

ORDINANCE NO. 2023-03

**AN ORINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WHEELER, OREGON
ADOPTING AN ACCOUNT ADJUSTMENT POLICY FOR CUSTOMER WATER
LEAKS**

WHEREAS the City of Wheeler, Oregon, is a utility provider for water services; and

WHEREAS the current City of Wheeler Code of Ordinances, Title V, Chapter 50, §50.21 (J) (3) states that “Customers will keep all pipes and fixtures of the customer’s lines in repair at their own expense, and will be held liable for any leakage and all damages which may result from their failure to do so. When leaks are detected, the customer will be notified, and if necessary repairs are not made in a reasonable time, the water may be shut off and not turned on again until the repairs are made.”; and

WHEREAS the City of Wheeler wishes to ease the financial burden of water lost to identified customer water leaks that are repaired in a timely manner.

NOW, THEREFORE, the City of Wheeler ordains as follows:

Section 1. Customers will keep all pipes and fixtures of the customer’s lines in repair at their own expense, and will be held liable for any and all damages which may result from their failure to do so. If the city notifies a customer of a leak and necessary repairs are not made within 14 days of that notification, the water may be shut off and not turned on again until the repairs are made. In the event a customer water leak is identified, the City Council may approve an adjustment in the water bill, for one billing period only, of up to 50% of the estimated excess consumption provided that the customer notified the city of the repair and the city Public Works Department has confirmed the repair has been satisfactorily completed.

Section 2. This Ordinance shall repeal and replace Title V, Chapter 50, §50.21 (J) (3) in the City of Wheeler Code of Ordinances.

First reading on the 17th day of October, 2023.

PASSED and ADOPTED by the City Council of the City of Wheeler on this 21st day of November 2023.

CITY COUNCIL WHEELER, OREGON Aye Nay Absent / Abstain

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Karen Matthews, President

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Heidi Stacks, Councilor

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Gordon Taylor, Councilor

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Deanne Ragnell, Councilor

_____ /
Walt Porter, Councilor

ATTEST: Clif Kemp, Mayor

Pax Broder, City Manager