

ORDINANCE NO. 019/2011

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF MONROE, WASHINGTON, AMENDING MMC 6.08.080, 13.04.155 AND 13.08.475; AMENDING THE QUALIFICATIONS FOR WATER, SEWER AND SOLID WASTE UTILITY RATE CREDITS FOR EXTENDED VACATIONS AND VACANCIES FOR LOW-INCOME SENIOR CITIZENS' ACCOUNTS AND CITY IRRIGATION ACCOUNTS; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; AND FIXING A TIME WHEN THE SAME SHALL BECOME EFFECTIVE.

WHEREAS, the City offers municipal water, sewer and solid waste collection service to local customers in accordance with Title 6 and Title 13 MMC; and

WHEREAS, the City has previously established utility rate credits for certain customers during periods of vacation or vacancy; and

WHEREAS, the City Council desires to amend its utility regulations to provide for extended utility vacation and vacancy rate credits for City irrigation accounts and low-income senior citizen accounts; NOW, THEREFORE,

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

Section 1. Amendment of MMC 6.08.080. Section 6.08.080 of the Monroe Municipal Code is hereby amended to provide in its entirety as follows:

6.08.080 Vacation/Vacancy Credits-Residential.

Single-family dwelling accounts shall be eligible for vacancy credits for any absence of thirty (30) days or more with a maximum of ninety (90) days in any concurrent 12-month period. Low-income senior accounts and City of Monroe irrigation accounts shall be eligible for vacancy credits for any absence or non-use of thirty (30) days or more with a maximum of one hundred eighty (180) days in any concurrent 12-month period. Utility accounts must be current, no vacancy credits shall be granted for an account that is delinquent. Credits shall be computed on a percentage of days used. The city will provide a vacancy credit application in the event the city operates the utility and the contractor will provide a vacancy credit application in the event a contractor operates the utility. Vacancy credit applications must be filed forty-eight hours in advance. Persons filing vacancy credit applications found to be false shall, in addition to any other

penalties, be ineligible to receive future vacancy credits. Failure to apply for continuation of services within seven days of the renewed occupancy of the premises shall result in charges being imposed for solid waste services without regard for any period of vacancy.

Section 2. Amendment of MMC 13.04.155. Section 13.04.155 of the Monroe Municipal Code is hereby amended to provide in its entirety as follows:

13.04.155 Vacation/vacancy credit.

Single-family dwelling accounts shall be eligible for vacation/vacancy credits for any absence of thirty (30) days or more with a maximum of ninety (90) days in any concurrent 12-month period. Low-income senior citizen accounts satisfying the criteria set forth in MMC 13.04.322, and City of Monroe irrigation accounts, shall be eligible for vacancy credits for any absence or non-use of thirty (30) days or more with a maximum of one hundred eighty (180) days in any concurrent 12-month period. Utility accounts must be current, no vacancy credits shall be granted for an account that is delinquent. Credits shall be computed on a percentage of days used. The city will provide a vacancy credit application in the event the city operates the utility and the contractor will provide a vacancy credit application in the event a contractor operates the utility. Vacancy credit applications must be filed forty-eight hours in advance. Persons filing vacancy credit applications found to be false shall, in addition to any other penalties, be ineligible to receive future vacancy credits. Failure to apply for continuation of services within seven days of the renewed occupancy of the premises shall result in charges being imposed for water services without regard for any period of vacancy.

Section 3. Amendment of MMC 13.08.475. Section 13.08.475 of the Monroe Municipal Code is hereby amended to provide in its entirety as follows:

13.08.475 Vacation/vacancy credit.

Single-family dwelling accounts shall be eligible for vacation/vacancy credits for any absence of thirty (30) days or more with a maximum of ninety (90) days in any concurrent 12-month period. Low-income senior citizen accounts satisfying the criteria set forth in MMC 13.08.430, and City of Monroe irrigation accounts, shall be eligible for vacancy credits for any absence or non-use of thirty (30) days or more with a maximum of one hundred eighty (180) days in any concurrent 12-month period.

Utility accounts must be current, no vacancy credits shall be granted for an account that is delinquent. Credits shall be computed on a percentage of days used. The city will provide a vacancy credit application in the event the city operates the utility and the contractor will provide a vacancy credit application in the event a contractor operates the utility. Vacancy credit applications must be filed forty-eight hours in advance. Persons filing vacancy credit applications found to be false shall, in addition to any other penalties, be ineligible to receive future vacancy credits. Failure to apply for continuation of services within seven days of the renewed occupancy of the premises shall result in charges being imposed for sanitary sewer services without regard for any period of vacancy.


Section 5. Severability. 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 6. Effective Date. This ordinance shall be in full force and effect five (5) days from and after its passage and publication as required by law.

PASSED by the City Council and APPROVED by the Mayor of the City of Monroe, at a regular meeting held this 13th day of September, 2011.


1st Reading: 9/6/11
2nd Reading: 9/13/11
Published: 9/20/11
Effective: 9/25/11

CITY OF MONROE, WASHINGTON:



Robert Zimmerman, Mayor

ATTEST/AUTHENTICATED:



Eadye Martinson, Deputy City Clerk

APPROVED AS TO FORM:



J. Zachary Lell, City Attorney