


City of Milford



RESOLUTION 2020-15 MORATORIUM ON PENDING WATER AND SEWER RATE INCREASES

WHEREAS, it is in the best interests of the State of Delaware and the City of Milford to protect its citizens from a public health emergency that could threaten the lives of those who live and work here;

WHEREAS, on March 12, 2020, Governor John Carney declared a State of Emergency due to the Public Health Threat of COVID-19, which became effective on March 13, 2020;

WHEREAS, additional modifications to the Declaration of the State of Emergency included social distancing and shelter-in-place mandates that required the closure of nonessential businesses and resulted in a number of layoffs;

WHEREAS, employee layoffs due to the COVID-19 pandemic have created a risk that City of Milford utility customers ("Utility Customers") may fall behind on payments through no fault of their own;

WHEREAS, the City of Milford has already implemented customer protections in response to the COVID-19 pandemic, including the temporary suspension of utility disconnects and late fees, and the implantation of flexible credit and payment procedures to ensure all customers remain connected to essential utility services;

WHEREAS, in order to further assist Utility Customers affected by the COVID-19 pandemic, it is reasonable to provide continuity and consistency through utility actions related to the pandemic;

WHEREAS, City Council has committed to helping Utility Customers through these challenging times and continues to closely monitor their needs and look for ways to assist where possible;

WHEREAS, City Council of the City of Milford ("City Council") requests additional steps to help alleviate economic hardships created by the spread of coronavirus;

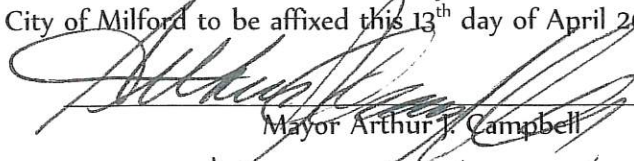
WHEREAS, the planned increases previously approved on February 10, 2020, to become effective on July 1, 2020, called for an increase of 3.9% in Water Usage Rates and 4.9% in Sewer Usage Rates; and

WHEREAS, such additional revenues were intended to support overdue investments needed in infrastructure, efficiency, and other initiatives.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY OF MILFORD:

City Council hereby authorizes a moratorium on increases in water and sewer rates, to last until December 31, 2020, or until the Governor announces the end of the COVID-19 State of Public Health Emergency, should the State of Emergency remain in effect past December 31, 2020.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the City of Milford to be affixed this 13th day of April 2020.



Mayor Arthur J. Campbell



Attest/City Clerk Teresa K. Hudson