

ORDINANCE NO. 2007-02

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF POULSBO, WASHINGTON, AMENDING SECTION 3.72.010 OF THE POULSBO MUNICIPAL CODE IN ORDER TO AUTHORIZE THE FINANCE DIRECTOR TO REFER DELINQUENT ACCOUNTS TO COLLECTION AGENCIES; ADDING A NEW SECTION 3.72.040 TO THE POULSBO MUNICIPAL CODE TO AUTHORIZE THE WRITE-OFF OF ACCOUNTS DETERMINED TO BE UNCOLLECTIBLE; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY AND ESTABLISHING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

WHEREAS, RCW 19.16.500 authorizes cities, subject to certain procedural requirements, to retain collection agencies for the purpose of collecting outstanding accounts receivables; and

WHEREAS, Chapter 3.72 of the Poulsbo Municipal Code provides for the referral of debts owed to the City to collection agencies and for the payment of certain costs associated with collection by debtors, and

WHEREAS, the Council desires to add provisions to Chapter 3.72 to specifically authorize the Finance Director to refer delinquent accounts receivable of any city department to a collection agency for collection and to write off certain accounts receivables if found to be uncollectible; now, therefore,

THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF POULSBO, WASHINGTON, DO
ORDAIN AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. Use of Collection Agency Authorized. Section 3.72.010 of the Poulsbo Municipal Code is hereby amended to read as follows:

3.72.010 Collection Authorized - Costs.

The finance director, or his or her designee, is hereby authorized to assign debts owed to the city to a collection agency for the collection thereof. In all instances where a debt is so assigned, all reasonable costs

involved in the collection of the debt through use of the collection agency are costs that shall be added to and included in the debt to be paid by the debtor. As used in this chapter, debts owed to the city include, but are not limited to, the following: past due utility charges, fines, assessments, taxes, permit and license fees and charges, miscellaneous billings, penalties, interest, and any other charge or account receivable of whatsoever nature legally imposed by or owing to the city.

Section 2. Writing Off Uncollectible Debts. A new Section 3.72.040 is hereby added to the Poulsbo Municipal Code to read as follows:

3.72.040 Uncollectible Debts.

The finance director, or his or her designee, shall have the authority to write off debts that are over two years old in an amount not to exceed \$1000 per account. This write-off option shall be utilized only after it has been determined by the finance director that there is no cost-effective means of collecting the account and a collection agency has been unsuccessful in collecting the debt.

Section 3. Severability. If any section, sentence, clause or phrase of this ordinance should be held to be invalid or unconstitutional by a court of competent jurisdiction, such invalidity or unconstitutionality shall not affect the validity or constitutionality of any other section, sentence, clause or phrase of this ordinance.

Section 4. Effective Date. This ordinance shall take effect and be in full force five (5) days after publication of the attached summary, which is hereby approved.

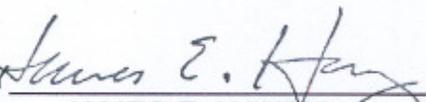
APPROVED:


MAYOR KATHRYN H. QUADE

ATTEST/AUTHENTICATED:


CITY CLERK KAROL JONES, CMC

APPROVED AS TO FORM:
OFFICE OF THE CITY ATTORNEY:

BY 
JAMES E. HANEY 

FILED WITH THE CITY CLERK: 1/9/2007
PASSED BY THE CITY COUNCIL: 1/10/2007
PUBLISHED: 1/17/2007
EFFECTIVE DATE: 1/22/2007
ORDINANCE NO. 2007-02

SUMMARY OF ORDINANCE NO. 2007-02

of the City of Poulsbo, Washington

On the 10th day of January, 2007, the City Council of the City of Poulsbo passed Ordinance No. 2007-02. A summary of the content of said ordinance, consisting of the title, provides as follows:

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF POULSBO, WASHINGTON, AMENDING SECTION 3.72.010 OF THE POULSBO MUNICIPAL CODE IN ORDER TO AUTHORIZE THE FINANCE DIRECTOR TO REFER DELINQUENT ACCOUNTS TO COLLECTION AGENCIES; ADDING A NEW SECTION 3.72.040 TO THE POULSBO MUNICIPAL CODE TO AUTHORIZE THE WRITE-OFF OF ACCOUNTS DETERMINED TO BE UNCOLLECTIBLE; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY AND ESTABLISHING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

The full text of this Ordinance will be mailed upon request.

DATED this 11th day of January, 2007.

Karol Jones
CITY CLERK KAROL JONES, CMC