

BILL NO.: 8-15-2023(3)

ORDINANCE NO: 1361

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE CITY OF MOUND CITY, MISSOURI CITY CODE REGARDING DELINQUENT WATER BILLS

WHEREAS, the City of Mound City operates a combined water and waste water system; and

WHEREAS, Section 79.110, RSMo. authorizes the Board of Aldermen to make ordinances that they shall deem expedient for the good government of the City, the preservation of peace and good order, the benefit of trade and commerce and the health of the inhabitants thereof; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Aldermen believes that amending the City Code regarding the notice and shut off procedure for delinquent water bills is expedient for the good government of the City, the preservation of peace and good order, the benefit of trade and commerce, and the health of the inhabitants thereof.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE BOARD OF ALDERMEN OF THE CITY OF MOUND CITY, MISSOURI, AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. Section 700.080 of the City Code shall be amended as follows:

DELINQUENT USER

Any user who shall fail or refuse to pay the stated charge for such service ~~within ten (10) days~~ **by the 15th day of the month** after a statement addressed to him/her at his/her last known address and deposited by the City Clerk or City Collector or his/her agent into the United States mail, postage prepaid. A user may be a delinquent user so defined herein even though the City has a deposit as hereinafter provided for.

Section 2. Section 700.030 of the City Code shall be amended as follows:

A. Whenever any person shall fail or refuse to pay the amount of the charges stated in the statement for utility services, in full, by the thirtieth (30th) day of the month following the close of the period for which service was rendered, then the City shall cause utility service to such user to be discontinued. **All unpaid water bills become delinquent on the 16th of the month.** **Delinquent water bills are subject to be shut off any time after the 1st of the subsequent month.** ~~However, prior to discontinuance,~~ **When unpaid water bills become delinquent,** a notice shall be mailed by the City Collector of the City to the delinquent user, by regular mail, and shall be addressed to such user at the address provided by the user to the City Collector, giving such user at least ~~forty-eight (48) hours~~ **ten (10) days'** written notice of the intention to disconnect service. The notice shall state as follows:

1. The date of said notice.
2. The name and address of the delinquent user.
3. That the utility account with the City is delinquent.
4. The total amount of unpaid charges for said service.

5. A statement informing the user that payment of the full amount must be made by close of business on the day preceding the last day of the month; ~~and,~~
6. That unless payment is made by close of business on the day preceding the last day of the month utility service will be discontinued without further notice; ~~and~~
- 7. The name, business phone number, business address, and business hours of a person who is empowered to adjust water bills in cases of error.**

B. A penalty of twenty dollars (\$20.00) will be added to all utility bills not paid by the ~~twentieth-~~ ~~(20th)~~ **sixteenth (16th)** day of the month following the close of the period for which service was rendered.

C. The City shall have the right at any time upon giving ~~forty-eight (48) hours~~ **ten (10) days'** written notice to users for good and sufficient cause or for failure to comply with the provisions and requirements of this Chapter, to discontinue furnishing any user with water service.

~~D. When deemed appropriate by the Water Superintendent and after proper notice as described in the preceding paragraphs of Section 700.030, a final warning of disconnection will be placed on the premises' door handle or other conspicuous place giving warning of impending disconnection. A fee of five dollars (\$5.00) will be charged upon delivery of this final warning to cover the cost associated with the preparation and delivery of this warning.~~

Section 3. Section 700.070 of the City Code shall be amended as follows:

A. In the event any user fails to pay the charges and costs for water services by the ~~close of business on the business day preceding the last day of the month~~ **sixteenth (16th)** and has not filed a notice and made a deposit with the City Collector as required **by Section 700.050**, the account shall be declared delinquent. Thereupon, the City Collector shall issue written direction to the appropriate City employee to immediately disconnect the water service on the delinquent account.

B. In the event that any disconnected water service is subsequently reconnected without City authorization, City staff shall install a locking mechanism on the water meter to prevent future reconnection. In such instance a forty dollar (\$40.00) lock installation fee shall be assessed to the user who last had the account and said user shall additionally be responsible for any damage caused to the locking mechanism as determined by the City, including cost of replacement.

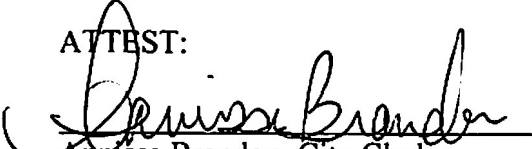
C. In addition thereto, the City shall have the authority to seek any other remedy allowed by law.

Section 4. This Ordinance shall take effect and be in full force on September 1, 2023.

Read two times by title only and approved by the Board of Aldermen of the City of Mound City, Missouri this 15 day of August, 2022.


 Duane Nauman, Mayor

ATTEST:


 Anmisa Brandon, City Clerk