

Ordinance no. _____

Now be it and it is hereby ordained by the Mayor and City Council of the City of Cartersville, that the CITY OF CARTERSVILLE CODE OF ORDINANCES. CHAPTER 24 – UTILITIES. ARTICLE II. – RATES, CHARGES, BILLING AND COLLECTION PROCEDURES. SECTIONS 24-27 – 24-40 RESERVED, is hereby deleted in its entirety and replaced as follows:

1.

Sec. 24-27. – Advanced Metering Infrastructure Meters Opt-Out Program.

- (a) The City of Cartersville, as of April 2022, has commenced a meter replacement program, whereby it shall install Advanced Metering Infrastructure (hereinafter referred to as “AMI”), which shall include an integrated system of smart meters, various communication networks, and a data management system that enables two-way communication between the City utilities and its customers. The City of Cartersville understands that some residential customers do not desire to have AMI smart meters installed at their residences, so it shall provide an opt-out option for those residential customers on the following conditions:
1. That they currently have a non-AMI smart meter as of April 4, 2024.
 2. For single-family owner-occupied residential dwellings only.
 3. Not for multi-family (does not include townhomes or condominiums in which individual residents own their residences and have individual connections for electric, gas, and water), commercial, governmental, solar or industrial users.
 4. If a residential customer decides to opt-out and not to have their non-AMI smart meter replaced, then the following monthly fee shall be added:
 - a. For one (1) non-AMI smart meter - \$35.00 per month; or
 - b. For two (2) or more non-AMI smart meters - \$70.00 per month.
 5. A residential customer may only opt-out if their account is currently in good standing and they have had no late payments in the past twelve (12) months.
 6. The City reserves the right to, in its sole discretion, deny any and all opt-out requests due to safety of personnel, location of meters, difficulty of access or other concerns which lead to an increase in costs or meter readings. The final decision will be made by the City Manager.
 7. A residential customer only has one opportunity to opt-out and must, within sixty (60) days of the approval of this ordinance, fill out and submit an Opt-Out Service Agreement on the forms provided for by the City.
 8. A residential customer may elect to opt-out of all meters, or just a portion thereof.
 9. Opt-out requests may only be made by the owner of the property who accepts financial responsibility of all monthly fees associated with the opt-out request.
 10. Residential customers that have experienced meter tampering or manipulation, or have been disconnected for non-payment two or more times, will not be eligible to opt-out.
 11. Residential customers that are disconnected in the future more than twice or have late payments more than twice will not be eligible to continue to opt-out.

- 12. Residential customers with meters that have historically been difficult to disconnect or obtain a reading for billing purposes will not be eligible to opt-out of the AMI meter installation. The final decision will be made by the City Manager.
- 13. If/when the existing meter(s) fails, the meter(s) will be replaced with an AMI meter.
- 14. If the name the account is in changes, the opt-out will no longer apply to the residence, and the meter(s) will be replaced with an AMI meter.
- 15. Multi-unit dwellings with homeowner and condominium associations may not collectively opt-out of AMI meter installations on behalf of individual residents who are members of the association. Individual residents who are owners of their residences and have individual connections for electric, gas, and water may submit a request for to opt-out pursuant to the requirements set forth herein.

2.

Sec. 24-28 – 24-40. Reserved.

3.

It is the intention of the city council and it is hereby ordained that the provisions of this ordinance shall become and be made a part of the Code of Ordinances, City of Cartersville, Georgia, and the sections of this ordinance may be renumbered to accomplish such intention.

BE IT AND IT IS HEREBY ORDAINED

FIRST READING: _____
 SECOND READING: _____

 MATTHEW J. SANTINI, MAYOR

ATTEST: _____
 JULIA DRAKE, CITY CLERK