

ORDINANCE NO. __-____
CITY OF PASCAGOULA, MISSISSIPPI

**AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF PASCAGOULA, MISSISSIPPI AMENDING
CHAPTER 86, ARTICLE I, SECTION 86-4 OF THE CODE OF ORDINANCES
REGARDING REFUNDING WATER SERVICE DEPOSITS**

WHEREAS, Chapter 86, Article I, Section 86-4 of the City of Pascagoula's Code of Ordinances establishes requirements for deposits for water service; and

WHEREAS, Mississippi Code Section 21-27-23 authorizes refunding utility deposits under certain circumstances; and

WHEREAS, the City of Pascagoula desires to implement a system for refunding water utility deposits to incentivize timely payment for utility services; and

WHEREAS, the City Council for the City of Pascagoula hereby amends Chapter 86, Article I, Section 86-4.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF PASCAGOULA AS FOLLOWS:

SECTION 1. Chapter 86, Article I, Section 86-4 is hereby amended to include the following subsection (c):

- (c) *Disposition of deposits.* Deposits shall be held in trust to ensure payment of water and sewer charges and shall be applied toward a customer's account for water and/or sewage services when the account becomes delinquent. Deposits shall not bear interest, and any amount remaining on deposit upon termination of the customer's contract shall first be applied to any final balance on the customer's account with any remaining amount refunded to the customer on request. Account holders who continuously make payments on such accounts on or before the appropriate due date for a period of two (2) years (twenty-four (24)

consecutive months) and are not otherwise indebted to the City shall have their deposit refunded upon request. Where the customer qualifies for such a refund and appropriately requests the same, the refund shall be issued by applying the amount of the deposit to the customer's account until the amount of the deposit is exhausted.

SECTION 2. This ordinance shall become effective as provided by law.

The above Ordinance was introduced in writing by Mayor Willis, seconded for adoption by Councilman _____, and received the following vote: Mayor Willis voted “___”, Councilman ___ voted “___”, Councilman ___ voted “___”, Councilman ___ voted “___”, Councilman ___ “___”, Councilman ___ voted “___”, and Councilman ___ voted “___”.

Passed this the __ day of _____ 2022.

APPROVED:

/s/
Jay Willis, Mayor

/s/
Karen Kennedy, City Clerk