CITY OF ATKINS, ARKANSAS

ORDINANCE NO. 2023- 02

AN ORDINANCE TO SET FEES FOR REPLACEMENT OF DAMAGED ELECTRONIC WATER METER COMPONENTS, NON-EMERGENT CALL OUTS AFTER HOURS, AND BORES AT INSTALLATION, DECLARING AN EMERGENCY; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

WHEREAS, the City of Atkins, Arkansas has incurred considerable costs in upgrading the water meters attached to the city water system; and

WHEREAS, the updates to the water meter system allows for the attachment of electronic water meters with radio signal allowing the reading of meters without manual read. The sending unit and radio components save the City of Atkins a significant amount of manpower and allow for more accurate and timely reads; and

WHEREAS, the city finds that, too often, the mounting hardware for the sending unit including without limitation the water meter lid, connection cord, radio and the water meter and box itself, which is exposed, are being damaged by lawnmowers or other power equipment or vehicles; and

WHEREAS, these water meter components are quite expensive and it is necessary for the City of Atkins to assess a fee for the destruction of components of the electronic water meter. Assessing the fee will allow the city to recover the cost of the damage from the responsible party rather than requiring all water users collectively to pay for the negligence of others.

WHEREAS, the city finds that, too often, non-emergent requests for assistance with water meters and/or lines come into the office after hours, which costs the city manpower/overtime pay. Assessing a fee will allow the city to recover the cost of manpower for non-emergent after hour call outs.

WHEREAS, the city finds that too often when a bore is required for the installation of a water meter the cost is quite expensive and it is necessary for the City of Atkins to assess a fee for the third party bore. Assessing a fee will allow the city to recover the cost of the bore from the party that receives the water meter rather than requiring all water users collectively to pay the bore cost.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF ATKINS:

SECTION 1: DAMAGE TO CITY WATER METER COMPONENTS.

A) Whenever any city water meter component, which shall include without limitation the meter lid, connection cords, radios and any other part of the water meter, is destroyed and/or damaged through normal wear and exposure to the elements, the components will be replaced by the city furnishing the labor and materials.

B) Whenever any city water meter component, which shall include without limitation the meter lid, connection cords, radios and any other part of the water meter, is destroyed and/or damaged by carelessness or negligence or the owner or occupant of the premises, the city will repair the damage and charge the account of said owner or occupant of the premises being serviced by said water meter. This shall include damage caused by a person(s) working at the direction and/or for the owner or occupant of the premises serviced by the water meter.

C) Whenever any city water meter component, which shall include without limitation the meter lid, connection cords, radios and any other part of the water meter, is destroyed and/or damaged by contractors or others in the performance of construction, excavation, hauling or other work, or by vandalism, the person, contractors or the company responsible for such damage or destruction shall be billed by the city for the cost of the repair or replacement of such damaged equipment.

SECTION 2: NON-EMERGENT CALL OUTS

A) Whenever an owner or occupant of the premises contacts the water company for non-emergent assistance after hours, a fee will be assessed for manpower/overtime.

SECTION 3: BORES REQUIRED FOR METER INSTALLATION.

A) Whenever a bore is required for the installation of a water meter the owner of the premises will be assessed the total cost charged by the third party completing the bore work.

SECTION 4: INTERRUPTION OF WATER SERVICE.

A) The city reserves the right to interrupt water services at any time for repairs or other necessary purpose without notice, and will not be responsible for damages arising thereby. The city will make reasonable effort to notify water users of pending outages when possible.

SECTION 5: FEE.

A) The city shall assess a fee for the repair and/or replacement of any of the electronic water meter components damaged by the carelessness of the person, contractor or company responsible for such damage. The city shall assess a fee for a non-

emergent call out after hours. The city shall assess a fee for a bore required for the installation of a water meter. Currently the breakdown on the costs are as follows:

5/8" x 3/4" METER FEES

a. Meter Box Lid - $16.00
b. MXU Single Port - $160.00
c. Box for Single Port - $42.00
d. Connection Cord - $30.00
e. Meter Box - $18.00
f. Water Setter - $140.00
g. Meter - $150.00
h. Labor - $125.00
i. Tax – Current Tax Rate

1" METER FEES

a. Meter Box Lid - $30.00
b. MXU Single Port - $160.00
c. Connection Cord - $30.00
d. Meter Box - $78.00
e. Meter - $216.95
f. Water Setter - $140.00
g. Labor - $125.00
h. Box for Single Port - $42.00
i. Tax – Current Tax Rate

2" METER FEES

a. Meter Box Lid - $98.00
b. MXU Single Port - $160.00
c. Box for Single Port - $42.00
d. Connection Cord - $30.00
e. Meter Box - $175.00
f. Meter - $520.00
g. Water Setter - $1,107.00
h. Labor - $125.00
i. Tax – Current Tax Rate

ALL METERS OVER 2"

A) The City shall assess a fee not less than $50.00 and not to exceed the Actual Cost of damaged meter components, tax, and labor.

NON-EMERGENT AFTER HOURS CALL OUT

A) Non-emergent call outs, made after regular business hours between 8:00 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. shall be charged $75.00.

BORES

A) The total cost of a bore, if required, for a water meter installation shall be paid by the owner of the premises in full, which is completed by a contractor.

SECTION 6: PENALTIES

A) Any person, firm or corporation who shall violate, fail, neglect or refuse to comply with any of the provisions of this ordinance shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and upon conviction thereof, shall be punished by a fine not to exceed $300.00.

DATED AND PASSED this 13th day of June, 2023.

ROWDY R. SWEET, MAYOR

ATTEST:

ANGELA SINGLETON, CITY CLERK

CITY OF ATKINS SEAL POPE COUNTY ARKANSAS

FILED
Angela Singleton, City Clerk
City of Atkins
Date: 6-13-2023