MARANA ORDINANCE NO. 2025.019

RELATING TO UTILITIES; AMENDING MARANA TOWN CODE TITLE 14 (UTILITIES), CHAPTER 14-6 (RATES AND CHARGES); REVISING SECTION 14-6-4 (BILL ADJUSTMENT FOR EXCESSIVE WATER LEAK) TO REMOVE CERTAIN PAYMENT TIME REQUIREMENTS AND ADD PROVISIONS RELATED TO PAYMENT PLANS; AND DESIGNATING AN EFFECTIVE DATE

WHEREAS Section 14-6-4 of the Marana Town Code provides financial relief for an abnormally high residential water bill caused by an unpredictable and accidental water leak; and

WHEREAS applicants meeting the criteria set forth in Section 14-6-4 are eligible to have their water bill adjusted; and

WHEREAS Section 14-6-4 of Marana Town Code currently provides that applicants meeting the criteria must pay the adjusted water bill within 20 calendar days; and

WHEREAS it can be difficult for some residential water customers to pay an unexpectedly high water bill within the 20-day payment window, and a payment plan option would allow affected customers to pay the bill over several months without accruing late fees on top of their past due balance; and

WHEREAS the Mayor and Council of the Town of Marana find that revising Section 14-6-4 of the Marana Town Code as set forth in this ordinance is in the best interests of the Town and its residents.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT ORDAINED BY THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF MARANA, as follows:

SECTION 1. Marana Town Code Title 14 (Utilities), Chapter 14-6 (Rates and Charges), Section 14-6-4 (Bill adjustment for excessive water leak) is hereby amended as follows (with additions shown with <u>double underlining</u> and deletions shown with <u>strikethroughs</u>):

14-6-4 Bill adjustment for excessive water leak; payment plan

[No revisions to paragraphs A through D]

E. Payment and remedies.

- 1. A customer shall not be subject to late fees or in jeopardy of disconnection for non-payment of the bill in question during the period that the bill in question is under consideration for adjustment pursuant to this section.
- 2. A customer shall pay the adjusted water bill within 20 calendar days of its issuance the timeframe set forth in a payment plan authorized by the water director.
- 3. All normal water department remedies shall apply after the <u>expiration or termination of the payment plan20 day period for payment of the adjusted water bill, including without limitation delinquent fees and disconnection for non-payment.</u>

SECTION 2. The various town officers and employees are authorized and directed to perform all acts necessary or desirable to give effect to this ordinance.

SECTION 3. All ordinances, resolutions or motions and parts of ordinances, resolutions or motions of the Council in conflict with the provisions of this ordinance are hereby repealed, effective as of the effective date of this ordinance.

SECTION 4. If any section, subsection, sentence, clause, phrase or portion of this ordinance is for any reason held to be invalid or unconstitutional by the decision of any court of competent jurisdiction, the decision shall not affect the validity of the remaining portions of this ordinance.

SECTION 5. This ordinance is effective on the 31st day after its adoption.

Passed and adopted by the Mayor and Council of the Town of Marana, Arizona, this 16th day of September 2025.

Mayor Jon Post

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

Jane Fairall, Town Attorney

ATTEST:

Jill McCleary/Town Clerk