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ORDINANCE NO. 3797

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF OSAWATOMIE, KANSAS, AMENDING CHAPTER 1 OF THE CODE FOR THE CITY OF OSAWATOMIE, KANSAS REGARDING CONTRACTED COLLECTION AGENCY SERVICES TO COLLECT DELINQUENT ACCOUNTS AND ASSESS COLLECTION COSTS AND FEES.

WHEREAS, Chapter 1, Article 8, related to Revenue, Finance and Community Development for the City of Osawatomie, Kansas shall be amended to establish the authority to contract with a collection agency in order to collect outstanding debts from delinquent accounts accrued from unpaid utility bills and City fines, fees and cost of services. The collection process shall also allow for assessment of collection costs and fees to the debtor account holder.

THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE CITY OF OSAWATOMIE, KANSAS:

Section 1. Amendment. That a new section, 1-805, is hereby created, which shall read as follows:

1-805: DEBT COLLECTION. The City is authorized to contract debt collection services to collect selected delinquent accounts. The debtor account holder owing unpaid utility bills or fines, fees and cost of service charges related to the reasonable costs of collection of any fine/fee/cost of services, as well as any costs/assessments for clean-up of the property for a municipal violation that is the issue therein. This specifically applies to, but is not limited to, charges for water, sewer, trash, property code violations, fines, fees, interest accrued thereon, and any other debt due and owing to the municipality. The costs of collection include, but are not limited to, court costs, surcharges, attorney fees, and collection agency fee, except that such costs of collection may not include both attorney fees and collection agency fees.

Section 2. Conflicts. All ordinances and resolutions and parts thereof in conflict herewith are hereby expressly repealed in so far as they conflict herewith.

Section 3. Effective Date. This Ordinance shall take effect and be in full force from and after its passage by the governing body of the City and publication (or publication of a summary thereof) in the official City newspaper.

PASSED by the governing body of the City on July 8, 2021 and signed and **APPROVED** by the Mayor.

(SEAL)

L. Mark Govea, Mayor

ATTEST:

Tammy Seamands, City Clerk