

## **ORDINANCE 28-2017**

### **ORDINANCE OF THE BOROUGH OF MADISON AMENDING CHAPTER 94 ATTACHMENT 2, APPENDIX B ENTITLED "PAYMENT OF WATER AND ELECTRIC BILLS"**

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE BOROUGH OF MADISON IN THE COUNTY OF MORRIS AND THE STATE OF NEW JERSEY, as follows:

**Chapter 94 Attachment 2, Appendix B entitled "Payment of Water and Electric Bills" of the "Code of the Borough of Madison" is hereby amended to read as follows:**

#### **ELECTRIC UTILITY**

##### **Chapter 94 Attachment 2**

##### **Appendix B**

#### **PAYMENT OF WATER AND ELECTRIC BILLS**

All bills and charges for water and electric service are due when rendered and must be paid within 25 days of the billing date.

When an account is past due 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 25 days after the date due, service may be discontinued and an 8% annual interest charge added to the account balance for amounts less than \$1,500. For any amount over \$1,500, the interest rate shall be 18% annual interest charge.

Unpaid charges or rents and other costs and expenses, including sewer charges, shall be a lien on the house, building, lot, property or premises to which they are associated to the same extent as taxes are a lien upon real estate in the municipality, and shall be collected and enforced by the same officers and in the same manner as liens for taxes.

With the advice and consent of the Borough Administrator and the Borough Attorney, and with guidance from N.J.A.C 14:3-3A, the Chief Financial Officer will prepare and maintain a Policies and Procedures Manual Regarding Penalties, Charges, Delinquent Notices and the Discontinuance of Utility Service.

If electric service is discontinued for nonpayment of a bill, there will be a charge for restoring service of \$100 for residential properties, Service Codes SC1 and SC4, \$250 for commercial properties, Service Codes SC2 and SC3, and \$500 for large commercial properties, Service Code SC5.

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 federal and/or state 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.

ADOPTED AND APPROVED

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ROBERT H. CONLEY, Mayor

Attest:

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ELIZABETH OSBORNE, Borough Clerk