TOWN OF WOLCOTT, WHITE COUNTY, INDIANA ORDINANCE NO. 2018-04 AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING GUIDELINES RELATIVE TO THE REMOVAL OF AN UNUSED METER PIT AMENDING ORDINANCE NO. 2017-05 AN ORDINANCE TO ESTABLISH A "UTILITY READY FEE"

WHEREAS, Indiana Code Section 8-1.5-3-8 requires that the Town of Wolcott, on behalf of its utility, establish rates and charges which will produce an income sufficient to maintain the utility property in sound physical and financial condition to render adequate and efficient service; and

WHEREAS, the Town has the duty to its utility ratepayers to establish reasonable and just rates and charges for its utility services that are sufficient to maintain its utility property in a sound physical and financial condition in order to render adequate and efficient services.

WHEREAS, in order to produce enough income to maintain the utility property physically and financially, the Town Council desires to implement a "Ready to Serve Fee" of TEN DOLLARS (\$10.00) a month to property owners that have an inactive utility meter or meter pit. That said Ordinance shall apply to the following:

- Owners of vacant lots in the Town of Wolcott that have a utility meter on said lot.
- 2. Owners of lots in the Town of Wolcott with structures that have a meter pit or utility meter that are inactive.

WHEREAS, the property owner of a piece of real estate in the town of Wolcott that has an unused meter pit may demand the Town remove the meter pit and water line to the main water line and that said removal shall be entirely at the expense of the property owner. Moreover, the removal of said meter pit and water line shall only be removed by the Town of Wolcott and not by a private contractor. Should the property owner fail to promptly pay the cost of removal of a meter pit and water line, the property owner shall be responsible for any and all legal fees and administrative costs associated with recovering the cost of removing said meter pit and water line.

WHEREAS, any unused meter/meter pit in which Council approved the Town to remove, at the Town's discretion, and afford the cost associated with the removal of said meter/meter pit, whereby waiving the "Ready to Serve Fee" of TEN DOLLARS (\$10.00) a month, is grandfathered in as of the date of the passing of this Ordinance.

WHEREAS, upon adoption of this Ordinance, the Town will only rescind the "Ready to Serve Fee" of TEN DOLLARS (\$10.00) a month for those property owners who afford the expense to have the Town remove an inactive meter or meter pit and water line to the main water line. In accordance with the provisions of this ordinance.

That the Ordinance described above shall not apply to vacant lots and structures that are owned by an adjacent owner that has an active utility line.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF WOLCOTT, INDIANA:

Section 1. The above recitations are adopted as finds by the Town Council; and It is further ordered and determined that the Town of Wolcott hereby adopts as its policy that all lot owners in the Town of Wolcott shall be subject to the recitations above.

Section 2. This ordinance shall be in full force and effect on February 6, 2018.

Passed and adopted by the Town Council of the Town of Wolcott, Indiana on the ____ day of _____, 2018.

COUNCIL OF TOWN OF WOLCOTT

Aye

Nay

Christina M. Orns, Council President

Christina M. Orns, Council President

Michael A. Yelton, Council Vice President

Michael A. Yelton, Council Vice President

Fred A. Young, Council Member

Michael J. Johnson, Council Member

Stephen Schemerhorn, Council Member

Fred A. Young, Council Member

Michael J. Johnson, Council Member

Stephen Schemerhorn, Council Member

ATTEST:

Tammy L. Seward Clerk-Treasurer