

**RESOLUTION NO. 2020-80**

Introduced by: Joe Dike

**A RESOLUTION WAIVING WATER UTILITY LATE FEES AND INTRODUCING A MORATORIUM ON WATER SHUT-OFFS DURING THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.**

**WHEREAS**, Chapter 915 of the Codified Ordinances of the City of Huron establishes the fees, charges, and assessments to be collected by the City for water services provided to Huron residents and businesses; and

**WHEREAS**, the COVID-19 global pandemic has had a considerable effect on Huron residents and businesses; and

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to its home rule authority under the Ohio Constitution, as well as the City Charter and Chapter 915 of the Codified Ordinances, Council desires to waive late fees on water utility accounts with late payment and/or non-payment for water usage that have accrued for December bills with a due date of January 17, 2021, and the City of Huron will suspend water shut-offs related to the aforementioned accounts until March 30, 2021. Water utility accounts will be shutoff after March 30, 2021 without full payment of the balance in arrears or a reasonable payment plan in place.

**BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF HURON, OHIO:**

**SECTION 1.** That all water utility late fees for late payment and/or non-payment for water usage that have accrued or are scheduled for December 2020 bills with a due date of January 17, 2021 are hereby waived, and the City of Huron will suspend water shut-offs related to said accounts until March 30, 2021, after which time the water shut-off moratorium shall cease and the City may exercise its rights related to delinquent water utility accounts. This moratorium and waiver of fees shall not apply to stormwater or trash collection charges.

**SECTION 2.** The City of Huron will establish reasonable payment plans for repayment of all delinquent accounts on water utility accounts with late payment and/or non-payment for water usage that have accrued for December bills with a due date of January 17, 2021. Water utility accounts will be shutoff after March 30, 2021 without full payment of the balance in arrears or if a reasonable payment plan with the City has not been agreed to or, if a payment plan has been entered, if said payment plan is in default.

**SECTION 3.** That this Resolution is hereby declared an emergency measure immediately necessary for the preservation of the public health, safety and welfare and for the further reason that it will assist Huron residents and businesses who have endured financial hardship during the COVID-19 crisis; and further provided that it receives the affirmative vote of two-thirds of all members of Council, it shall take effect and be in force immediately upon passage and approval by the Mayor.

**SECTION 4.** That this Council hereby finds and determines that all formal actions relative to the adoption of this Resolution were taken in an open meeting of the

Council and that all deliberations of this Council and of its committees, if any, which resulted in formal action, were taken in meetings open to the public in full compliance with applicable legal requirements, including O.R.C. § 121.22.

**SECTION 5.** That this Resolution shall be in full force and effect from and immediately after its adoption.



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Sam Artino, Mayor

ATTEST:



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Clerk of Council

ADOPTED: 08 DEC 2020