

ORDINANCE NO. 26-07

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTIONS 15-119, 15-121, AND 15-122 IN THE CODE OF THE CITY OF SOUTH HUTCHINSON PERTAINING TO WATER BILLS, DELINQUENT WATER ACCOUNTS, AND HEARINGS

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE CITY OF SOUTH HUTCHINSON, KANSAS:

Section 1: Section 15-119 of the Code of the City of South Hutchinson shall be amended as follows:

"15-119. Water Bills.

All bills for the use of water shall be due on receipt and payable by the last day of each and every month. All bills remaining unpaid after the 10th date of the following month are hereby declared delinquent."

Section 2: Section 15-121 of the Code of the City of South Hutchinson shall be amended as follows:

"15-121. Delinquent Accounts.

- (a) The city shall have the right to refuse further service to any delinquent account and shall terminate the water service until the delinquency is resolved as provided herein.
- (b) The city shall add a late charge of fifteen percent (15%) on the amount due on a delinquent bill.
- (c) If water service is disconnected due to being delinquent, a \$30.00 reconnection fee will be assessed for reinstating water service.
- (d) Once water service has been disconnected, all past due amounts owing on the account, including all assessed fees, must be paid in order for service to be reconnected.
- (e) Payments to restore service must be made by cash, money order, or credit/debit card. The only type of check that will be accepted is a valid bank cashier's check.
- (f) If a customer has more than one utility account for which the customer is responsible, all of the customer's accounts will be disconnected for any delinquent account of that customer according to the provisions set forth herein. Likewise, all accounts must be current before water service is reconnected to any of the customer's accounts.
- (g) If a customer has a delinquent account for water service, that customer may not initiate service at another location until the delinquent account is paid in full.
- (h) Accounts that are delinquent shall be disconnected on the last business day of the month following the issuance of the original water bill, subject to Section 15-122. For example, the water bill is sent in April, and no payments have been made. The water service will be disconnected on the last business day of May due to the delinquent account.

- (i) City personnel shall not be authorized to make any payment arrangements with customers to avoid termination of service or to delay termination of service. Instead, the process of Section 15-122 must be used.
- (j) The provisions of Section 15-124 shall supersede during its applicable months with regard to service disconnections.

Section 3: Section 15-122 of the Code of the City of South Hutchinson shall be amended as follows:

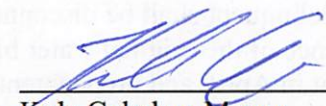
“15-122. Notice; hearing.

- (a) A delinquency and termination notice shall be issued by the city clerk within five (5) business days after a delinquency occurs, as defined in Section 15-119, and mailed to the customer at the last known address. A copy shall also be mailed to the occupant of the premises if the city is aware that the occupant and customer are not the same person.
- (b) The notice shall state the following information:
 - (1) The amount due, plus late payment charge;
 - (2) Water service will be terminated on the last business day of the current month if the delinquent amount due and late payment charge are not paid prior – plus specify the specific disconnection date;
 - (3) A \$30.00 reconnection fee must be paid if service is ultimately disconnected;
 - (4) The customer has a right to a hearing;
 - (5) The request for hearing must be in writing and filed with the city clerk no later than three (3) business days prior to the date for termination of service
- (c) Upon receipt of a request for hearing, the city clerk shall advise the customer of the date, time, and place of the hearing, which shall be held within three (3) business days following receipt of the request;
- (d) Upon receipt of the request for hearing, the city clerk shall notify the mayor, and the mayor shall designate a member of the governing body to conduct the hearing.

Section 3: This Ordinance shall take effect and be in full force from and after its passage and publication on the City of South Hutchinson website, www.southhutchinson.gov, the official City newspaper.

Approved and passed by the Governing Body of the City of South Hutchinson, Kansas, this 22nd day of June, 2026.

THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE
CITY OF SOUTH HUTCHINSON, KANSAS



Kyle Cokeley, Mayor

(Seal)
Attest:



Katie Marcum, City Clerk

