



Department Source: City Utilities - Water and Light

To: City Council

From: City Manager & Staff

Council Meeting Date: June 21, 2021

Re: Amending Chapter 27 of the City Code as it relates to discontinuance utility services during hot and cold weather.

Executive Summary

Staff has prepared for Council consideration an ordinance to revise section 27-21 (h) of the City Code of Ordinances related to discontinuance of utility services during hot and cold weathers. The proposed revisions would align with the Public Service Commission's hot weather and cold weather rules.

Discussion

Section 27-21 (h) of the current city code of ordinances states, "Services to residences will not be disconnected when the temperature is thirty-two (32) degrees Fahrenheit or less or when the temperature exceeds ninety (90) degrees Fahrenheit; effort will be made to determine the health status of the person(s) residing on the premises before proceeding with disconnection." Staff has worked with our Legal department to determine that this wording is vague and that we should revise the current ordinance to be reflective of the Public Service Commission (PSC) hot weather and cold weather rules.

The PSC's hot weather rule (RSMo 393.108) states, from June 1 to September 30, no disconnection of electric service on any day when National Weather Service (NWS) forecast between 6 AM to 9 PM for the following 24 hours is above 95 degrees Fahrenheit or heat index above 105 degree Fahrenheit.

The PSC's cold weather rule (20 CSR 4240-13.055) states, from November 1 to March 31, no disconnection of electric service on any day when the NWS forecast between 6 AM to 9 AM for the following 24 hours is below 32 degrees Fahrenheit.

In both instances, if on any day when utility personnel will not be available to reconnect utility service during the immediately succeeding day(s) and it is hot or cold, no disconnections will occur.

Revising this section of the ordinance will make our utility disconnection process, due to weather, consistent with other utilities across the state.

Fiscal Impact

Short-Term Impact: None

Long-Term Impact: None



City of Columbia

701 East Broadway, Columbia, Missouri 65201

Strategic & Comprehensive Plan Impact

Strategic Plan Impacts:

Primary Impact: Not Applicable, Secondary Impact: Secondary, Tertiary Impact: Tertiary

Comprehensive Plan Impacts:

Primary Impact: Not Applicable, Secondary Impact: Secondary, Tertiary Impact: Tertiary

Legislative History

Date	Action
None	None

Suggested Council Action

Approval of the ordinance.