

ORDINANCE NO. 5292

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE SERVICE CALL CHARGE ON AFTER-HOUR REQUESTS TO RECONNECT WATER AND TO DELETE THE SHUT OFF POLICY FOR NEW ACCOUNTS BY AMENDING CERTAIN SUBSECTIONS OF SECTION 13.04 OF THE RAPID CITY MUNICIPAL CODE.

WHEREAS, the City of Rapid City has previously adopted an ordinance that establishes a water shut-off policy for delinquent accounts; and

WHEREAS, currently a new account on which a deposit and service charge is owed has a different standard than other accounts to determine if the new account is delinquent; and

WHEREAS, currently the ordinance addressing delinquency of new accounts does not provide for a reconnection fee after water had been shut off, while the ordinance addressing all other accounts does provide for a reconnection fee after the water has been shut off; and

WHEREAS, the new billing system does not have the capability to track the different standards of delinquency between new accounts on which a deposit and service charge is owed and all other accounts; and

WHEREAS, the City Council deems it is in the City's best interest to delete in its entirety Section 13.04.670, addressing new accounts, and treat all delinquent accounts uniformly under the provisions of Section 13.04.630.

WHEREAS, the City Council deems it in the City's best interest to amend Section 13.04.660 to clarify the service call charge to reconnect outside of city office hours is \$40.00.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED by the City of Rapid City Section 13.04.660 of the Rapid City Municipal Code is hereby amended to read as follows:

13.04.660 Failure to pay.

A. If charges prescribed by this chapter are not paid within 45 days from billing date, the water may be shut off. Ten days prior to terminating the water service, a notice of intent to terminate the service will be mailed to the customer along with the procedures to contest the termination. The water shall not be turned on again until all current and delinquent unpaid charges are satisfactorily resolved, together with a service call charge of \$30 dollars. If such services are requested to be provided outside normal city office hours, a ~~surecharge~~ service call charge of \$40 shall ~~also have been~~ be paid. If a water serviceworker, called upon to shut off the water at a premises, arrives at the premises and the current and delinquent unpaid charges are satisfactorily resolved, together with a service call charge of \$30, the water to the premises shall not be shut off. If the charges are for a multiunit rental, the usage, service charge, and late payment must be paid in full or an account opened in the name of the owners of the property. All moneys on account will be credited to the oldest part of the bill first.

B. No person shall turn on the water to any premises from which the water has been turned off as provided for in this section, without written authority from the water and sewer department.

C. If it is necessary to dig up the curb stop or corporation stop or shut off water for nonpayment of the water bill, the cost of work shall be added to the water bill in addition to all other charges.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED by the City of Rapid City Section 13.04.670 of the Rapid City Municipal Code is hereby deleted in its entirety:

~~13.04.670 Shut-off policy for new accounts.~~

~~—A.— A new account on which a deposit and service charge is owed shall become delinquent if not paid within 15 days after the new account has first been billed. Water for any new account is subject to shut off if the delinquent amount is not paid in full within 7 days after receipt of a delinquent notice.~~

~~—B.— This shut-off policy shall apply only to the first billing of new accounts on which a deposit and service charge is owed. All future billings will be subject to the provisions of § 13.04.660.~~

CITY OF RAPID CITY

Mayor

ATTEST:

Finance Officer

(SEAL)

First Reading:
Second Reading:
Published:
Effective: