CITY OF WHEAT RIDGE, COLORADO INTRODUCED BY COUNCIL MEMBER JAY Council Bill No.16-2011

Ordinance No. 1489

Series 2011

TITLE: AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 2, ARTICLE I, OF THE WHEAT RIDGE CODE OF LAWS AUTHORIZING THE CITY TO CONTRACT FOR COLLECTION OF OUTSTANDING DEBTS DUE TO THE CITY

WHEREAS, the City of Wheat Ridge ("City") is a home rule municipality having all powers conferred by Article XX of the Colorado Constitution; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to C.R.S. § 31-15-101, the City is vested with certain corporate powers, including the right to enter into contracts; and

WHEREAS, the City Council has determined that outstanding fines, costs, charges, restitution and other amounts payable to the City ("debts") represent a loss of income for the City; and

WHEREAS, the City Council recognizes that the City's collection of outstanding debts payable to the City would be a significant drain of the City's resources; and

WHEREAS, the City Council has determined that it is in the best interest of the City to authorize use of the services of a debt collection agency or agencies (or similar business) to provide for the collection of outstanding debts which are due to the City.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WHEAT RIDGE, COLORADO:

<u>Section 1</u>. The Wheat Ridge Code of Laws, Chapter 2, Article I, Section 2-8 (previously reserved) is hereby enacted to read as follows:

SEC. 2-8. COLLECTION OF OUTSTANDING DEBT.

- (a) FOR THE PURPOSES OF THIS SECTION "DEBT" SHALL MEAN AND INCLUDE ANY OUTSTANDING AND UNPAID FINES, COSTS, CHARGES, RESTITUTION OR OTHER AMOUNTS OWED TO THE CITY BY ANY PERSON.
- (b) NOTWITHSTANDING ANY OTHER PROVISION OF THIS CODE TO THE CONTRARY, THE CITY MANAGER IS AUTHORIZED TO CONTRACT WITH A COLLECTION AGENCY OR AGENCIES (OR SIMILAR BUSINESS) IN ORDER TO COLLECT ANY DEBTS WHICH ARE DUE TO THE CITY PURSUANT TO THIS CODE OR ANY OTHER PROVISION OF LAW.

- (c) ANY SUCH CONTRACT MAY INCLUDE A SURCHARGE FOR THE COST OF COLLECTION WHICH SURCHARGE SHALL INCLUDE THE FEES AND/OR COSTS OF THE COLLECTION AGENCY.
- <u>Section 2.</u> <u>Severability, Conflicting Ordinances Repealed.</u> If any section, subsection or clause of this Ordinance shall be deemed to be unconstitutional or otherwise invalid, the validity of the remaining sections, subsections and clauses shall not be affected thereby. All other ordinances or parts of ordinances in conflict with the provisions of this Ordinance are hereby repealed.

<u>Section 3.</u> <u>Effective Date.</u> This Ordinance shall take effect fifteen (15) days after final publication, as provided by Section 5.11 of the Charter.

INTRODUCED, READ, AND ADOPTED on first reading by a vote of 6 to 0 on this 25th day of April, 2011, ordered published in full in a newspaper of general circulation in the City of Wheat Ridge, and Public Hearing and consideration on final passage set for May 9th, 2011 at 7:00 p.m., in the Council Chambers, 7500 West 29th Avenue, Wheat Ridge, Colorado.

READ,	ADOPTED	AND ORDER	RED PUBL	JSHED on second	and final reading by
a vote of8_to	o, this _	<u>9th</u> day of	May	, 2011.	

SIGNED by the Mayor on this 9th day of May , 2011

Jerry DiTullio, Mayor

ATTEST:

Michael Snow, City Clerk

Approved as to Form

Gerald E. Dahl, City Attorney

First Publication: April 28, 2011 Second Publication: May 12, 2011

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Effective Date:

May 27, 2011