RESOLUTION NO. 10 FOR 2006

A RESOLUTION ADOPTING LEAK ADJUSTMENT POLICY FOR WATER AND WASTEWATER UTILITY ACCOUNTS.

WHEREAS, the Sweet Home City Council has provided that "Rules" can be adopted as Resolutions to carry out provisions of Water and Wastewater (Sewer) Ordinances in accordance with Ordinance No. 1174 and 1175; and

WHEREAS, SHMC 13.04.030 Billing, Payment Delinquencies and Penalties states "Adjustment of utility bills when water pipes break on the customer's side of the water meter may, by rule, be adjusted upon customer request ..."; and

WHEREAS, City desires to establish formal policy regarding the adjustment of water and wastewater bills when leaks/breaks occur on the customer side of the water meter.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SWEET HOME CITY COUNCIL that effective upon passage of this Resolution, the following policy shall be in effect:

The following policy is in regards to adjusting utility accounts when account holder experiences an "excess in water usage" due to water supply and/or plumbing fixture break, failure, and/or leak on the customer (private) side of the water meter beyond their control.

- A utility bill MAY be adjusted, AFTER proof (i.e. plumbers invoice, parts receipts, plumbing permit, etc.) has been provided to the City that the supply line/fixture problem has been repaired or corrected, according to the following:
    - The charge for water billing will be based upon the average consumption for the billing periods of the previous 12 months beginning with the month just prior to when the problem occurred, PLUS ½ of the water consumption measured in excess of the above referenced average for the billing period the problem occurred.
    - If the charge for sewer billing is based upon the volume of water metered, any/all adjustments will be based upon the 12 month average consumption described above unless billing was not affected by this "excess water usage" i.e. during Winter Averaging.
    - Customer must apply for leak adjustment consideration within six (6) months that problem occurred to ensure adjustment consideration, applications for adjustment beyond six (6) months will not be considered.

It has been determined that these rates and/or fees are classified as not being subject to Oregon Constitution, Article XI, Section 11b limitations.

PASSED by the Sweet Home City Council and approved by the Mayor this 14th day of March, 2006.

Mayor

City Manager – Ex Officio City Recorder