

ORDINANCE 2024-13

**AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 50
PAYMENT OF UTILITY BILLS, PENALTIES FOR LATE PAYMENT**

WHEREAS, The Town of Argos desires certain amendments to the previously adopted ordinance and Town Code be made as it pertains to the payment of utility bills; and

WHEREAS, That the Town of Argos Code of Ordinances Chapter 50.15 through and including 50.18 currently addresses the regular payment of utility bills, delinquencies, disconnection and the like.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT ORDAINED by the Town Council of the Town of Argos, Indiana as follows:

SECTION 1. That Town of Argos Code of Ordinances Chapter 50.15 through and including 50.18 are hereby repealed and replaced in their entirety with the following:

50.15 (A). Due Date.

Utility Bills shall be due and payable on the 15th of each month by 11:59 pm at the office of the Clerk-Treasurer of Argos.

50.15 (B). Holiday and Weekend Exception.

When the 15th or 28th of the month falls on holiday or weekend, utility bills must be paid by 7:30 am on the next business day following the 15th or 28th of month.

50.16. Delinquency Penalty.

Utility customers whose bills are not timely paid as required under Section 50.15 (A) or 50.15 (B) above, as applicable, shall without further notice have a 10% penalty assessed to the electric, water, sewer and hydrant maintenance portions of their bill.

50.17. Notice of Delinquency; Disconnection.

The Town Utility Company shall, upon the failure of any utility customer to timely pay their utility bill as required under section 50.15 (A) or 50.15 (B) above, as applicable, promptly send a notice by first class U.S. mail to the user at the address at which he or she was last billed, stating that the customer's utilities will be disconnected if utility bill is not paid on 28th day of said month, and that the customer shall be placed on a disconnect list. The Utility Company shall promptly disconnect the customer's utilities the next business day. Failure to receive a bill or notice in the mail shall not entitle any customer to pay that bill after the designated due date. It is the customer's responsibility to contact the Town Clerk's Office for balance notification or a duplicate bill or notice should it not arrive in the mail. Additionally, there shall be an administrative charge for being placed on the disconnect list, whether service is disconnected or not, and said charge shall be \$40.00 for being placed on the electric disconnect list and \$40.00 for being placed on the

water disconnect list. The charge shall be \$80 if placed on both lists. Minimum monthly payments shall still be due and assessed even if service is disconnected.

50.18. Reconnection.

When any utility service is disconnected under the provisions of Section 50.17 above, it may be required for the customer to pay the entire delinquent balance of their utility bill then owing together with any administration charges before the service will be restored. Additionally, the customer shall also pay a reconnection fee as follows:

	<u>Electric</u>	<u>Water</u>
Reconnection for non-pay during normal business hours	\$0	\$0
Reconnection outside of normal business hours	\$75.00	\$75.00

SECTION 2. That the Town of Argos Town Code of Ordinances is hereby amended to create and establish Chapter 50.20 and 50.21, as follows:

50.20. NSF Payments.


Any payment rejected by the payor's financial institution will be subject to the penalty of \$40.00. All payments rejected by the payor's financial institution will be removed from the payor's account on the date notice is received from the financial institution as if the payment was never made. It is the responsibility of the payor to make sure payment is made on their utility account. If two or more payments are rejected by the payor's financial institution in a 12-month period, only cash, certified check or money orders will be accepted for payments on the payors account(s).

SECTION 3. That Town of Argos Code of Ordinances Chapter 52.25 and 52.26 are hereby repealed in their entirety.


SECTION 4. That this Ordinance shall be in full force and effect from and after its passage.

ADOPTED THIS 13 DAY OF November, 2024.

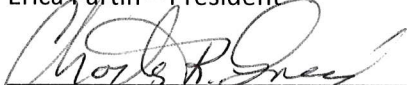
ARGOS TOWN COUNCIL



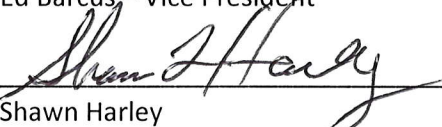
Erica Partin – President




Ed Barcus – Vice President



Charles R. Snead



Shawn Harley



Robert D. Byers

ATTEST:



Lisa Mullaney, Clerk-Treasurer