

**CITY OF TERRELL, TEXAS
ORDINANCE NO. 2656
"UTILITY BILLING PROCEDURE"**

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF TERRELL, TEXAS, AMENDING SECTION 12-7(C) OF CHAPTER 12 OF THE CODE OF ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF TERRELL, TEXAS, PERTAINING TO RETURNED CHECKS FOR INSUFFICIENT FUNDS REPEALING CONFLICTING ORDINANCES; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; AND ESTABLISHING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TERRELL, TEXAS:

ARTICLE I

Sec. 12-7. Utility Billing Procedure

C. Returned checks for insufficient funds.

A check returned to the city for any reason stated thereon shall be assessed a fee of thirty-five dollars (\$35.00) A customer shall pay the amount due on the original billing, plus the insufficient funds fee, within three business days of receipt of notice from the city of a returned check. If the fee is not paid within three business days, service may be disconnected. Notice of disconnection may be served by U.S. mail or delinquent door-hanger tag, at the city's discretion. In the event of three returned checks from the same customer in a one-year period, the account will move to a cash-only status for a period of twelve months. If a customer presents a returned check after having been previously been on a cash only status, the account will convert to cash only for the life of the account.

ARTICLE II

That all ordinances or parts of ordinances in conflict herewith are, to the extent of such conflict, hereby repealed.

ARTICLE III

That it is hereby declared to be the intention of the city council that the sections, paragraphs, sentences, clauses and phrases of this ordinance are severable and, if any phrase, clause, sentence, paragraph or section of this ordinance shall be declared unconstitutional by the valid judgment or decree of any court of competent jurisdiction, such unconstitutionality shall not affect any of the remaining phrases, clauses, sentences, paragraphs and sections of this ordinance, since the same would have been enacted by the city council without the incorporation in this ordinance of any such unconstitutional phrase, clause, sentence, paragraph or section.

ARTICLE IV

That this ordinance shall take effect immediately from and after its passage.

PASSED AND APPROVED on first reading this the 1st day of March, 2016.

PASSED AND ADOPTED on final reading this the 15th day of March, 2016.

HAL RICHARDS, MAYOR

ATTEST:

JOHN ROUNSAVALL, CITY SECRETARY

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

MARY GAYLE RAMSEY, CITY ATTORNEY