Introduced by: Public Works Committee

Introduction Date: May 25, 2021
Public Hearing Date: June 8, 2021

Action: Passed Vote: 5-0

CITY OF BETHEL, ALASKA

Ordinance #21-24

AN ORDINANCE BY THE BETHEL CITY COUNCIL AMENDING BETHEL MUNICIPAL CODE TO CLARIFY UTILITY RATES FOR EXTRA WATER DELIVERY AND EXTRA SEWAGE TANK EVACUTATION

- **WHEREAS,** the City of Bethel must operate a utility that is cost-effective and efficient to operate, but the hauled utility division has experienced operational loss due to customers being unprepared for the delivery or evacuation services;
- **WHEREAS,** this problem is especially acute in calls for extra service that require drivers to alter their scheduled route and sometimes do so after hours to provide the requested services;
- **WHEREAS,** the City wishes to provide a more flexible hauled utility service that reduces the cost burden to utility customers where possible, while also ensuring the customers remain responsible for certain costs incurred by the utility;
 - **WHEREAS,** hauled utility customers are responsible for monitoring their tanks, both water and sewer, to ensure operation, function, and capacity are adequate;
- **WHEREAS,** by eliminating the required extra evacuation for any extra delivery of water, the City is providing more flexibility to the customer to determine their needs, which in turn will reduce cost to many users;
- **WHEREAS,** the City's current utility rate charges do not account for how those charges are applied if the delivery service is unsuccessful due to the customer's lack of preparation for the delivery;
- **WHEREAS,** updating the Code language will provide clear guidance in the City's utility billing:

NOW THEREFORE BE IT ENACTED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF BETHEL, ALASKA:

City of Bethel, Alaska Ordinance #21-24

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SECTION 1. This is a codified Ordinance of general and permanent nature and shall become part of the Bethel Municipal Code.

SECTION 2. Bethel Municipal Code Chapter 13.08.050 is amended as follows; new language is underlined old language is stricken.

Chapter 13.16 UTILITY RATES

13.16.050 Hauled water/sewer services extra call/haul request.

- A. Any hauled water customer may request an extra call for water delivery <u>and/or an extra call for sewer evacuation</u>, on a form provided by the finance department indicating the number of gallons of water requested <u>and/or the number of gallons of sewer evacuation</u>. Each extra call for water delivery and/or sewer evacuation shall be charged the corresponding rate provided in BMC 13.16.020 and/or 13.16.040, Extra Delivery and/or Haul. There is a 200-gallon minimum for an extra request for service. Each extra call for water delivery will have a corresponding extra haul for sewer evacuation at the rate corresponding to the number of gallons requested for the extra call for water, to be paid at the same time as the extra call for water. The customer is responsible for ensuring adequacy in the sewer tank capacity to prevent sewer overflow.
- B. Hauled services extra call after regular business hours shall be the corresponding rate listed in BMC $\underline{13.16.020(B)}$ or 13.16.030(B) depending on the type of service and the zone, plus one hundred fifty dollars (\$150).
- C. If an extra service attempt fails due to BMC 13.04.210, Customer's plumbing, or the driver is unable to access the property as provided for in BMC 13.04.305, Access for water delivery, or BMC 13.08.250, Access for sewer evacuation, the customer remains responsible for the charges associated with the requested service.

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SECTION 4. This Ordinance shall become effective immediately following adoption by the Bethel City Council.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF BETHEL, ALASKA THIS 8th DAY OF June 2021 BY A VOTE OF 5 IN FAVOR AND 0 OPPOSED.

ichelle DeWitt (Jun 21, 2021 09:51 AKDT)

Michelle DeWitt, Mayor

Lori Strickler, City Clerk

Ordinance 21-24 BMC Utility Rates Extra Water Delivery And Sewage Tank Evacuation

Final Audit Report 2021-06-21

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