## **ORDINANCE NO. 2223**

## AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF CRETE, NEBRASKA RELATING TO SEWER DEPARTMENT BILLING AND COLLECTING; TO AMEND SECTION 3-320 OF THE CRETE MUNICIPAL CODE; TO LIMIT THE AVERAGE USAGE RATE CALCULATION TO DECEMBER, JANUARY, AND FEBRUARY BILLINGS EACH YEAR

## BE IT ORDAINED BY THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF CRETE, NEBRASKA:

Section 1. That Chapter 3, Article 3, Section 3-320 of the Crete Municipal Code be amended as follows:

## 3-320 Sewer department; Billing and Collecting

- (1) All sewer use and charges provided for by this Article shall be billed each month for service during the preceding month. Customers shall pay city bookkeepers and cashiers at the Utilities Department Office. The amount due for sewer service shall be due on the billing date and shall become delinquent on the due date as shown on the bill. If the customer shall neglect or refuse to pay his their bill on or before five o'clock P.M. on the due date shown on the bill, the amount due will be increased by the late payment charge if applicable. If the bill is not paid on or before the due date, a notice will be mailed to the customer that water service will be discontinued or sewer service terminated no earlier than ten nor more than sixteen days after that service will not be restored until the bill is full together with a reconnection fee in an amount set by the City Council.
- (2) New residential accounts not having established the preceding winter months billings basis will be billed the average monthly rate billed for all residential accounts until the aforementioned winter months billings are established and determined. If the actual sewer usage of a new residential customer can be established from competent date, then new residential accounts may be adjusted to actual usage prior to the aforementioned lowest three months of the five winter months December, January, and February billings beings established and determined.
  - a. Consumers commencing their use of the sewerage system ten days or less prior to the next meter reading period will not be rendered a separate bill for service for the period of ten days or less service.
  - b. Customers commencing their use of sewerage system more than ten days prior to the next following meter reading will have rendered a bill for the full amount of the sewer use fee for a one month period.
  - c. Customers ending their use of the sewerage system ten days or less following the last meter reading will not be rendered a separate bill for that period of ten days or less service.
  - d. Customers ending their use of the sewerage more than ten days following the last meter reading will have rendered a bill for the full amount of the sewer use fee for a one month period.
- (3) It shall be the duty of all consumers to forthwith notify the Public Works Director upon commencing or terminating the use of the sewerage system by such consumer. If the customer should fail to give such notice, he they shall be charged for service to the premises until the Public Works Director is otherwise advised of such circumstances.

Section 2. That the above section shall be codified as part of the Crete City Code as stated herein.

Section 3. All ordinances and parts of ordinances in conflict herewith are hereby repealed.

**Section 4.** This ordinance shall be published in pamphlet, book, or electronic form and shall take effect and be in full force and effect from and after its passage, approval and publication, as provided by law.

PASSED AND ENACTED the 5<sup>th</sup> day of November 2024.

ATTEST: Seal