

ORDINANCE NO. 1741

ORDINANCE BY THE CITY OF JENNINGS, LOUISIANA TO ASSESS A COLLECTION FEE ON DEBTS REFERRED TO A COLLECTION AGENCY

An ordinance establishing that the City of Jennings, Louisiana authorizes the assessment of a collection fee on debts, accounts receivable, costs, fines and fees turned over to a collection agency.

WHEREAS, the City Council recognizes that there are certain debts and accounts on which the City of Jennings has been unable to collect funds due;

WHEREAS, the City Council recognizes that there are certain fines, costs and fees ordered by Jennings City Court which remain outstanding;

WHEREAS, the City Council recognizes that as the governing authority for the City of Jennings, there exists a duty to exercise due diligence in collecting public funds;

WHEREAS, the City Council recognizes that the City of Jennings is authorized by state law to contract a collection agency for the collection of one or more of the following items:

1. Debts and accounts receivable including but not limited to, unpaid utility fees, penalties, interest and other sums due the municipality, as applicable; or
2. Court penalties, costs, fines and fees in cases in municipal court in which the accused has failed to appear or otherwise failed to satisfy a monetary obligation ordered by the court,

WHEREAS, the City Council recognizes that a collection fee will be required to obtain the services of a collection agency to collect these sums, and desires to assess such a fee;

WHEREAS, in case any one or more of the provisions of this ordinance shall for any reason be held to be illegal or invalid, such illegality or invalidity shall not affect any other provisions of said ordinance, but the same shall be construed and enforced as if such illegal or invalid provisions had not been contained therein. Any constitutional or statutory provisions enacted after the date of this ordinance which validates or makes legal any provision thereof shall be deemed to apply hereto.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED by the City Council of the City of Jennings, State of Louisiana, in legal and regular session, acting as the "Governing Authority" of said city, adopt the following ordinance to the Municipality Code.

BE IT ORDAINED, by the Council of the City of Jennings, Louisiana:

SECTION II; The City of Jennings hereby assesses a collection fee in an amount not to exceed twenty-five percent (25%) of the delinquent municipal debt when the City of Jennings has entered into a contract with the Louisiana Municipal Advisory and Technical Services Bureau ("LaMATS) for

collection of the above listed items. This fee will be added to all sums submitted to the collection agency regardless of age.

SECTION III BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED THAT ALL Ordinances or parts thereof in conflict herewith are hereby repealed.

The final adoption of the foregoing ordinance having been duly moved and seconded, the roll was called and the following votes were taken and recorded:

Published:

Yeas:

Nays:

Abstained:

Absent:

Introduced: August 14, 2018

Adopted:

ATTEST:

/s/Barbara Lantz
Barbara Lantz, City Clerk
Jennings City Council

Stephen VanHook, President
Jennings City Council

Henry Guinn
Mayor