



CITY OF WHEATLAND

CITY COUNCIL MEETING STAFF REPORT

April 14, 2020

SUBJECT: Council Discussion and Consideration of Resolution No. 13-20
Establishing a Deposit Amount for Utility Accounts

PREPARED BY: Susan Mahoney, Finance Director

Recommendation

Staff recommends adoption of Resolution No. 13-20. This Resolution will establish a deposit amount for utility accounts.

Background

The Disconnection of Residential Water Service for Nonpayment Policy (the "Policy") adopted by Council on March 24, 2020 was mandated by Senate Bill (SB) 998. Included in the Policy is the requirement that the City must allow tenants to take responsibility for water service at a property. Before the passage of SB 998, all charges for water service for properties in the City of Wheatland were the responsibility of the property owner even if the property was occupied by a tenant.

Discussion

To assist the City in collecting delinquent water charges, staff recommends that the City require any tenant that wishes to take responsibility for water service at a property be required to deposit an amount equal to two times the City's base utility charge. In the event of nonpayment by the tenant, the deposit will be used to offset utility charges.

Any future adjustments to the deposit amount will be adopted by Council resolution as part of the annual Master Fee Schedule update.

Alternatives

The Council may set an alternative deposit amount.

Fiscal Impact

There is no financial impact since the deposit amount will be refunded to the tenant when the tenant is no longer responsible for the water service.

Attachments

1. Resolution 13-20