ORDINANCE #2264-17

ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 197 "WATER" OF THE CODE OF THE CITY OF WOODBURY

WHEREAS, the following amendments to Chapter 197 have been recommended to the Mayor and Council; and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT ORDAINED by the Mayor and Council of the City of Woodbury as follows:

Chapter 197-32 of the Code of the City of Woodbury, "Discontinuing water service; resumption", subsection A shall be AMENDED to include a subsection (7) to read as follows:

(7) If as of January 1, 2017 or at any time thereafter a water and sewer bill has been estimated for 6 quarters or more, the user may be notified via hang tag left on the serviced properties door and via regular mail to the address that appears of record in the tax collector's office advising the owner of the date on or after which their water may be shut off unless access is granted to replace the meter and/or transmitter. No billing adjustment for estimated billing will be made for more than one (1) previous billing cycle pursuant to Chapter 197-33B(1).

Chapter 197-33 of the Code of the City of Woodbury, "Adjustment of water charges" subsection B is hereby AMENDED and shall henceforth read as follows:

- "B. Following the issuance of a bill for water charges, the City Administrator after consultation with the billing department and the public works department may make appropriate adjustments subject to the restrictions set forth below to bills for water charges which shall not become effective until completion of the referral process set forth herein.
 - (1) No billing adjustments will be made for more than 1 previous billing cycle for estimated bills, unless verified by actual meter readings
 - On billing adjustments will be made for excessive usage due to leaking or plumbing problems hereinafter "Leak Adjustments" unless such leaks are demonstrated by the user to have been caused by the City. While the City attempts to notify users as quickly as possible of excessive usage, failure of the City to notify a user of excessive usage shall not be cause for a billing adjustment. Any request for a Leak Adjustment shall be in writing setting forth with specificity the user's basis for and amount of Leak Adjustment requested, addressed to the City Council who shall be solely empowered to grant such a Leak Adjustment in their sole discretion.
 - (3) Notification of change in ownership is the responsibility of the purchaser of a property, and shall be made to the City Water/Sewer

- and Tax Office immediately upon change of ownership. No corrections to delinquent bills will be made due to delays in notification of change of ownership.
- (4) The City shall not waive interest for delinquent bills due to the claim that a user did not receive the initial bill.
- (5) Fees for denied payments will extend to online payments as well as actual checks.

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED that this Ordinance shall take effect immediately upon passage and publication as required by law.

THE FOREGOING was introduced by the City Council of the City of Woodbury at a regular meeting held on July 11, 2017. This Ordinance will be considered for adoption at final reading and public hearing to be held on July 25, 2017 at 7:00 p.m. or at such time as may be determined and announced, in City Hall, Council Chambers, 33 Delaware Street, Woodbury, New Jersey, at which time and place all persons interested will be given the opportunity to be heard concerning said Ordinance. During the time prior to and up to and including the date of such meeting, copies of said Ordinance will be made available at the City Clerk's Office to the members of the general public who may request same.

CITY OF WOODBURY

Bv:

Tracey Parker, President of Council

Attest:

Roy A. Duffield, City Clerk

Approved:

Absent (1): Carter

Nays, Abstentions: none