

O-19- 59

ORDINANCE NO. \_\_\_\_\_

**AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING NORTH LITTLE ROCK CITY DEPARTMENTS TO CHARGE A SERVICE FEE ON RETURNED CHECKS; DECLARING AN EMERGENCY; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.**

WHEREAS, several North Little Rock City departments receive checks from individuals and businesses as payment for taxes, fees, fines, and for services provided by the City of North Little Rock (the "City"); and

WHEREAS, when checks are returned due to insufficient funds or for other reasons, City departments must expend staff time and incur administrative costs in an attempt to collect the returned check; and

WHEREAS, the City does not currently charge a service fee for checks that are returned unpaid due to insufficient funds or for other reasons; and

WHEREAS, it is in the City's best interest to charge a service fee for returned checks in order to defray the administrative costs associated with collection of the check.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF NORTH LITTLE ROCK, ARKANSAS:

SECTION 1: That City departments are authorized to collect a service fee in the amount of Twenty-Five & 00/100 Dollars (\$25.00) per returned check.

SECTION 2: That all ordinances or parts of ordinances in conflict herewith are hereby repealed to the extent of the conflict.

SECTION 3: That the provisions of this Ordinance are hereby declared to be severable and if any section, phrase or provision shall be declared or held invalid, such invalidity shall not affect the remainder of the sections, phrases or provisions.

SECTION 4: It is hereby found and determined that North Little Rock City Departments shall have the authority to charge a fee for any returned check given to the City as payment, and the immediate passage of this Ordinance is necessary in order to insure the proper and orderly growth of this land and the City of North Little Rock, Arkansas, and being necessary for the immediate preservation of the public health, safety and welfare; THEREFORE, an emergency is hereby declared to exist and this Ordinance shall be in full force and effect from and after its passage and approval.

PASSED:


APPROVED:

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Mayor Joe A. Smith

SPONSOR:

ATTEST:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Mayor Joe A. Smith *by AF*

\_\_\_\_\_  
Diane Whitbey, City Clerk

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Amy Beckman Fields, City Attorney

PREPARED BY THE OFFICE OF THE CITY ATTORNEY/cf

FILED	<u>10:55</u>	A.M.	_____	P.M.
By	<u>Amy Fields, CA</u>			
DATE	<u>4/21/19</u>			
Diane Whitbey, City Clerk and Collector North Little Rock, Arkansas				
RECEIVED BY	