

## RESOLUTION NO. 9 FOR 2006

### A RESOLUTION SETTING UTILITY ACCOUNT DEPOSIT POLICY FOR WATER AND/OR WASTEWATER 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, Sweet Home Municipal Code (SHMC) 13.04.060 provides for the establishment of account deposits in which deposits shall be required in advance on each NEW water and/or sewer account and for each customer whose service has been interrupted for non-payment BEFORE service is re-commenced. It also states that Deposits are available for refund, or may be waived, upon showing of "good credit".

WHEREAS, City desires to establish a formal policy regarding water and/or wastewater account deposits.

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 is an effort to clearly and consistently identify the circumstances in which *Account Deposits* are required and determination if customer has "good credit" to which account deposit can be refunded or waived.

"*New Account*" shall generally mean "Any customer desiring to submit application for water and/or sewer service at property served by such (or about to be) as in new construction."

A deposit is required in all circumstances unless:

Customer has existing account that is in good standing with the utility and can be transferred to new account seamlessly, and/or;

Applicant requesting "*New Account*" has multiple existing accounts in good standing and/or;

Verification of "good credit" per established policy.

Account deposit(s) will be refunded and/or waived upon request according to the following guideline:

Upon customer request, the deposit can be waived if verified by the utility that the customer/applicant(s) most recent, previous account as a property owner was within six (6) months of application date AND reflects at least twelve (12) consecutive months of on-time payment history, and/or;


Applicant requests that a "credit check" be processed from an authorized agent of the City such as Equifax or equal (for a non-refundable fee of \$5.00) in which a report is received indicating an excellent credit history. Types of accounts that may be reported include charge cards, bank loans, home mortgages, and car loans.

All deposits approved for refund will only be applied to the account(s) in which they are assigned without interest.

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 14<sup>th</sup> day of March, 2006.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
City Manager – Ex Officio City Recorder

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Mayor