

ORDINANCE NO. _____

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF STRATFORD, TEXAS: AMENDING THE CODE OF ORDINANCES, CITY OF STRATFORD, CHAPTER 13, ARTICLE 13.01, TO ADD A SECTION 13.01.001 ENTITLED “OWNERSHIP AND MAINTENANCE OF SERVICE LINES” TO MEMORIALIZE CURRENT LAW AND PRACTICE AS TO THE OWNERSHIP OF AND MAINTENANCE RESPONSIBILITIES FOR WATER SERVICE LINES IN THE CITY; PROVIDING SEVERABILITY, A REPEALER, A PENALTY, PUBLICATION, AND AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

WHEREAS, the City of Stratford, Texas, Texas, a Type A general law municipality, is authorized by state law to adopt and implement necessary and reasonable ordinances for the government, interest, welfare, or good order of the municipality and that is in the best interests of its citizenry; and

WHEREAS, the customary state and local practice is that water service lines running from a water meter on to private property are considered the property owner’s personal responsibility to maintain, while public water lines outside of the water meter are the city’s responsibility to maintain; and

WHEREAS, the City Council of the City of Stratford, Texas desires to provide public awareness of the practice by codifying the practice in the Code of Ordinances.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF STRATFORD, TEXAS:

SECTION 1. The Code of Ordinances, City of Stratford, Texas, Chapter 13, Article 13.01 is hereby amended to add Section 13.01.001 as follows:

13.01.001 Ownership and maintenance of service lines.

The City owns and is authorized to make all repairs to, maintenance to, and replacements of service lines from main to meter. It shall be unlawful for any other person to repair, maintain, or replace any service line from main to meter without first obtaining the written consent of the City. The customer owns and shall be responsible for the repair to, maintenance to, and replacement of all service lines, shutoff valves, and plumbing appurtenances from the outlet side of the City water meter.

SECTION 2. Severability. If any provision, section, subsection, sentence, clause or the application of same to any person or set of circumstances for any reason is held to be unconstitutional, void or invalid or for any reason unenforceable, the validity of the remaining portions of this ordinance or the application thereby shall remain in effect, it being the intent of

the City Council in adopting this ordinance, that no portion thereof or provision contained herein shall become inoperative or fail by any reasons of unconstitutionality of any other portion or provision.

SECTION 3. Repealer. All ordinances and resolutions, or parts thereof, in conflict with this ordinance are hereby repealed to the extent of conflict with this ordinance.

SECTION 4. Penalty. A violation of this ordinance is an offense punishable in accordance with Section 1.01.009 of the Code of Ordinances, City of Stratford, Texas.

SECTION 5. Publication. This ordinance shall be published as required by law.

SECTION 6. Effective Date. This ordinance shall become effective from and after its date of final passage and publication as may be required by governing law.

PASSED AND APPROVED this _____ day of _____, 2024.

CITY OF STRATFORD, TEXAS

Greg Wright, Mayor

Attest:

Tommy Bogart, City Manager