

ORDINANCE NO. 1001-141007 (A)

**AMENDMENT TO ORDINANCE No. 1001-141007-ADDITION TO ORDINANCE-
AMENDMENT TO AND MODIFICATION OF ORDINANCE - 1001-141007**

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF ROPESVILLE ADDING A CODICIL TO THE ORIGINAL ORDINANCE 1001-141007, ADDING RATES FOR THE PROVISIONS OF WATER UTILITY SERVICES, PROVIDING FOR TERMINATION OF WATER SERVICE ON DELINQUENT ACCOUNTS; PROVIDING A SEVERABILITY CAUSE; PROVIDING FOR THE AN AMENDMENT TO THE ORDINANCE 1001-141007; PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL FOR THE CITY OF ROPESVILLE, TEXAS AS FOLLOWS:

WHEREAS, The City Council in and for the City of Ropesville finds it in the best interest of the Citizens to amend the Ordinance No 1001-141007 to allow for better understanding of the rules and regulation for providing utilities to the citizens; and

WHEREAS, the rules adopted in this Ordinance shall give better awareness to the operations of the City Utility Operations, Billing and Collection Departments; and

WHEREAS, all person supplies with Water, Sewer, Garbage and other miscellaneous service shall observe the rules and regulation for the best interest of the Citizens of Ropesville.

WHEREAS, the purpose of this ordinance is to provide for public health and general welfare and from its passage all residential, business, commercial and industrial occupancies and uses within the City and its service area shall conform to the following rules and regulations.

Utility Billing for Water-Sewer-Garbage and Miscellaneous Funds

Water Service

SECTION 1 Customer User Rates

- (a) All persons supplied with water by the city shall be billed for water so supplied at the rates set out in the fee schedule found in this Ordinance approved by the City Mayor and Aldermen, this Ordinance shall be approved after the second passing and will add additions, supplement or codicil the Ordinance NO. 1001+141007 for water utilities billing, collections, operations beginning by this codicil, for the (date) of November 30, 2017, after the meter reading for this month and shall be added to the December, 2017 billing to the customer.

During the normal course of business, the city provides certain other service to its water customer. The charges for these services shall be as follows:

- a) For residential water customers who use 3,000 gallons or less water per month, a minimum charge shall be assessed, where water usage is 3, 000 gallons or less.*
- b) See ordinance # 1001-141007 for rates established.*

SECTION 2 Designation of fees to special fund

Capital Improvement Fund (CI) Fees designated to the special fund are deposited separately, and used to improve the city, purchase equipment, and for obtaining grant match.

Chemicals: Fees designated to allow the purchase of Chlorination, for Water production, Chemicals for the Sewer Plant and for Mosquito spraying Chemicals and labor.

- 1. WATER: TCEQ- mandatory – Water shall be chlorinated
- 2. SEWER: TCEQ- mandatory -
 - 1. BOD treatment for Sewer
 - 2. Chemicals for weed control
 - 3. Chemicals for planting ground cover
- 3. Miscellaneous: Weed control around water tank, well, stop signs, meters
- 4. Mosquito: Labor and Chemicals (this job requires a person to spray in hours that would add over time for the regular employee, the city council has placed the cost of labor in with these charges, so someone can be hired by the hour)

SECTION 3 Service fee for activation of account or temporary disconnection and reconnection of service

The city water utilities department shall charge a service fee for activation of a water account. The fee charged for activation or security fee will be a Two Hundred Dollars (\$200.00) Deposit.

- 1. The deposit shall be required before the service can be connected. The security deposit shall remain with the City until termination of service.
- 2. If a customer turns on the water meter for service before (without) notifying the city the need for service, and before the two hundred dollars deposit is paid, the customer shall be charged a fifty dollars (\$50.00) service fee for the city to read the meter to determine how much water was used since meter was disconnected.
- 3. The fifty dollar service fee will be used to pay the service used by the customer.

A charge as provided for Bad Debt Charge upon a returned check will be added to a customer's account for each returned check in the amount of \$25.00. The full amount of the bill owed, debt due, reconnect fees and the bad debt (Bad Debt Check Charge), shall be paid to the city before service can be reconnected. (All amount due shown on the customer's account shall be paid before service can be reconnected.)

The city shall not be required to send a delinquency or reminder notice to water utility customers, but as a courtesy the city will send a notice that the customer's bill is delinquent. It is the utility customer's responsibility to pay the bill each month.

(2) Exceptions.

(A) Charitable entities or government agencies.

(i) The late charge may be waived for charitable entities or government agencies paying water bills on behalf of residential customers. To claim the waiver, the entity or agency must notify the water billing department prior to the expiration of the 15th day after the billing date that it will make payment on behalf of the customer.

(ii) If payment is not made prior to the expiration of the 15-day disconnect period, the director of water billing may discontinue water service to the customer. If service is discontinued, the accrued water bill, the late charge and the reconnection charge must be paid prior to reconnection of service.

(iii) "Charitable entity" as used in this section shall mean a corporation, trust, community chest, fund, foundation, or other entity organized and operated for charitable, benevolent, religious, social, fraternal, scientific, educational, philanthropic or environmental purposes, social welfare, the arts and humanities, or other civic or public purposes described by section 11.18 of the Texas Tax Code.

(B) Elderly persons. Any person who shall provide proof that he or she is over the age of 70 and is a residential customer who occupies the entire premises in question may request a delay in payment of a residential water utility bill until the 25th day following issuance of the bill if found to have a need for the extension. The extension shall only be for a time of need, and not allowed each month. If such a request is made, the late charge will be waived on the bill and service will not be discontinued until the 26th date following issuance of the bill.

(b) Review of bills. In the event that a water utilities customer has an unusually high water meter reading, and the reading has been checked for accuracy, the water billing administrative staff may make adjustments to the customer's bill with authorization from the city mayor or his designee.

1. *All payments received by the city, will be applied to service provided in the following order:*
 - a) *First to recover passed due amounts, or delinquent amounts.*
 - b) *All current bills due.*
 - c) *All bills are payable to the City of Ropesville at the mailing address of P.O. Box 96, in person or by a mail drop box outside the front entry door.*
 - d) *Bills may also be paid by credit card.*

The City of Ropesville uses a monthly billing cycle, to utilize its billing and collections. The Collection period is established so the City of Ropesville can pay the cost of service and labor for providing utility service to the citizens of Ropesville in a timely manner.

Delinquent accounts; other charges.

- a) Any water utilities bill not paid within the fifteenth (15) day after the billing date shall be deemed delinquent and a late charge shall be added to the account for the expense of handling the delinquent account. The charge shall be ten (10%) percent of the entire bill due.
- b) The city secretary or his/her designated agent shall be authorized to discontinue water service to any customer whose account is not paid in full within twenty-five (25) days of the billing date of the account, which is established as the first (1st) day of the month. The shut off time for disconnection will be at 10:00 o'clock a.m. on the 25th day of the month. Any customer whose water service has been discontinued due to a delinquency shall be required to pay the accrued bill and the late charge, plus a reconnect charge of \$50.00, before water service will be reactivated for the account. All cost will be paid in full before service is reconnected. Reconnect charge for after -hours shall be \$100.00.

DURING THE MONTH OF SEPTEMBER, EVERY YEAR THE CUSTOMER IS REQUIRED TO PAY HIS/HER UTILITY BILL; MAXIMUM AMOUNT DUE (TOTAL DUE) ON OR BEFORE THE 25th OF SEPTEMBER. "NO DEBT SHALL BE CARRIED INTO THE NEXT FISCAL YEAR" THE CITY OF ROPESVILLE FISCAL YEAR BEGINS ON OCTOBER 1 OF EACH YEAR. THERE SHALL BE NO EXCEPTION, EXCLUSIONS OR EXEMPTIONS AT THIS TIME.

BAD DEBT

Upon the receipt of a return check from the bank for the payment of the city utilities, the customer's utilities shall be disconnected and a service fee charge to the customer for the issuance of a bad check.

4. *With a first request by a customer for the water meter to be reread, there will be no charge, a charge for the second reread requested by a customer in the same month, will have a service charge of \$25.00.*

DEPOSIT THAT ARE REQUIRED FOR UTILITY ACTIVATION FOR SPECIAL NEEDS:

If the Property owner needs to have utility services activated; such as water, and for cleaning the house or business or other purposes, the owner shall pay a temporary deposit for utilities.

- a) *The Deposit shall be \$30.00 for a set time of three days.*
- b) *The Owner shall be charged \$3.10 per day for all required services, Water, Sewer and Garbage.*
- c) *If the owner needs more than three days for cleaning, the owner shall deposit the regular \$200.00 required for services.*

Meter Tested for Accuracy

Any person requesting that a meter be tested for accuracy shall pay a deposit with the water billing department. A Twenty-five dollar security deposit shall be assessed to the Customer as Directed by the City Council, to insure all cost to review the meter are paid, any additional amount deemed necessary by the city council or his designee to pay the cost of said meter test. If the meter test determines the meter is functioning within an acceptable accuracy range, the security shall be forfeited to the city. If, however, the test determines that the meter is not functioning in an acceptable accuracy range, the security shall be refunded.

SECTION 4 Tap Connections

The charge for the water taps shall be: The total cost of all parts and labor. The case can vary with the size of the water meter.

If the tap is a 2" and/or larger shall be: The Total cost of all parts and labor. The cost for any road or pavement repair required due to the installation of a water tap will be in addition to the cost of the tap.

- a. **The water utilities director or the director's designated agent shall determine the appropriate size and type of tap and meter for water tap connections. Failure to abide by such determination will result in disapproval of the tap connection and disconnection of service. Any person ordering a water tap connection at premises within the city shall be charged for such water tap connection for cost of parts and for labor.**
- b. **If the Customer wishes he may request to be added to the City Council Meeting agenda to discuss the issue of size and type of Tap with the City Aldermen. The Customer then may request an amendment for a different size and type of tap.**

1. Any person requesting a water tap connection at premises located outside the city shall, if approved by the City Council, shall be charged for such water tap connection one and one half (1-1/2) times the above-stated schedule for each size tap.
2. The person requesting a water tap for service shall pay all cost of installing a new 4" inch water line to supply the customer water; and
3. Shall be charge at a rate for consumption at double the rate as the customer located inside the city limits of Ropesville. The City council discourages this action because the city source of water depends on well water service only. Only, in an emergency shall the city council vote to allow outside water utility services.

The water supply line then will be owned by the City of Ropesville, so it may supply the water to the customer.

SECTION 5 Water Main Extensions

Any person desiring water service to lots not previously served by the water utilities department of the city may obtain service from the city by paying the appropriate tap connection fee plus a front foot fee for the property to be served. The front foot fee is assessed to reimburse the city for the cost of an eight-inch (8") water main installation. Front foot charges for water main extensions shall be cost of supplies, materials and labor; provided, however, that a front foot fee shall not be assessed on water mains which have been in service for twenty (20) years or more. Where a customer requires a larger line, the cost to the customer of said line shall be established by the city council.

1. To qualify for the water main extension at the established front foot charge, the location of the lots to be served must be within three hundred feet (300') of an existing water main. If the distance to the lots to be served is in excess of three hundred feet (300') of an existing water main, the charges shall be as provided for in the fee schedule set by the City Council.
2. Areas where water mains are installed entirely with funds from sources other than the water department will be exempt from the front foot charge.
3. All water mains installed become the property of the city and the city reserves the right to extend or enlarge any water mains, or connect other water mains to it.

SECTION 6 Billing

- (a) Generally. Water utilities customers will be billed once each month for water furnished, and the bill will be due on the fifteenth (15) day of the month, the customer shall remit the amount thereof to the water utilities department of the city. The billing date for the City for the bill to be mailed will be from the first (1st) day of the month to the third (3rd) day of the month.
- (b) *The amounts charged by the city for providing utility services will be shown on one-month billing statement, which will include charges for all services provided, including water service, wastewater collections*

known at a minor; unless the minor has been emancipated through marriage or other legal means.

Water sales not measured by meters

All water furnished to consumers under the provisions of this division shall be measured by meters, except, when it is impractical to meter water for special occasions; water may be sold and charged for at estimated consumption upon a written permit issued under the same conditions as a fire hydrant permit.

All Charge shall stay the same unless:

- (1) The city enters Drought Stage; or.*
- (2) The city may cancel all raw water permits and prorate any prepaid fees when the city council determines such cancellation is in the public interest to conserve water; provided, however, no fee shall be prorated for a portion of a month.*

SECTION 7 Deposits

- 1) The city water utilities department shall charge a service fee for activation of a water account. The fee charged for activation will be a cash deposit in the amount of \$200.00 shall be required of all customers, and shall be paid before the service can be connected. A credit card payment may also be made for the deposit.*
- 2) The form for customer service connections must be filled out completely by the customer; and a two hundred (\$200.00) deposit must be paid before service can be connected.*

The fee for temporary disconnection and reconnection of water service shall be charged for each occasion and is set at \$50.00. Nonpayment of bill(s) may cause the utilities to be shut-off (disconnected; with a reconnect fee of \$100.00 charged for the water service and meter to be reconnected)..

SECTION 8 Discontinuing Usages

- a) Any customer or person discontinuing the use of water shall notify the City Secretary or his/her designated agent of the same and shall be entitled to receive from the city a refund of the deposit, less any unpaid water charge due;
- b) The customer who is discontinuing the city service shall notify the city secretary in writing, informing the city of the date and time the service should be discontinued;
- c) Until the city has been notified of such desire to discontinue the use of water, the customer's liability for the bill on water running through that meter shall continue. Any customer succeeding such a discontinuing customer shall make the deposit before being entitled to receive water;

(1) Considerations. In determining whether an adjustment is necessary and justified, the administrative staff shall consider the following:

(A) Whether the usage is unusually high in comparison to the customer's highest previous usage and whether such previous usage occurred at the current location or a previous location.

(B) Whether or not there have been other adjustments made to the customer's bills in the last three (3) years and whether previous problems were adequately addressed.

(C) The apparent cause of the high usage, i.e. a leak, mechanical problem or other phenomena.

(D) Whether there are reasonable grounds to believe that the customer did not receive a benefit from the excess usage and whether the circumstances of the excess usage were beyond customer's control.

(E) Any other information which the administrative staff deems relevant.

(2) Appeal. The decision of the administrative staff may be appealed to the City Council by the customer provided the customer presents a written request to the city manager to have his case reviewed and states his reasons for requesting the review. Such request must be received by the city manager's office within fifteen (15) days of the date the administrative staff's decision is communicated to the customer. The City Council may uphold or overturn the administrative staff's decision. If the City council overturns the administrative staff's decision, the City Council may make whatever adjustment to the customer's bill it deems appropriate.

Delinquency Accounts Any residence or property where utility services are requested to be provided where a deficient account is still outstanding from a previous customer shall not be reconnected in a different name than the account that was previously connected until all debt is paid. (Example: property owner moved leaving a debt and rents the property) If the property has been sold and the person requesting utility service demonstrates that the person whose name that was on the account was no longer a resident of the property or owner of the property.

1. New owners shall not be responsible for the delinquent accounts of prior owners;
2. No customer may establish a new account in his or her name that has an outstanding deficiency from any previous utility account held by the City without paying all deficiencies in addition to the deposit for the new utilities.
3. No customer who is a minor may open utilities in their name, the person who is under the age of eighteen (18) years of age and is

- d) Discontinued use of meters at a location, for a period of less than three (3) months, shall require a meter reading from the Water Supervisor. The meter then must be read every three months to insure non-usage;
- e) *(The end of service, the deposit may be used for the last bill, or refunded with full payment due on the account or past due accounts. If the Customer has a refund it shall be issued within ten (10) days of the final billing).*

SECTION 9 Meters

- (a) The positions of meters and the numbers thereof per establishment or structure shall be as determined by the city council and unless the customer conforms thereto the city shall not be required to furnish water.
 - 1. The city council allows for only one (1) meter per residence or business for drinking water. This also includes residence, business, companies, or homes that are built on lot with another business or residence. (The city requires that every home, resident, business, company install one meter for drinking water or household use.)
 - 2. A second meter can be installed for yard or garden meter.
 - 3. The account for a location at which damage has been done to the city meter or facilities shall be subject to a repair fee to the customer for showing in billing the actual cost of the repair, plus labor. The assessment of a repair fee may be appealed. The appeal must be filed with the city council and mayor for the City of Ropesville, water billing department no later than the end of business of the tenth day following receipt of notice of the repair fee. In determining whether a fee shall be assessed, the apparent source of the damage shall be considered.
 - 4. City Property: All meters, fittings, boxes, valves and appurtenances installed by the City shall remain the property of the city. City maintenance of the water service ends at the customer side of the connection to the water meter itself. City maintenance of the wastewater service ends at the tap of the main line (riser is the property owners responsibility), or point of connection of the lateral line into the main line.

SECTION 10 Injury to or obstruction of apparatus, equipment or facilities

(a) It shall be unlawful for any person or persons to obstruct, interfere with, injury, hurt, harm, damage or destroy any reservoir, tank, fountain, water through, pipe, stop cock, valve, water meter or other apparatus pertaining to any waterworks in this city, or to turn on or off without authority granted by the city mayor or his designee the water in any street hydrant, water meter or other fixture.

(b) An administrative penalty of \$50.00 may be assessed by the director of water billing or their designee upon an account holder if it is found that the installed meter has been tampered with, damaged, altered, or removed. Appeal of the assessment of the administrative penalty may be initiated by filing a written notice of appeal with the director or the director's designee no later than ten days following the mailing of the

monthly billing statement. Appeal of the assessment of the administrative penalty will be heard by the director of water billing no later than 30 days from receipt of notice. Evidence that an agent of the city or another governmental entity is responsible for the damage to a meter may be considered by the director. It is not a defense to the assessment of the administrative penalty that the account holder was unaware of the alteration, tampering, damage or removal of the meter.

SECTION 11 Fire hydrant permit

(a) Hereafter, all persons, firms or corporations, except for vehicles owned and operated by the city, who desire to tie on or to connect with any fire hydrant within the city for the purpose of withdrawing water, shall, before connecting with or tying on to said fire hydrant, obtain a permit from the water billing department of the city.

(b) Said permit shall be in writing and shall contain such terms, conditions and regulations as may be prescribed by the city council to use water from fire hydrants and upon obtaining such permit [the applicant] shall pay to the city a fee for the actual cost of water.

SECTION 12 Water sales not measured by meters

All water furnished to consumers under the provisions of this division shall be measured by meters, except, when it is impractical to meter water for special occasions; water may be sold and charged for at an estimated consumption upon a written permit issued under the same conditions as a fire hydrant permit.

All Charge shall stay the same unless

(1) The city enters Drought Stage; or.

(a) The city may cancel all raw water permits and prorate any prepaid fees when the city council determines such cancellation is in the public interest to conserve water; provided, however; no fee shall be prorated for a portion of a month.

SECTION 13 Penalties

(a) Any person, group, company, association or corporation violating any provision of this division shall be guilty of a misdemeanor, and upon conviction thereof shall be fined as provided for in the general penalty provision found in the City Ordinance.

(b) The venue for violations of this division shall be in the municipal court of the city.

Time payment for delinquencies

Delinquent accounts; other charges.

- (A) *Any water utilities bills not paid by the fifteenth (15) day of the month; shall be deemed delinquent and a late charge as provided for in the fee schedule found in the City Ordinance, shall be added to the account for the expense of handling the delinquent account. (The Charge shall be ten (10%) percent of the bill due.) Exception (Allowance) If the Fifteenth day of the month falls on a weekend or holiday, the bill shall be due the next working day,*
- (B) *The city secretary or his/her designated agent shall be authorized to discontinue water service to any customer whose account is not paid in full by the twenty-fifth (25) day of each month; if the twenty-fifth falls on a holiday or a weekend, the disconnection day will be the next working day. Any customer whose water service has been discontinued due to a delinquency shall be required to pay the accrued bill and the late charge, plus a reconnect charge as provided for in the fee schedule found in the City Ordinances, before water service can be reactivated for the account.*
- (C) *A charge as provided for in the fee schedule found in this Ordinance will be added to a customer's account for each returned check.*
- (D) *The city shall not be required to send a delinquency or reminder notice to water utility customers. The City Council has recommended the notice to be sent as a courtesy. Therefore not receiving a notice is not a reason for adjustment on the customer's utility bill.*

1. *All bills are due and payable in full on the billing date. Bills are delinquent on the 15th of each month. If the 15th falls on a week-end or holiday the bills are considered due on the next working day by 5:00 p.m. If payment is received after hours on the next working day, the bill may be considered delinquent.*

a. All utility bills are due and payable in full on the billing date listed on the utility bills as being the 15th day of each month. Bills are considered paid only upon receipt of funds at the city hall office, and by the city secretary; if the customer uses the outside drop box for payment after 5 o'clock p.m. on the date due of the 15th day of the month, the bill will be considered delinquent.

b. If the customer mailed the bill and the post mark is dated on or before the 15th the bill will not be considered as a delinquent bill, and late charges shall not be applied.

2. *All utility bills not received at city hall on the fifteenth of the month are considered delinquent and a late charge equal to ten (10%) of the total amount shown on the utility bill will be added to the amount due.*

3. *If a customer does not pay the utility bill in full, including the late fee by the 25th of the month, then the city shall have the right to have the authority to terminate utility service to that account without further notice, and without any further grace period.*

4. *If in an emergency arise for the customer during the billing sequence as described in this section, it will be required for the customer to request an extension by writing to the city council. The type of emergency shall be listed in the written statement. However, if the city council grants an extension the full amount of the bill will be due by the 15th of the next billing cycle. (No exceptions)*

Emergency classified as:

- 1. Death of a family member*
- 2. Customer's illness or hospital admittance.*

Review of bills. In the event that a water utilities customer has an unusually high water meter reading, and the reading has been checked for accuracy, the water billing administrative staff may make adjustments to the customer's bill with authorization from the city mayor or his designee.

(1) Considerations. In determining whether an adjustment is necessary and justified, the administrative staff shall consider the following:

(A) Whether the usage is unusually high in comparison to the customer's highest previous usage and whether such previous usage occurred at the current location or a previous location.

(B) Whether or not there have been other adjustments made to the customer's bills in the last three (3) years and whether previous problems were adequately addressed.

(C) The apparent cause of the high usage, i.e. a leak, mechanical problem or other phenomena.

(D) Whether there are reasonable grounds to believe that the customer did not receive a benefit from the excess usage and whether the circumstances of the excess usage were beyond customer's control.

(E) Any other information which the administrative staff deems relevant.

(2) Appeal. The decision of the administrative staff may be appealed to the city council by the customer provided the customer presents a written request to the city manager to have his case reviewed and states his reasons for requesting the review. Such request must be received by the city manager's office within fifteen (15) days of the date the administrative staff's decision is communicated to the customer. The city council may uphold or overturn the administrative staff's

decision. If the city council overturns the administrative staff's decision, the city council may make whatever adjustment to the customer's bill it deems appropriate.

Section 14 *Insufficient Funds*

For any check received by the city which is returned unpaid, either because of insufficient funds, the account is closed, or otherwise an administration fee is imposed.

Fees Charged for Bad Debt: \$10.00 service fee for bad debt (bank charge)
\$ 25.00- check return fee for administration process, and
\$25.00 - disconnect fee if meter has been turned off
\$ 25.00 - reconnect fee

If return check has not been paid in 5 days after bank notice, and the water meter was disconnected, the customer deposit shall be used to pay the amount due. If the customer wishes to turn service back on and pay all cost due, the customer shall pay a deposit in the amount of \$300.00 (and all past due amount owed).

For any damage caused to the cutoff valve, meter, or meter parts, the customer will be required to pay the full cost of repairs needed for replacement and labor.

For any tampering of/or with the water meter, shall cause a fee to be imposed in the amount of \$50.00 plus the customer will be required to pay the full cost of repairs needed for replacement and labor.

Imposing of any fee hereinabove does not preclude the city from instituting criminal charges under appropriate circumstances.

Section 15 *Reconnect Fee -Hours Set*

Regular business hours refer herein as the hours between 8:00 o'clock a.m. and 5:00 o'clock p.m. After business hours refer herein as the hours between 5:00 o'clock p.m. until 8:00 o'clock a.m. the next day.

Section 16 *Hardship Cases, Billing Disputes*

The city council recognizes that from time to time extraordinary circumstances may exist that present a customer being able to timely pay the customer's utility bill. The city secretary is hereby designated as the official to hear and determine all requests for hardship relief. The

city shall establish general guideline to assure uniform consistent treatment of request for relief or extensions. This plan will also set up security measures for the city for collections.

- 1 *The customer must request the extension before the shut off date (25th of each month)*
- 2 *The customer will sign an agreement with the city secretary, stating that the utility bills shall be paid within 5 days after the 25th of the month. (no exceptions), and*
- 3 *This request cannot be made for more than one consecutively month, during a six (6) month scheduled billing cycle, unless authorized by the city council for an emergency extension.*
- 4 *A second or repeatedly request for extension will require the customer to attend a city council meeting to explain why the payments cannot be made as schedule.*
- 5 *Failure to pay or notify the city secretary the payment cannot be made by the 5th day extension shall cause the meter to be turned off for non-payment. (And may require a second deposit for security to be made before the service can be turned back on).*
- 6 *Any dispute regarding the validity of any indebtedness owed to the city shall be handled by the City Council, during a regular scheduled city council meeting.*
- 7 *The City Secretary shall be authorized to add all charges to the account caused by the account being delinquent, or expense incurred for damage to cut off valves, meters, meter boxes, or other city owned equipment, including the cost of parts and labor.*

Section 17 Authority to Disconnect Services.

The city may terminate water and wastewater disposal service and disconnect the customer from the system when: the customer fails to pay monthly bills for water and sanitary services when due.

Section 18 Designation of fees to special fund

Fees designated to the special fund are provided for in the fee schedule found in the ORDINANCE for this charge.

Section 19 All CUSTOMER BILLS ARE DUE BY THE 25th of SEPTEMBER

The City accountant has recommended that debt owed to the city not be allowed to extend into the next fiscal year of city operations.

Therefore each September and for every year after; all payment for any account must be received by the city secretary to allow time to deposit the money to the bank before the year ends for that fiscal years accounting.

***All bills are due by the 25th of the month, if the 25th of September falls after the Wednesday of the final week of the month of September; the payment shall be due by the last Wednesday of the month so the money collected can be deposited in the bank for the proper year for depositing.**

Section 20 WATER SALES RESTRICTED-CONTROLLED OR REGULATED

The City of Ropesville shall not sell water to any company or business that:

- 1. Have not approached the city council during a regular meeting and gained authorization in writing to buy potable water (drinking water that has been treated for drinking water);*
- 2. Have not by the authorization of the city council for purchase of water and have not connected to a meter device;*
- 3. The City council wishes to conserve all water for consumption by the Citizens and business of Ropesville.*

Connections shall not be made to either the City Water or the Wastewater System until the City's waste/wastewater operator or City Council has certified that the respective system or applicable portion thereof is adequate and operational. Water service shall not be provided to any residential or business unit that is not in compliance with the rules and regulation promulgated by the Texas Department of Health, TCEQ, and Texas Water Code.

Section 21 SEVERABILITY

If any provision of this Order, or the application thereof to any person or circumstances, shall be held invalid or unconstitutional by a Court of competent jurisdiction, such invalidity shall not affect the other provisions, or application thereof, of this Order which can be given effect without the invalid provision or application and to this end the provisions of this Order are declared to be severable.

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS ORDERED BY THE CITY COUNCIL FOR THE CITY OF ROPESVILLE, HOCKLEY COUNTY TEXAS, THAT, The City Council for the City of Ropesville, Texas, being in regular session at regular term of said Council Meeting, the following members thereof being present:

Mayor	Brenda Rabel
ALDERMAN, WARD No.1	Miles Evans
ALDERMAN, WARD No.1	Lee Rabel
ALDERMAN, WARD No.2	Mike Moore
ALDERMAN, WARD No.2	Brannon Greenlee

The following proceedings, among others, were had, to -wit:

THE CITY COUNCIL FOR THE CITY OF ROPESVILLE, HOCKLEY COUNTY, TEXAS HEREBY ADOPTS ORDINANCE NO. 1001-141007 (A) - REVISED-AMENDED -ADDED NEW RULES, PROCEDURES TO ORDINANCE No. 1001-141007.

Upon the motion made by, Miles Evans seconded by Brannon Greenlee at the City Council meeting on ___13_ Day of __MARCH__ 20 18

**THE STATE OF TEXAS
CITY OF ROPESVILLE**

Second Reading, upon motion made by, BRANNON GREENLEE seconded by, MILES EVANS

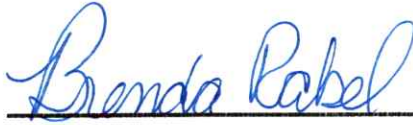
On this The 13 day of ___February___, 2018
On this the 13 day of __ March___, 2018

**First Reading
Second Reading**

PASSED AND APPROVED THIS 13 day of FEBRUARY 2018

Second reading

PASSED AND APPROVED THIS 13 day of MARCH 2018



Brenda Rabel, Mayor

Attest:



Ofelia Corral, City Secretary

**THE CITY COUNCIL FOR THE CITY OF ROPESVILLE, HOCKLEY COUNTY, TEXAS HEREBY ADOPTS
ORDINANCE NO. 1001-141007 (A) - REVISED-AMENDED --ADDED NEW RULES, PROCEEDURES TO
ORDINANCE No. 1001-141007.**