## **ORDINANCE NO. 016/2011**

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF MONROE, WASHINGTON, AMENDING MONROE MUNICIPAL CODE 13.04.490 TO ALLOW PROPERTY OWNERS TO AUTHORIZE UTILITY BILLS TO BE SENT TO TENANTS

WHEREAS, the City of Monroe bills property owners for utility services pursuant to Chapter 13 of the Monroe Municipal Code; and

WHEREAS, some property owners wish to have the bills sent to their tenants; and

WHEREAS, the City of Monroe wishes to provide good customer service and accommodate those property owners;

NOW, THEREFORE, THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MONROE, WASHINGTON, DO ORDAIN AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. <u>Amendment of MMC 13.04.490</u>. The Monroe Municipal Code Section 13.04.490 is hereby amended as follows:

13.04.490 Billing of property owners.

Property owners shall be responsible and billed for utility service at all served properties. Provided, that the owner may authorize direct billings to be made to and in the name of a tenant or other occupant(s) of the premises to which water service is furnished at the mailing address provided in MMC 13.04.030. Such authorization shall be evidenced by the owner's execution of an agreement in a form provided by the city. No such arrangement shall in any manner relieve the owner of the premises from ultimate liability for the payment of the charges for furnishing water nor in any way affect the lien rights of the city against the premises to which water service is furnished. Failure to receive mail properly addressed to the mailing address provided above shall not be a valid defense for failure to pay the delinquent charges and penalties.

Section 2. <u>Severability</u>. If any section, sentence, clause or phrase of this ordinance should be held to be invalid or unconstitutional by a court of competent jurisdiction, such invalidity or unconstitutionality shall not affect the validity or constitutionality of any other section, sentence, clause or phrase of this ordinance.

Section 3. <u>Effective Date</u>. This ordinance shall take effect five (5) days after publication.

PASSED by the City Council and APPROVED by the Mayor of the City of Monroe, at a regular meeting held this 21st day of June 2011.

1<sup>st</sup> Reading:

6/21/11

Published:

6/28/11

Effective:

7/3/11

CITY OF MONROE, WASHINGTON:

Robert G. Zimmerman, Mayor

ATTEST/AUTHENTICATED:

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

Eadye Martinson, Deputy City Clerk

J. Zachary Lell, City Attorney