

Chapter 30 - UTILITIES

Sec. 30-3. - Generally.

- (a) Fees for connection to utility and services systems. Connection charges shall apply to bring city utilities and services to the owner's property line.
- (b) Rates, fees, and charges generally. Any rate, fee, or charge provided for in this chapter shall be set by resolution as approved by the city commission.
- (c) Residential and non-residential, shall pay, in addition to the base/availability charges a monthly rate for usage. Water meters used exclusively for irrigation or swimming pool purposes shall not be subject to sewer usage charges.
- (d) **Billing procedures; delinquent accounts.**
 - (1) Bills for the city utility services shall be rendered once per month, based on the rate structures then in effect, and shall be due when rendered and delinquent 20 days subsequent to the billing date.
 - (2) **If payment has not been received by the city by the delinquency date, a "past due" notice will be mailed to the account holder and/or owner of the property and a late payment fee, shall be applied to the customer's subsequent monthly bill.**
 - (3) If "past due" payment is not received during regular business hours on the 10th day following the date of the "past due" notice, utility service shall be subject to disconnection.
 - (4) The city manager or designee, shall have the discretion to set up a payment plan in accordance with city policy.
 - (5) **Bill(s) will be mailed to the following: the occupant(s) of the serviced property, if other than the property owner and to the owner of the serviced property.**
 - (6) Account holders are responsible for the payment of all charges incurred at the service property.
 - (7) Property owner(s) must notify the city of any changes to the current mailing address and telephone number on file within 15 days of such changes.
 - (8) Payments to reestablish service after discontinuance or disconnection of water services shall require payment by cash, money order, credit card or certified bank check prior to reconnection of utility services.
 - (9) All monies owed to the city for services shall be recorded as a lien on the subject property no earlier than 30 days after an account becomes delinquent and shall be subject to collections. The lien shall be recorded in the public records of Broward County and may be foreclosed in the same manner provided by Florida law for the foreclosure of mortgages on real property.
 - (10) *Debt collections.* The City of Hallandale Beach may pursue the collection of any fees, interest, service charges, fines or costs to which it is entitled which remain unpaid for 90 days or more by referring the account to a collection agent which is registered and in good standing pursuant to F.S. ch. 559. The collection fee paid to any collection agent may be added to the balance owed, in an amount not to exceed 40 percent of the amount owed at the time the account is referred to the agents for collection.
 - (11) *Computation of time.* Unless specifically provided otherwise, all time references in this chapter will be calendar days and shall be computed by excluding the first day and by including the last. Where the last day falls on a Saturday, Sunday or holiday, the next general working day will be used.
 - (12) *Disputing of additional charge.* All disputes related to late payment charges must be made no later than 90 days of making the payment and shall be resolved in accordance with city policy.

- (13) *No service free.* Utility charges shall not be furnished or rendered free of charge to any person, entity or agency and such services shall be paid at the current rate then in effect.

(Ord. No. 2014-22, § 2, 8-20-2014)