## **ORDINANCE 471**

## AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWN OF BAYFIELD COLORADO, SUSPENDING THE PENALTY PORTION OF TOWN CODE SECTION 15(B) FROM JANUARY 2022 THROUGH MARCH 2022 AND AT THE DISCRETION OF THE TOWN MANAGER THROUGH APRIL 2022 AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY

**WHEREAS,** Ordinance 465 adopted November 16, 2021 Section 15-10 (b) regulating the bill due date and penalties; and

WHEREAS, the due date change from the 28<sup>th</sup> plus 5-business days to the 26<sup>th</sup> of the month will impact customers' payment habits; and

**WHEREAS**, the modification of the due date was intended to improve billing and financial reporting and not intended to penalize customers; and

**WHEREAS,** to provide a gentle transition to the new billing date of the 26<sup>th</sup> of the month the penalty portion of Section 15-10 (b) shall be suspended for the months January 2022 through March 2022, and at the discretion of the Town Manager, through April 2022; and

**WHEREAS**, the Town Board of Trustees have determined that declaring an emergency is in the best interest of public health and order.

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES FOR THE TOWN OF BAYFIELD, COLORADO, THAT

CHAPTER 15, ARTICLE I, IN GENERAL, SECTION 15-10 (b) AS MARKED OUT BELOW SHALL BE SUSPENDED EFFECTIVE JANUARY 2022 THROUGH MARCH 2022, AND AT THE DISCRETION OF THE TOWN MANAGER, THROUGH APRIL 2022

Section 15-10 (b).

All utility bills shall have a due date. The due date shall be the 26th day of every month, after the billed month of service, or the next business day if the due date falls on a weekend or holiday. If the billed amount is not paid by the due date, a base penalty of five percent of the account balance shall be added to the amount due. Penalties shall be assessed to utility accounts with a total carry forward balance in excess of twenty-five dollars (\$25).

Effective upon adoption based on the declaration of emergency and this being in the best interest of public health and order.

ADOPTED AND ORDERED PUBLISHED THIS \_\_\_\_ DAY OF January 2022.

The Town of Bayfield, Colorado, Acting through the Bayfield Waterworks Operation, the Bayfield Sewer Enterprise and Powers of the Board of Trustees to prescribe regulations.

MAYOR

Ashleigh Tarkington

ATTEST.

Kathleen S. Cathcart, Town Clerk