

CITY OF STEVENSON, WASHINGTON

ORDINANCE NO. 2017 - 1110

**AN ORDINANCE GRANTING RELIEF FROM THE CITY'S MUNICIPAL
UTILITY SERVICE CHARGES TO LOW INCOME SENIOR CITIZENS AND
SPECIFYING THE REQUIREMENTS TO BE MET PRIOR TO SUCH RELIEF;**

AND REPEALING ORDINANCES 774 & 775.

Whereas, from time to time it is necessary to establish and increase the service charge for the City's provision of municipal sewer, storm sewer, and/or water services; and

Whereas, increases to the charges of those services have a disproportionately large effect on low income senior citizens who have limited opportunities to generate additional income for utility payments; and

Whereas, the Stevenson City Council wishes to reduce the impact of utility service charges on low income seniors and expand the existing water service charge relief to all utilities operated by the City.

Now, therefore, the City Council of the City of Stevenson do ordain as follows:

Section 1-

THAT, the following changes shall be made to Stevenson Municipal Code Chapter 13.10:

1.A- A new section, SMC 13.10.100, shall be added as follows:

SMC 13.10.100 Low Income Senior Citizen Utility Rate—Granted. There is granted relief to low income senior citizens who meet the qualifications and requirements of Section 13.10.110 from any municipal utility charges of the City as follows: for all billings by the City after January 1st, 2018, low income senior citizens shall pay 50% of the minimum service charge for base rate for municipally operated water, sewer, and/or storm sewer service. Such reduced rate does not apply to excess water consumption or other charges beyond the base rate for the services provided.

1.B- A new section, SMC 13.10.110, shall be added as follows:

SMC 13.10.110 Low Income Senior Citizen Utility Rate—Requests and Qualifications. To qualify for the relief set forth in Section 13.10.100, a senior citizens shall:

- A. Be 60 years of age or older at time of application.
- B. If a single person, have an income, from all sources whatsoever, not to exceed 25% of the median income for a family of four in the State of Washington, or if multiple persons, have an income, from all sources whatsoever, not to exceed 40% of the median income for a family of four in the State of Washington. Median income shall be as established by Title XX of the Social Security Act and the Washington State Senior Citizens Services Program, Guidelines for Income and Resources, WAC 388-17-160(1976), including any amendments thereto.
- C. File an annual claim for relief with the clerk-treasurer of the City on forms provided by the clerk-treasurer.

Section 2-

THAT, SMC sections 13.16.010, .020, and .030 (Ordinances 774 and 775) related to relief from water service charges for low income seniors are no longer necessary and shall be repealed in their entirety.

Section 3-

THAT, this ordinance affects Title 13 of the Stevenson Municipal Code only insofar as set forth herein. All other provisions of Title 13 shall remain in full force and effect.

Section 4-Severability

THAT, if any section, subsection, paragraph, sentence, clause, or phrase of this ordinance is declared unconstitutional or invalid for any reason, such decision shall not affect the validity of the remaining portions of this ordinance.

This Ordinance shall take effect and be in force beginning on January 1st, 2018.

PASSED by the City Council of the City of Stevenson and approved by the Mayor this _____ day of _____, 2017.

Mayor of the City of Stevenson

ATTEST:

Leana Johnson, Clerk of the City of Stevenson

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

Ken Woodrich Attorney for the
City of Stevenson