

BPW&S RESOLUTION 2022-11

**A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF PUBLIC WORKS AND SAFETY
OF THE CITY OF HUNTINGTON, INDIANA
AUTHORIZING PAYMENT PLANS FOR MUNICIPAL UTILITY ACCOUNTS**

The Board of Public Works and Safety of the City of Huntington, Indiana (“Board”), in meeting duly assembled, after considering information deemed by it to be sufficient, finds:

WHEREAS, Common Council of the City of Huntington, Indiana, formed a subcommittee to review certain billing practices and recommend changes to the City Code to the Council; and

WHEREAS, recommendations from that subcommittee are proposed within the forthcoming Ordinance 32-C-22 for the Common Council’s consideration; and

WHEREAS, that subcommittee has also recommended that this Board authorize the Water Billing Department to implement a payment plan option for utility customers who are facing a disconnection of utility services due to non-payment or owe a large sum after a leak adjustment; and

WHEREAS, City previously offered payment plans to its utility customers pursuant to Executive Order 2020-1, effective as of June 1, 2020, and Executive Order 2020-2, effective as of July 23, 2020, which assisted 85% of participants in avoiding service disconnections when the statewide moratorium expired; and

WHEREAS, in light of the foregoing and to further the effort to maintain utility services to households within the City, this Board desires to authorize the Water Billing Department to implement a tiered payment plan for customers.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by this Board, as follows:

- I. The City of Huntington’s Water Billing Department is hereby authorized to offer utility customers a payment plan with a duration determined by the amount of the delinquent account balance. The payment plans are as follows:
 - A. For utility customers with a delinquent account balance of up to \$500, a payment plan wherein they must for three (3) consecutive months, pay in full the sum of the amount billed for the services rendered (charges for most recent month’s usage) for each of the next three billing periods, plus an amount equal to one-third (1/3) of the past due amount shown on the current invoice.

- B. For utility customers with a delinquent account balance of \$501 to \$1,000, a payment plan wherein they must for six (6) consecutive months, pay in full the sum of the amount billed for the services rendered (charges for most recent month's usage) for each of the next six billing periods, plus an amount equal to one-sixth (1/6) of the past due amount shown on the current invoice.
 - C. For utility customers with a delinquent account balance in excess of \$1,000, a payment plan wherein they must for twelve (12) consecutive months, pay in full the sum of the amount billed for the services rendered (charges for most recent month's usage) for each of the next twelve billing periods, plus an amount equal to one-twelfth (1/12) of the past due amount shown on the current invoice.
- II. At the conclusion of a payment plan, the utility customer's account must be current (due only for charges for most recent month's usage).
 - III. In the event that a utility customer fails to pay as agreed in the payment plan, the customer shall be eligible for termination of service and City's Water Billing Department shall follow its normal disconnection policy, including the assessment of the disconnection fee. Further, the entire past due amount shown on customer's account shall be immediately due and payable to avoid a disconnection of service.
 - IV. If reapplying, a utility customer may apply for a new payment plan as early as four (4) billing periods after completing a prior payment plan.
 - V. City's Water Billing Department is authorized to create such forms and records as are necessary to document which utility customers are participating in the repayment plans authorized by this Resolution.

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED this resolution is effective immediately upon its approval.

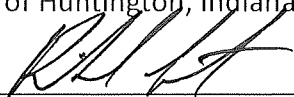
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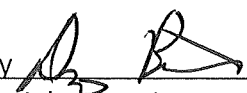
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Approved this 19 day of December, 2022.

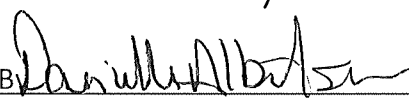
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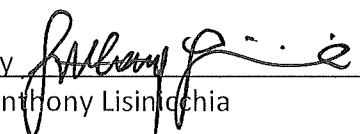
BOARD OF PUBLIC WORKS & SAFETY
City of Huntington, Indiana

By  as Mayor and
Richard Strick Member

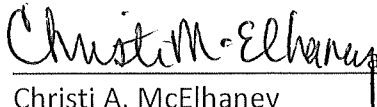
By  as Member
Dwight Brautigam

By  as Member
Charles Chapman

By  as Member
Danielle Albertson

By  as Member
Anthony Lisinichia

ATTEST:

 as Clerk-Treasurer
Christi A. McElhane