

CITY OF COLUMBIA  
ORDINANCE NO. 3242

FEB - 1 2016

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTION 13.12.020 OF THE CITY OF *Stanley J. Hoff*  
COLUMBIA MUNICIPAL CODE REGARDING MAILING OF NOTICES FOR *City Clerk*  
DISCONTINUATION OF WATER SERVICE VIA FIRST-CLASS MAIL

WHEREAS, the City of Columbia, Monroe and St. Clair Counties, Illinois is a duly created, organized and validly existing municipality of the State of Illinois under the 1970 Illinois Constitution and the laws of the State of Illinois, including particularly the Illinois Municipal Code, and all laws amendatory thereof and supplementary thereto; and

WHEREAS, the City Council of the City of Columbia (“City Council”) previously adopted Section 13.12.020 of the City of Columbia Municipal Code (“City Code”), providing that written notice of the City’s intention to discontinue water service must be provided to users and customers before the disconnection of said service and, if sent by mail, said notices are to be mailed to users and customers via certified mail; and

WHEREAS, the City Council believes it is in the best interest of the City, and now desires to amend Section 13.12.020 of the City Code to allow the City to mail said notices to users and customers via first-class mail, instead of certified mail.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED, by the City Council of the City of Columbia, Illinois, as follows:

**Section 1.** That the preceding recitations in the upper part of this Ordinance are realleged, restated and adopted as paragraph one ("1") of this Ordinance.

**Section 2.** That Section 13.12.020 of the City Code shall be amended to read as follows:

## “Section 13.12.020 Notice of Termination.

If the rates and charges for water service, including all penalties, are not paid within thirty (30) days of the due date of the current bill, or if the water customer has been found in violation of any of the ordinances, rules and regulations of the City with regard to city water service, the City may discontinue such water service after the City Clerk's mailing of a seven-day written notice to the user or customer of the service, by first-class mail, or by personal delivery, or by posting the notice on the premises to be disconnected, of the City's intention to discontinue service. If the user or customer is not the owner of the premises served, the seven-day written notice shall also be mailed by first-class mail to the owner of the premises if his or her name and address has previously been registered with the City Clerk for the purpose of receiving such notices. The notice

shall clearly state the number of days the account is in arrears and the balance due including any penalty charges, or if applicable, the ordinance, rule or regulation which is alleged to have been violated. The notice shall also contain the name, title, address, office hours and telephone number of the City Clerk, whom the customer may contact for an informal resolution of the customer's complaints in cases of disputes concerning the amount due or other problems with the account; and the fact that the customer is entitled to a hearing on his complaint before the City Water Committee of the City Council if the complaint cannot be informally resolved.

Subject to the notice and procedural provisions required by this Chapter, if a customer has one or more installations for which a bill remains unpaid, the City shall have the right to disconnect or refuse water service to any or all of the customer's other installations."

**Section 3.** This Ordinance shall take full force and effect after passage and approval by the Corporate Authorities.

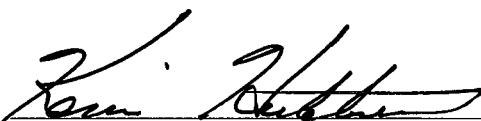
YEAS: Aldermen Ebersohl, Agne, Niemietz, Roessler, Huch, Reis, Holtkamp  
and Martens.

NAYS: None.

ABSENT: None.

ABSTENTIONS: None.

PASSED by the City Council and APPROVED by the Mayor this 1st day of February, 2016.



KEVIN HUTCHINSON  
Mayor  
City of Columbia

ATTEST:



WESLEY J. HOFFKEN  
City Clerk  
City of Columbia