

13.12.020: DUE DATE:

A. The city may use a unified billing system for city provided services. The charges for water, wastewater, and refuse service, or any other city provided services, may be billed on one bill and collected as one item. Failure to pay the amount due in full for any of the services may result in the discontinuation of water services.

B. All bills and charges for service shall be due and payable upon presentation and shall become delinquent twenty-six (26) days thereafter. If the bill is not paid on, or prior to, said due date, the billing shall be considered delinquent and a late charge shall be levied upon the unpaid balance as follows:

1. For any account with an unpaid balance, a onetime charge of ten percent (10%) of the unpaid balance per service shall be assessed.

2. This charge shall be due and payable immediately upon accrual.

3. A customer who has an "A" rated payment record, upon request from such customer, may have the customer's late charge waived by city staff. Customers obtain an "A" rated payment record by paying all charges for water, wastewater, and refuse service, or any other city provided services on, or prior to, said due date since the establishment of service, or for a continuous period of at least twelve (12) months.

4. In lieu of imposing a late charge upon a customer's delinquent water service billings, the City may offer to any customer of the city's water service who has a delinquent water service billing the option to participate in the city's automatic payment plan rather than be responsible for the payment of late charges pursuant to subsection 1, above. Such participation, if agreed to by the water service customer, shall be for a period of one (1) year. In the event the customer terminates his or her participation in the automatic payment plan during such one (1) year period, the customer shall immediately become liable for the late charges and penalties that would otherwise have been imposed on the customer's delinquent water service account.

C. Service may be discontinued upon written notice required by law if payment of all charges is not made prior to the date such service becomes delinquent, to the extent authorized by law.

D. If any owner or agent pays for water service on more than one property or unit, service may be discontinued on all properties for failure to pay on any one property. Procedures and charges for restoration of service are set forth by resolution and section 13.12.050 of this chapter.

E. Failure to receive a bill shall not relieve the customer of liability. Any amount due shall be deemed a debt to the city, and any person, firm or corporation failing, neglecting, or refusing to pay said indebtedness shall be liable in a civil action brought by the city in any court of competent jurisdiction for the amount thereof.

F. In addition to any other remedies it may have for the collection of delinquent accounts, the city may cause notice of a hearing on delinquent accounts in accordance with Government Code

sections 25831 and 38790.1. Such notice shall be mailed to property owners listed as delinquent accounts not less than ten (10) days prior to the date of the hearing. At the hearing, the city council shall hear any objections or protests of such property owners. The city council may make such revisions, corrections or deletions to the report of delinquent accounts as it deems just, after which, by resolution, the report shall be confirmed. The delinquent charges set forth in the delinquent account report may be placed as a lien on such properties for the amount of such delinquent charges plus legal fees and administration costs. A certified copy of the confirmed report shall be filed with the city clerk for the current tax roll. The lien created attaches upon recordation, in the office of the county recorder, of a certified copy of the resolution of confirmation. All laws applicable to the levy, collection and enforcement of city ad valorem property taxes shall be applicable to such liens.