## AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND SECTION 25-42 OF THE FORT SMITH MUNICIPAL CODE AND ESTABLISH THE AMOUNT OF DEPOSIT FOR CITY UTILITY SERVICES

BE IT ORDAINED AND ENACTED by the Board of Directors of the City of Fort Smith, Arkansas, that:

SECTION 1: Section 25-42 of the Fort Smith Municipal Code is hereby amended to read as follows:

Sec. 25-42. Deposits required.

Along with an application for utility service, the applicant therefor shall be required to pay to the city a deposit in an amount as determined by the board of directors from time to time and on file in the office of the city clerk.

With reference to any utility account which reflects a minimum of twenty-four (24) months consecutive payment history with no late charge, any utility deposit for that account shall be applied as a credit to the account. If an account becomes delinquent and the utility service is terminated for non-payment, the deposit will be applied to the account to cover any past due amount. A new deposit shall be required to reactivate an account for service previously discontinued for non-payment.

SECTION 2: The following deposit amounts are hereby established and shall be assessed to and paid by all customers for water, sewer, and solid water utilities as applicable:

| Customer Class             | Deposit Per Account |
|----------------------------|---------------------|
|                            |                     |
| Residential-Owner Occupied | \$100.00            |
| Residential-Renter         | \$125.00            |
| Commercial                 | \$300.00            |
| Industrial                 | \$1,000.00          |
| Irrigation-All Classes     | \$100.00            |
| Hydrant Meters             | \$500.00            |
| Builder-Construction       | \$100.00            |

SECTION 3. All ordinances and parts of ordinances in conflict with the provisions of this Ordinance are hereby repealed.

SECTION 4: Emergency Clause. It is hereby determined that the adoption and collection of the utilities service deposits set forth herein is essential to the proper operation and maintenance of the City's Water Utilities and Solid Waste Department. Therefore, an emergency is declared so that the

provisions of this Ordinance shall be in full force and effect as of passage and the deposit amounts for City utility services shall be effective as of the dates set forth herein.

PASSED AND APPROVED this \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ day of May 2024.

APPROVED:

Mayor

ATTEST:

City Clerk

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

\_publish once