

ORDINANCE 81-2007

ORDINANCE OF THE BOROUGH OF MADISON INCREASING DELINQUENCY INTEREST RATE FROM 8% TO 18% FOR AMOUNTS OVER \$1,500.00 AND OVER 30 DAYS DELINQUENT

WHEREAS, the Borough Administrator has recommended that the rules and regulations of the Electric Utility and the rules and regulations of the Water Utility be amended pursuant to section 94-2, Appendix B, and section 190-3 of the Borough Code to set forth a revised billing policy; and

WHEREAS, the Borough Council agrees with these recommendations.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED by the Council of the Borough of Madison, in the County of Morris and State of New Jersey, as follows:

SECTION 1: The rules and regulations of the Electric Utility, section 94-2, Appendix B of the Borough Code, and the rules and regulations of the Water Utility, Section 190-3 of the Borough Code, are each amended to provide for the following billing policy:

PAYMENT OF WATER AND ELECTRIC BILLS

All bills and charges for water and electric service are due when rendered and must be paid within thirty days of the billing date.

When an account has aged 30 days it becomes delinquent and a delinquent notice shall be sent.

If the delinquent customer is a tenant the property owner shall be sent a copy of the delinquent notice with a reminder that the property owner is ultimately responsible for the payment of the bill.

If a bill is unpaid thirty days after the date shown on the delinquent notice, service is discontinued and an eight percent (8%) annual interest charge is added to account balance for amounts less than \$1,500.00. For any amount over \$1,500.00 the interest rate shall be eighteen (18%) percent annual interest charge.

If service is discontinued for non-payment of a bill, there will be a charge of \$25.00 for restoring service.

The Chief Financial officer may defer the shutoff date and negotiate a partial payment plan if it is in the best interest of the Borough of Madison or State or federal law requires the service to continue. The partial payment plan shall not extend beyond one year and can only be written for a monthly amount over and above the current bill. A copy of the fully signed deferred payment plan shall be forwarded to the Borough Administrator and Borough Attorney.

If the plan is made with a tenant, the property owner shall also sign the payment plan.

SECTION 2: This Ordinance shall be effective as of January 1, 2008.

ADOPTED AND APPROVED

December 10, 2007

ELLWOOD R. KERKESLAGER, Mayor

Attest:

MARILYN SCHAEFER, Borough Clerk

Introduced and passed: November 26, 2007

Published, Madison Eagle: November 29, 2007

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