

CITY OF STEVENSON

**RESOLUTION NO. 2013-254**

RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF STEVENSON ADOPTING A WATER USAGE RESPONSIBILITY POLICY (LEAK ADJUSTMENT PROCESS) AND REPEALING RESOLUTION NO. 64 IN ITS ENTIRETY

Recitals

**WHEREAS**, the City of Stevenson, organized under the provision of RCW Title 35A, Municipal Code, operates a combined water/sewer utility as authorized by chapters 35.88, 35.91, 35.92, and 35.94 both within and without its limits; and

**WHEREAS**, installation and maintenance of water service lines from the meter to and inside the building/premises of private property is the responsibility of the private landowner, including any water lost due to leaks and/or breakages; and

**WHEREAS**, from time to time customers of this water/sewer utility may have water leaks on their service facilities causing abnormally high bills.

**NOW, THEREFORE**, the City Council of the City of Stevenson does resolve as follows:

Section 1. Resolution No. 64 "A Resolution of the city Council of the City of Stevenson Adopting a Water Usage Responsibility Policy" is repealed in its entirety.

Section 2. In the event of abnormal water usage due to a leak and/or breakage a water/sewer customer may request a billing adjustment under the following conditions:

- A. No water/sewer bill will be adjusted for any reason after thirty (30) days from receipt of notice from the City that the latest meter reading was unusually high for that billing period or within seven (7) days of the customer's discovery of the leak and providing proof of repair of the leak within ten (10) days of discovery.
- B. The City reserves the right to adjust water bills for water used between the time when the increased usage began and the date of receipt of notification or repair, whichever first occurs.
- C. A written application for a leak adjustment must be submitted to the City requesting a reduction in said billing, identifying the date when a leak/break was detected and when the leak/break was repaired, and providing proof of repair of the leak/break or signed letter attesting to completion of repair. The customer shall allow the public works employees the opportunity to verify by inspection that the repair has been made.
- D. All applications for a water adjustment shall be submitted to the City Utility clerk, the utility clerk may request verification by Public Works Director that the repair has been successful, and approved by the City council prior to crediting the account. If the applicant does not have six (6) months of history no adjustment can be calculated.

- E. The meter account shall be entitled to the benefits of this section not more than one (1) time every five (5) years.
- F. No water adjustment credit shall exceed \$1,000.

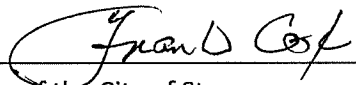
Section 3. The City Council upon an appeal, reserves the right in its sole discretion to override a water adjustment calculation upon a showing of good cause. Appeals shall be in writing and filed with the City Utility Clerk not more than sixty (60) days of the date of the initial billing for which an adjustment is requested or they shall be barred.

Section 4. The City Council reserves the right to deny a water/sewer adjustment when the Council believes fraud or abuse exists or when the Council finds the customer has failed to meet the requirements set forth in Section 2 above.

Section 5. Any water consumer will be responsible for full payment of any water/sewer bill regardless of the reason for the usage amount unless the City Council has made a specific adjustment in the water/sewer bill pursuant to Section 2 above. Water adjustments shall not be allowed if such excess water consumption is due to the owner's neglect to repair the water system.

Section 6. Billing adjustments shall be calculated following the Leak Adjustment Methodology attached as Exhibit A which shall be updated annually reflecting costs established in the year end Water Operating Statements.

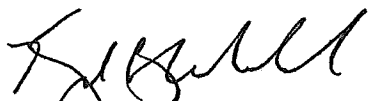
Passed by the Council of the City of Stevenson this 21<sup>st</sup> day of February 2013.

  
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Mayor of the City of Stevenson

ATTEST:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Clerk to the City Council

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
[Signature]