AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND SECTION 8.08.070 OF THE RAPID CITY MUNICIPAL CODE TO CLARIFY INCLUSION OF SOLID WASTE CHARGES IN THE UTILITY RATE RELIEF PROGRAM

WHEREAS, the Common Council has adopted regulations overseeing garbage and refuse, including the City’s collection of garbage and refuse, in Rapid City Municipal Code (RCMC) Chapter 8.08; and

WHEREAS, in RCMC 13.08.400, the City has adopted a Utility Rate Relief Program for certain customers of the City’s utility services; and

WHEREAS, the City wishes to amend RCMC 8.08.070 to clarify that the Utility Rate Relief Program may be applied to City solid waste charges and is available to individuals who have solid-waste only services; and

WHEREAS, the City finds that amendment of RCMC 8.08.070 to include the Utility Rate Relief Program is in the interest of the health, safety, and welfare of the City and its citizens.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED by the City of Rapid City that RCMC Section 8.08.070 of the Rapid City Municipal Code is hereby amended to read in its entirety as follows:

8.08.070 Collection–Charges.

As required by Title 13 of this code, a non-refundable 1-time new account fee shall be paid to the city. The new account fee covers water, sewer, and/or garbage service account(s); meaning a single new account fee shall be charged for the opening of a single account type of any combination of accounts thereof.

Further as required by Title 13, an advanced payment shall be charged for each account and shall be included in the first month's billing, to be applied as a credit against the final bill.

A. The city shall make a charge for each month for the collection of refuse from each family domestic unit within the garbage service district as established by this chapter. In addition to, and separate from, the charge for collection of refuse, the city shall make a charge for each month for disposal of refuse from each family domestic unit within the garbage service district as established by this chapter. The charges for collection and disposal of refuse shall be payable by, and chargeable to, either the owner or occupant of each dwelling unit occupied by a family domestic unit. The charge shall be billed on the monthly water bill to each such family domestic unit and shall be immediately due and payable upon the billing date and shall be payable with, and addition to, the water bill.

B. In the event refuse collection and disposal service shall be provided by the city under the provisions of this chapter from any family domestic unit within the garbage service district, not independently served by the city water service and billed therefor, the owner and occupant of the
dwelling unit occupied by the family domestic unit shall be billed for each month at the same rate that the water users are billed. The refuse collection and disposal service charge shall be forthwith payable to the city by either the owner or occupant of the dwelling unit.

C. Bills shall be payable at the City Finance office or at an authorized bank depository by automatic withdrawal upon a written agreement with the city. Net monthly utility bills are due and payable when received. Any garbage bills unpaid 23 days after the billing date shall be considered delinquent. A late payment charge of 6-1/2% shall be assessed on the current unpaid balance of a delinquent account. Payment for garbage services on landfill charge accounts may be extended up to 30 days in the commercial hauler permit for landfill disposal from the Finance Officer and having paid the permit fee. In the event of failure of payment of the charges, refuse collection and disposal service to the dwelling unit may be forthwith discontinued.

D. The rates for any and all charges the city shall make under this provision shall be prescribed by resolution of the Common Council.

E. In addition to the foregoing methods of billing and collecting the charges for refuse collection and disposal, the Finance Officer, with the approval of the Mayor, may from time to time adopt, use and enforce such other methods of billing and collection of the charges as may be reasonably efficient, feasible, and appropriate, to the end that in every case all collection and disposal charges provided by this section shall be paid.

F. Residential solid waste customers can apply for rate relief on monthly service charges under the Utility Rate Relief Program as provided in Section 13.08.400.C.


CITY OF RAPID CITY

_____________________________________
Mayor

Attest

_____________________________________
Finance Director

(seal)

First Reading:
Second Reading:
Published:
Effective: