## EXECUTIVE ORDER NUMBER 2020-2 CITY OF HUNTINGTON, INDIANA AMENDMENT TO TEMPORARY AUTHORIZATION FOR REPAYMENT PLANS FOR MUNICIPAL UTILITY ACCOUNTS DUE TO COVID-19

WHEREAS, on June 1, 2020, I issued Executive Order 2020-1 which established the Temporary Authorization for Repayment Plans for Municipal Utility Accounts for the City of Huntington to create a repayment plan for customers to cure delinquent account balances which accrued during, or as a result of, the public health emergency and avoid termination of municipal utility services; and,

WHEREAS, on March 2, 2020, the Governor of the State of Indiana issued Executive Order 20-02 which declared a public health emergency, and pursuant to Executive Order 20-34 issued on July 1, 2020, the public health emergency was extended to August 3, 2020; and

WHEREAS, in utilizing guidance received from Indiana's Public Access Counselor and Indiana's State Board of Accounts, City's Board of Public Works and Safety adopted BPWS Resolution 2020-3 on April 6, 2020, which authorized the Mayor of the City to take such actions as he reasonably determines are appropriate, necessary, and proper to bring the City into compliance with all applicable federal, state, and local laws, rules, orders, and regulations related to the public health emergency including, but not limited to, assuring the continued performance of essential City functions; and

WHEREAS, on April 14, 2020, City's Common Council adopted Ordinance 3-C-20 which ratified BPWS Resolution 2020-3 and empowered and directed the Board of Public Works and Safety to draft, enact, revise and enact, and administer policies that comply with the State Board of Accounts March 31, 2020 Memorandum and BPWS Resolution 2020-3 for the duration of this emergency or until otherwise ordered by Council; and

WHEREAS, on June 30, 2020, the Governor of the State of Indiana issued Executive Order 20-33 which extended the prohibition against terminating utility services through August 14, 2020; and

WHEREAS, in light of the foregoing and to further the effort to maintain utility services to households within the City, the Mayor, in consultations with the Water Billing Department, desires to modify Executive Order 2020-1.

NOW, THEREFORE, in accordance with emergency powers granted by the City's Board of Public Works and Safety and City's Common Council, be it ordered by the Mayor of the City of Huntington that Executive Order 2020-1 which created the Temporary Authorization for Repayment Plans for Municipal Utility Accounts for the City of Huntington, is hereby amended, replaced, and superseded with the following:

- I. REPAYMENT PLAN ESTABLISHED: The City of Huntington's Water Billing Department is hereby authorized to offer utility customers with a delinquent account balance a repayment plan wherein they must:
  - A. 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.
  - B. At the conclusion of the six-month payment plan, the utility customer's account must be current (due only for charges for most recent month's usage).
  - C. In the event that a utility customer fails to pay as agreed in the repayment 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 water billing account shall be immediately due and payable to avoid a disconnection of service.
- II. 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 Executive Order.
- III. ENROLLMENT PERIOD. To be eligible for a repayment plan, a utility customer must sign and return a complete copy of the repayment plan form to the Water Billing Department on or before the following dates:
  - A. Zone 1 (bills due by 5<sup>th</sup> each month), on or before September 23, 2020 at 4:00 p.m.;
  - B. Zone 2 (bills due by 15<sup>th</sup> each month), on or before October 5, 2020 at 4:00 p.m.; or
  - C. Zone 3 (bills due by 25<sup>th</sup> each month), on or before October 14, 2020 at 4:00 p.m.

Absent having a repayment plan in place by the date specified above for the utility customer's Zone, utility services shall be terminated on the next business day for accounts with a delinquent balance.

IV. This Executive Order does not alter or amend the procedures specified in City Code §50.25 and §50.61 in the event a check is issued for services which is not honored because of insufficient funds or no account found.

By: As Mayor
(Richard Strick) City of Huntington, Indiana

ATTEST:

By: Christi A. McElhanev) (City of Huntington

(SEAL)