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CITY OF BELLEVUE, WASHINGTON

ORDINANCE NO. 4364

AN ORDINANCE amending Ordinances Nos. 2208 and 2909 regarding delinquent water and sewer charges; repealing a section of the Water System Code and Regulations adopted by Ordinance No. 2415; providing for the classification of customer by retail or wholesale use; and providing for the collection of interest on accounts of wholesale customers.

THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF BELLEVUE, WASHINGTON, DOES ORDAIN AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. Section 2 of Ordinance No. 2208, as last amended by Ordinance No. 2809, is hereby amended to read as follows:

The Waterworks Utility, by and through its appropriate administrative officials or the appropriate administrative officials of the Finance Department of the City consistently with the provisions of this ordinance, may refuse or discontinue water service to any customer who fails to pay, when due, any bill for water consumption and/or service charges or sewer service and/or connection charges and, when so requested by the Storm and Surface Utility, acting through its appropriate administrative officials, may refuse or discontinue water service to any customer who fails to pay, when due, any bill for storm and surface water sewer utility service charges, all as authorized by the provisions of RCW 35.21.290, 35.21.300. and 35.67.290.

In the case of a wholesale customer, the utility may charge interest on past due accounts at the maximum rate allowed by state law. A wholesale customer is a customer who is in the business of reselling water service to customers of its own.

Payment of delinquent sewer service, connection and penalty charges, and delinquent storm and surface water utility service charges may also be enforced as provided under RCW Chapter 35.67.200 through .280, and all such charges enforced thereunder shall bear interest at a rate of eight percent annually from day of delinquency.

The enumeration hereunder of specific remedies is not by way of limitation, and the Waterworks Utility, Storm and Surface Water Utility, and Finance Department are hereby authorized to employ all methods allowed by law for the collection of delinquent charges of all types.

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Section 2. Section 3 of Ordinance No. 2208, as last amended by Ordinance No. 2809, is hereby amended to read as follows:

Whenever water service is discontinued under Section 2 above there shall be levied and collected the following cutoff charges, and payment of said charges shall be made along with all other delinquent charges, prior to restoration of service to the premises affected:

Charge for turn-off of water service	
For meter sizes up to 3/4"	\$10.00
For meter sizes over 3/4"	\$20.00

Charge for turn-on of water service (during hours when City offices and departments are open for transactions of business)	
For meter sizes up to 3/4"	\$10.00
For meter sizes over 3/4"	\$20.00

Charge for turn-on of water service (during hours when City offices and departments are not open for transactions of business)	
For meter sizes up to 3/4"	\$20.00
For meter sizes over 3/4"	\$40.00

Meters will be padlocked when a turnoff is a result of a delinquent account.

Section 3. Section III(g) of the Water System Code and Regulations of the City of Bellevue Waterworks Utility, adopted by Ordinance No. 2415 and last amended by Ordinance No. 2809, is hereby repealed.

Section 4. Section 1 of Ordinance No. 2909 is hereby amended to read as follows:

Water, sewer and storm and surface water service charges are payable on the date of billing and are due 30 days thereafter. Charges remaining unpaid at the close of business on the 30th day after the date of billing shall be considered delinquent. Collection of delinquent accounts shall follow this procedure:

a) A delinquent notice shall be mailed when a bill becomes delinquent. No late charge shall be added at this time.

b) For customers other than wholesale customers, a water shut-off notice shall be hand delivered to the service address if a bill is not paid within 50 days of original billing date. At the time such notice is

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delivered, a charge of \$6.00 shall be added to the account to partially offset the expense of delivering said notice. If payment is not received by the date on the hand-delivered water shut-off notice, disconnection of service will occur.

c) In the case of wholesale customers, if a bill is not paid within 50 days of the original date, interest will be charged at a rate of twelve percent annually on the balance which is 50 days old or older.

d) In enforcing its rights to payment, the Utility or the City may use the procedures under RCW 35.21.300 or any other remedy available under the law.

Section 5. This ordinance shall take effect and be in force five days after its passage and legal publication.

PASSED by the City Council this 26th day of May, 1992, and signed in authentication of its passage this 26th day of May, 1992.

(SEAL)


Cary Bozeman, Mayor

Approved as to form:

Richard L. Andrews, City Attorney


Scott McKee, Assistant City Attorney

Attest:


Marie K. O'Connell, City Clerk

Published May 29, 1992