



**CITY COUNCIL
OF THE
CITY OF ATWATER**

RESOLUTION NO. 3426-23

**A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE
CITY OF ATWATER AMENDING THE WATER
DISCONTINUATION POLICY COMPLYING WITH
THE WATER SHUTOFF PROTECTION ACT
SENATE BILL 998**

WHEREAS, the Water Shutoff Protection Act was established when Senate Bill 998 was enacted in 2018, increasing protections to residents associated with the discontinuation of water service due to non-payment; and

WHEREAS, the City of Atwater adopted Resolution 3132-20 establishing a Water Discontinuation Policy on January 27, 2020, that complied with the Water Shutoff Protection Act Senate Bill 998; and

WHEREAS, the Policy was required to allow for payment arrangements for customers who are unable to pay for water service within the normal payment period; and

WHEREAS, staff is recommending an amendment to the payment arrangement language that will allow flexibility in regard to the initial amount of the first installment and the term over which the remaining past due balance must be paid.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the City Council of the City of Atwater does hereby amend paragraph number one (1) and three (3) of Section 4. Payment Arrangements of the Water Discontinuation Policy, adopted by Resolution No. 3132-20 to read as follows:

Section 4. Payment Arrangements:

The City Finance Department Customer Service staff will consider requests for payment arrangement from customers who are unable to pay for water service, within the normal payment period and prior to water disconnection. The arrangements may include installment payments with the first installment payment of at least 50% of the past due balance. The arrangement will be no longer than six (6) months ~~twelve (12) months~~, unless another reasonable timeframe has been established and approved by the Finance Director, or his or her designee.

Paragraph three (3): The City Finance Department shall not discontinue water service for non-payment if a customer has requested and entered into payment arrangement or alternative payment arrangement. Payment arrangements that extend into the next billing period are considered an amortization plan, which must be in writing and signed by the customer. A first installment of 50% of the customer's past due balance will maybe due at the time of signing. An amortization plan will amortize the remaining unpaid balance over a period not to exceed ~~six (6)~~ twelve (12) months, unless another reasonable timeframe has been established and approved by the Finance Director or his or her designee. from the original date of the bill. The amortized payments will be in additional to, and subject to the due date of the customer's regular bill. The customer must comply with the terms of the amortization plan and remain current as charges accrue in each subsequent billing period. The customer may not request further amortization of any subsequent unpaid charges while paying delinquent charges pursuant to an amortization plan.

The foregoing resolution is hereby adopted this 11th day of September 2023.

AYES: Cale, Raymond, Button, Nelson
NOES: None
ABSENT: Ambriz

APPROVED:



MIKE NELSON, MAYOR

ATTEST:



KORY J. BILLINGS, CITY CLERK