

**ORDINANCE**

**UTILITY FEES**

**#07 – 04**

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND SEVERAL SECTIONS OF CHAPTER 24, "UTILITIES", OF THE CODE OF ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF DUBLIN, GEORGIA BY INCREASING THE DEPOSITS CHARGED AFTER CUT-OFFS AND CLARIFYING THE CUT-OFF DATE; BY INCREASING THE CUT-ON/CUT-OFF FEES; BY INCREASING THE UNAUTHORIZED USAGE FEE; AND BY ELIMINATING THE CUT-OFF WAIVER SECTION.

BE IT ORDAINED AND ESTABLISHED by the Mayor and City Council of the City of Dublin, Georgia as follows:

1.

**Sec. 24-42, 'Deposits required' is amended by deleting the current section and replacing it in its entirety, which new section shall read as follows:**

"A deposit of forty dollars (\$40.00) shall be required for all new residential and small commercial water customers who have a good credit report from a credit reporting bureau or provide written evidence of a good payment record from their previous utility and for all residential and small commercial water customers transferring their accounts with the City of Dublin.

A deposit of one hundred dollars (\$100.00) shall be required from any current or former customer or transferee of the city utilities that has had utility services terminated for nonpayment of a monthly utility bill three (3) times within any twelve-month period or has paid three (3) late payments during a previous twelve-month period, and from new water customers who do not have a good credit report from a credit reporting bureau or provide written evidence of a good payment reference from their previous utility.

An estimated three (3) months water usage charge or one hundred fifty dollars (\$150.00) whichever is greater, shall be required for large commercial and small industrial water customers.

Apartment buildings and other multiple users with only one (1) meter serving multiple units shall be required to pay the minimum deposit per unit of occupancy based on the payment history of the owners or managers of the complex.

All deposits shall be paid in full in advance of connection to the utility service. Special consideration may be given on a conditional basis to new residential customers who do not have an established credit record"

2.

**Sec. 24-124, "Deposits required" is amended by deleting the current section and replacing it in its entirety, which new section shall read as follows:**

"A deposit of forty dollars (\$40.00) shall be required for all new residential and small commercial firm gas customers with a good credit rating from a past utility and for all residential and small commercial firm gas customers transferring their accounts.

A gas deposit of one hundred and fifty dollars (\$150.00) shall be required from any current or former customer or transferee of the City of Dublin utilities that has had utility services terminated for nonpayment three (3) times within any twelve-month period or has paid three (3) late payments during any previous twelve-month period, and from new customers who do not have a good credit report from a credit reporting bureau or provide written evidence of a good payment reference from their previous utility.

An estimated three (3) months' demand charge or two hundred ninety-seven dollars (\$297.00), whichever is greater, shall be required for large commercial and small industrial gas customers.

An estimated two (2) months' bill shall be required for industrial customers using gas under the interruptible rate."

3.

**Section 24 – 43, “Cut off and cut on fees” (water) is amended by increasing the fee for cut-on and cut-off from ten dollars to fifteen dollars, such that the first sentence shall now read as follows:**

“A fee of fifteen dollars (\$15.00) shall be charged for cut-off and a fee of fifteen dollars (\$15.00) shall be charged for cut-on of services during normal working hours of the meter department.

4.

**Section 24 – 134, “Cut off and cut on fees” (gas) is amended by increasing the fee for cut-on and cut-off from ten dollars to fifteen dollars, such that the first sentence shall now read as follows:**

“A fee of fifteen dollars (\$15.00) shall be charged for cut-off and a fee of fifteen dollars (\$15.00) shall be charged for cut-on of services during normal working hours of the meter department.

5.

**Section 24 – 44, “Account establishment fee” is amended by increasing the fee from \$15 to \$20 and charge both new customer and any transfer customer the fee, such that the code section shall now read as follows:**

“All new utility customers and all customers transferring an account shall pay an account establishment fee of twenty dollars (\$20.00) which fee shall be billed on the first utility bill to the customer.”

6.

**Section 24 – 45, Penalty for connection to utility service prior to establishing account for service” is amended by increasing the unauthorized usage fee from \$10 to \$50, such that the first sentence shall now read as follows:**

“A penalty of fifty dollars (\$50.00) shall be paid by any utility user who is found to be connected to the utility services and who has not applied for such service.”

7.

**Sec. 24-40, “Payment of bills; penalty” is amended changing the cut-off event to 25 days after the date of the bill, such that the section shall now read as follows:**

“All bills for water shall be due and payable at the customer service office upon receipt, and if said payment is not paid by 5:00 p.m. on the due date shown on the bill a ten (10) per cent delinquency penalty shall be added. If said bills are not paid within twenty-five (25) days after the date of the bill, water service shall be discontinued without further notice. Provided, however, that when the due date or cutoff date falls on a Saturday, Sunday, or legal holiday, said bills shall become due, said penalty shall attach or said service shall be discontinued on the next succeeding business day after the due date or cutoff date.”

8.

**Sec. 24-74, “Payment of bills; penalty; waiver” is amended by changing the cut-off event to 25 days after the date of the bill, and by deleting the waiver provision, such that the section shall now read in its entirety as follows:**

“All bills for sewer shall be due and payable at the customer service office upon receipt, and if said bills are not paid by 5:00 p.m. on the due date shown on the bill, a ten (10) per cent delinquency penalty shall be added. If said bills are not paid within twenty-five (25) days after the date of the bill, sewer service shall be discontinued without further notice. Provided, however, that when the due date or cutoff date falls on a Saturday, Sunday, or legal holiday, said bills shall become due, said penalty shall attach or said service shall be discontinued on the next succeeding business day after the due date or cutoff date.”

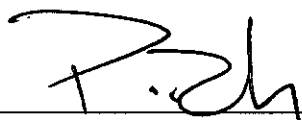
9.

**Section 24 – 136, “ Payment of Bills; penalty” is amended by changing the cut-off event to 25 days after the date of the bill, and by deleting the waiver provision, such that the section shall now read in its entirety as follows:**

“All bills for gas shall be due and payable at the customer service office upon receipt, and if said bills are not paid by 5:00 p.m. on the due date shown on the bill, a ten (10) per cent delinquency penalty shall be added. If said bills are not paid within twenty-five (25) days after the date of the bill, gas service shall be discontinued without further notice. Provided, however, that when the due date or cutoff date falls on a Saturday, Sunday, or legal holiday, said bills shall become due, said penalty shall attach or said service shall be discontinued on the next succeeding business day after the due date or cutoff date.”

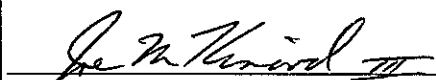
This ordinance shall become effective in accordance with the provisions of the Charter of the City of Dublin

SO ORDAINED this 3<sup>rd</sup> day of May 2007, by a vote of (7 ) FOR and (0 ) AGAINST.



PHIL BEST, MAYOR

ATTEST:



JOE KINARD, CITY CLERK

Ordinance  
#07-04