CITY OF STEVENSON

RESOLUTION NO. 2013-254

RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF STEVENSON ADOPTING A WATER USAGE RESPONSIBILITY POLICY (LEAK ADJUSTMENT PROCESS) AND REPEALING RESOLUTION NO. 64 IN ITS ENTIRETY

Recitals

WHEREAS, the City of Stevenson, organized under the provision of RCW Title 35A, Municipal Code, operates a combined water/sewer utility as authorized by chapters 35.88, 35.91, 35.92, and 35.94 both within and without its limits; and

WHEREAS, installation and maintenance of water service lines from the meter to and inside the building/premises of private property is the responsibility of the private landowner, including any water lost due to leaks and/or breakages; and

WHEREAS, from time to time customers of this water/sewer utility may have water leaks on their service facilities causing abnormally high bills.

NOW, THEREFORE, the City Council of the City of Stevenson does resolve as follows:

Section 1. Resolution No. 64 “A Resolution of the city Council of the City of Stevenson Adopting a Water Usage Responsibility Policy” is repealed in its entirety.

Section 2. In the event of abnormal water usage due to a leak and/or breakage a water/sewer customer may request a billing adjustment under the following conditions:

A. No water/sewer bill will be adjusted for any reason after thirty (30) days from receipt of notice from the City that the latest meter reading was unusually high for that billing period or within seven (7) days of the customer’s discovery of the leak and providing proof of repair of the leak within ten (10) days of discovery.

B. The City reserves the right to adjust water bills for water used between the time when the increased usage began and the date of receipt of notification or repair, whichever first occurs.

C. A written application for a leak adjustment must be submitted to the City requesting a reduction in said billing, identifying the date when a leak/break was detected and when the leak/break was repaired, and providing proof of repair of the leak/break or signed letter attesting to completion of repair. The customer shall allow the public works employees the opportunity to verify by inspection that the repair has been made.

D. All applications for a water adjustment shall be submitted to the City Utility clerk, the utility clerk may request verification by Public Works Director that the repair has been successful, and approved by the City council prior to crediting the account. If the applicant does not have six (6) months of history no adjustment can be calculated.
F. The meter account shall be entitled to the benefits of this section not more than one (1) time every five (5) years.

F. No water adjustment credit shall exceed $1,000.

Section 3. The City Council upon an appeal, reserves the right in its sole discretion to override a water adjustment calculation upon a showing of good cause. Appeals shall be in writing and filed with the City Utility Clerk not more than sixty (60) days of the date of the initial billing for which an adjustment is requested or they shall be barred.

Section 4. The City Council reserves the right to deny a water/sewer adjustment when the Council believes fraud or abuse exists or when the Council finds the customer has failed to meet the requirements set forth in Section 2 above.

Section 5. Any water consumer will be responsible for full payment of any water/sewer bill regardless of the reason for the usage amount unless the City Council has made a specific adjustment in the water/sewer bill pursuant to Section 2 above. Water adjustments shall not be allowed if such excess water consumption is due to the owner’s neglect to repair the water system.

Section 6. Billing adjustments shall be calculated following the Leak Adjustment Methodology attached as Exhibit A which shall be updated annually reflecting costs established in the year end Water Operating Statements.

Passed by the Council of the City of Stevenson this 21st day of February 2013.

[Signature]
Mayor of the City of Stevenson

ATTEST:

[Signature]
Clerk to the City Council

APPROVED AS TO FORM:
EXHIBIT A

Water leak adjustment methodology
As Adopted by Resolution 2013-254

The goal of this methodology is to provide a template for the assignment of costs for the calculation of a Leak Adjustment Credit as allowed and regulated by Resolution No. 2013-254 "Resolution of the City Council of the City of Stevenson Adopting a Water Usage Responsibility Policy (Leak Adjustment Process)".

To calculate the costs incurred with a leak, the following assumptions are being made:

1. The City's Water Utility is collecting sufficient revenues to address operating costs;
2. Other customers should not bear the costs incurred due to a leak;
3. The customer who has the leak should not pay more than the costs inflicted on the system by the leak.
4. The calculator assumes there are some fixed costs and variable costs (customer service, insurance, permits, depreciation, and some labor/transportation) that are already addressed by the normal rate structure.

Therefore, the only cost incurred for the next cubic foot of water lost in a leak is the cost for the production of that cubic foot. This cost of production is as follows:

1. Water Operating supplies
   $10,415.69
2. Electricity (pumping costs)
   $15,595.02
3. Labor (Est. 10% for excess water pumped)
   $7,804.35
4. Chemicals
   $8,846.81
   $42,663.85

Water pumped in 2012 equaled 10,091,678 cubic feet. Therefore the cost to produce the "next marginal cubic foot" is:

$42,663.85
$.004228/cu.ft or $.42 per 100 cu. ft.
10,091,678 cu. ft.

1) Cost of the next marginal cubic foot, identified as the leak adjustment rate, shall be recalculated annually and recorded on the Consent Agenda for the current year.
The Water Utility Clerk next estimates the “amount of water leaked” versus the actual amount of water use. The Utility Clerk will calculate an average water use for the account. For those accounts with steady use throughout the year the average will be calculated for the entire year. For those accounts that are more varied due to irrigation, snow birds, filling swimming pools and other seasonal factors the clerk will compare to a like period and will use at least three meter reads (six months) from that period. That will be identified as the average cubic foot usage.

The total amount used during the leak period will be based on the measured water through the meter for the leak event. The calculation of the actual amount of water leaked is as follows:

\[
\text{Total used during leak event}
\]
\[
\text{Less: Calculated average use}
\]
\[
= \text{Total amount of leak (cu.ft.)}
\]

Then, the cost to produce the leaked water will be calculated by multiplying the Total Amount (cu.ft.) of the Leak by the Leak Adjustment Fee to determine the cost to produce the water leaked.

Finally, the adjusted billing will be calculated:

\[
\text{Actual Leak Event Bill (}$'s)\]
\[
\text{LESS: Calculated average bill (}$'s)
\]
\[
\text{LESS: Cost to produce water leaked}
\]
\[
\text{Equals: Recommended Credit amount}
\]

Also attached – Water Adjustment worksheet and notice to customer.
DATE: 02/28/2013

METER NO: 504800 Acct.1448

CUBIC FEET USED: 4,229

BILL AMOUNT: $

Dear Customer:

This is to advise you that your meter reading was unusually high this billing period. We suggest that you check for any leaks which could attribute to this. We recommend checking within the house for dripping faucets and/or faulty bathroom facilities. Read your meter when all residents are gone and no appliances are operating for a day and see if the meter moves. If your meter has moved you may have a leak in your private waterline. The City does not maintain records on how private water lines run from the meter to the house so it may be difficult to locate.

In the event of a leak, you may ask the City Council for 1 (one) adjustment within a 5 (five) year period. To do so, submit a written request after the leak has been repaired and include a brief statement of the facts surrounding the leak (i.e. the date the leak was discovered, the date it was repaired). Your request must be received within 30 (thirty) days of the date of this notice in order to be eligible for an adjustment. If the City Council determines an adjustment is warranted, your average water use for a similar billing period will be calculated and you will only be charged $.42 per 100 cubic feet of water used in excess of your average.

If you have any questions or need assistance, please contact City Hall.

Mary Ann Duncan-Cole
City Administrator

Carla Cosentino
Deputy Clerk

Candace Ford
Secretary
**WATER ADJUSTMENT WORKSHEET**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Customer:</th>
<th>Last Read</th>
<th>68,122</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Date Repaired:</td>
<td>Use ...</td>
<td>1,881</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20th read</td>
<td>September 20</td>
<td>70,003</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Cubic Foot Leakage:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Month</th>
<th>July/Aug</th>
<th>Sept</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Usage</td>
<td>6,888</td>
<td>1,881</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Average Use</td>
<td>1,740</td>
<td>870</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Leak Total</td>
<td>4,148</td>
<td>1,011</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Average Cubic Foot Usage:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Month</th>
<th>July/Aug</th>
<th>Sept</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Avg</td>
<td>1,740</td>
<td>10,438</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**Leak: Cuft Total less average usage**

5159 X .0042 = Adjustment Fee $21.67

**Leak ... Actual Bills:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Month</th>
<th>July/Aug</th>
<th>Sept</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Water</td>
<td>19.50</td>
<td>19.50</td>
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<tr>
<td>Excess</td>
<td>198.43</td>
<td>57.76</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sewer</td>
<td>29.95</td>
<td>29.95</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Totals</td>
<td>247.88</td>
<td>107.21</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Actual Leak Bill**

355.09

**Avg Bill**

159.39

**Less Adj**

21.67

**Recommended Credit Requested:**

$174.03