall not be reconnected unless and until the customer meets the following three conditions, namely:
- (1) The condition causing disconnection shall have been eliminated or corrected.
 - (2) The customer has complied with all pertinent requirements of utility rate schedules and this article.
 - (3) Any reconnection charge shall have been paid in advance.
- (b) If a customer's electric service has been disconnected for nonpayment or for any other reason set forth in sections 78-48(c)(1) or 78-48(c)(2), and the customer requests that reconnection be made, the following reconnection charge shall apply:
- (1) The customer shall pay a reconnection charge of \$50.00 in advance of reconnection;
Reconnections for the above conditions covered in sections 78-48(c)(1) and 78-48(c)(2) will not be performed outside of normal working hours.
- (c) If electric service is disconnected temporarily at the customer's request (hereinafter referred to as a voluntary disconnection) and—within 5 days after the disconnection—the customer requests reconnection at the same premises, and the reconnection is to be made during the normal working hours of the electric department, there will be no reconnection charge. If the reconnection is to be made outside of the normal working hours of the electric department, the customer shall pay, in advance, a reconnection charge of four hundred dollars. If the customer requests reconnection more than 5 days after a voluntary disconnection, the following reconnection charge shall apply, depending on whether the reconnection is to be made during the normal working hours of the electric department or outside of the normal working hours of the electric department:
- (1) If the reconnection is to be made during the normal working hours of the electric department, the customer shall pay a reconnection charge of \$50.00 in advance of reconnection;

- (2) If the reconnection is to be made outside of the normal working hours of the electric department, the customer shall pay, in advance, a reconnection charge of four hundred dollars.
- (d) In addition to payment of reconnection charges, a commercial demand customer with a demand of 25 kilowatts or more shall pay all demand charges, prescribed in any service classification or contract for the entire period of discontinuance, not to exceed 12 months, as though no disconnection had occurred.
- (e) The utility shall waive such reconnection charges when it appears that the reason for the discontinuance of service was a result of fire or other casualty or any reason not the fault of the customer.

Section 5. That this Ordinance shall be known as Ordinance No: 3218 and shall be effective upon adoption with implementation date of September 6, 2022.

Passed by the City Council of the City of Highland, Illinois, and deposited and filed in the Office of the City Clerk, on the 6th day of September, 2022, the vote being taken by ayes and noes, and entered upon the legislative records, as follows:

AYES: Sloan, Frey, Bellm

NOES: None



APPROVED:

DocuSigned by:


 Kevin B. Hennann, Mayor
 City of Highland
 Madison County, Illinois

ATTEST:

DocuSigned by:


 Barbara Bellm City Clerk
 City of Highland
 Madison County, Illinois