

ORDINANCE NO. ORD-05-0004

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LONG BEACH AMENDING CHAPTER 15.40 OF THE LONG BEACH MUNICIPAL CODE BY AMENDING SECTION 15.40.070 AND SUBSECTIONS A AND E OF SECTION 15.40.090, ALL RELATING TO GAS UTILITY SERVICE, METER READING AND BILLING TO CUSTOMERS AND OTHER RESPONSIBLE ADULTS FOR CITY OWNED UTILITY ACCOUNTS

The City Council of the City of Long Beach ordains as follows:

Section 1. Section 15.40.070 of the Long Beach Municipal Code shall be amended in its entirety to read as follows:

A. Payment upon Presentation. Bills for gas service shall be rendered according to estimated usage or actual usage on the meter at regular intervals, and are due and payable upon presentation.

B. Responsibility: Removal bills, special bills, bills rendered on vacation premises, or bills rendered to persons discontinuing the service, shall be paid upon presentation. Bills for connection or reconnection of service, and deposit payments for reestablishment of credit, as required by the provisions of this chapter and state law, must be paid before service will be connected or reconnected.

Two or more adult persons receiving service in the same residence shall be jointly and severally liable for bills of service, deposits, reconnection charges, and related service charges, whether or not the City received a joint application, and shall be billed by means of a single periodic bill, mailed to

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the person on the application designated to receive the bill.

Service may be discontinued or denied at a premise where bills for service provided to a prior customer are still outstanding if it is determined by the City that the prior customer still resides at the same premises or that it can be shown that the new and prior customers occupied the premises during the period the bills were incurred.

C. The City may disconnect or refuse service to an applicant if the acts of the applicant or conditions upon the premises indicate that false, incomplete, or inaccurate information was provided to the City.

When bills are delinquent, or an applicant has prior delinquent bills, the utility may demand that the full amount of both delinquent and current bills be paid in full.

Sec. 2. Subsection A of Section 15.40.090 of the Long Beach Municipal Code shall be amended in its entirety to read as follows:

A. Meters will be read as nearly as possible at regular intervals; however, the City may also estimate the customer's utility usage for billing purposes on the basis of customer information including, but not limited to, the physical condition of the metering equipment, available meter readings, records of historical use, records of common usage by similar customers, and the general characteristics of the customer's past and present utility load and operation.

Sec. 3. Subsection E of Section 15.40.090 of the Long Beach Municipal Code shall be amended in its entirety to read as follows:

E. Bills for services shall be rendered at regular intervals of time approximately one month, commonly called "monthly," except in those cases where the gas utility shall prescribe another billing interval.

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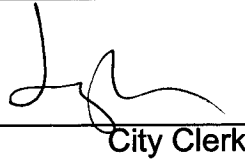
Sec. 4. The City Clerk shall certify to the passage of this ordinance by the City Council and cause it to be posted in three conspicuous places in the City of Long Beach, and it shall take effect on the thirty-first day after it is approved by the Mayor.

I hereby certify that the foregoing ordinance was adopted by the City Council of the City of Long Beach at its meeting of April 5, 2005, by the following vote:

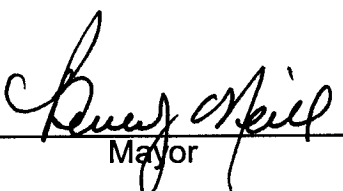
Ayes: Councilmembers: Lowenthal, Colonna, O'Donnell,  
Kell, Reyes Uranga, Gabelich, Lerch.

Noes: Councilmembers: None.

Absent: Councilmembers: Baker, Richardson.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
City Clerk

Approved: 4/7/05

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Mayor

Robert E. Shannon  
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