

ORDINANCE NO. 2026-04

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE MUNICIPAL CODE OF THE
VILLAGE OF BRIGHTON
MACOUPIN AND JERSEY COUNTIES, ILLINOIS

CHAPTER 50, SECTION 56
OWNER AND OCCUPANT LIABLE FOR CHARGES

WHEREAS, on July 1, 2024, the President and Board of Trustees of the Village of Brighton adopted the above Ordinance regarding liability of charges for water and/or sewer service in the Village and the governance thereof; and

WHEREAS, the President and Board of Trustees of the Village of Brighton are aware of owners and occupants delinquent for more than thirty (30) days for payment of their water and/or sewer usage; and

WHEREAS the Village of Brighton has learned of the "Local Debt Recovery Program" ("LDRP") through the Illinois Office of the Comptroller ("IOC"), wherein the LDRP offers local governments, free of charge, to utilize the resources of the IOC to collect unpaid debt; and

WHEREAS, the President and Board of Trustees of the Village of Brighton have determined it is necessary and beneficial to the Village of Brighton to utilize the program to collect unpaid debt owed to the Village.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE PRESIDENT AND THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE VILLAGE OF BRIGHTON, MACOUPIN AND JERSEY COUNTIES, ILLINOIS, as follows:

Section 1. That Chapter 50, Section 56 shall be amended as follows:

(c) Debt Collection Services and Invoice

1. Billing and Notices. The Village of Brighton provides water and sewer service to its residents. An invoice is sent, via mail or email, to all customers on the first (1st) of each month, due by the fifteenth (15th) of said month. If payment is not received by the fifteenth (15th), a delinquency notice is sent to the customer, with a twenty percent (20%) late fee added to the initial balance due.

The customer is given until the twenty-fifth (25th) of said month to pay in full before receiving a seventy-five-dollar (\$75.00) non-payment fee and services are subject to being disconnected.

2. Local Debt Recovery Program. The Village of Brighton shall utilize the resources of the Illinois Office of Comptroller to collect unpaid debt such as utility bills, ordinance violations, tickets, and fees.

(a) Structure of program:

- 1) The Chief Officer shall be the Water Clerk;
- 2) The Coordinator shall be the Treasurer;
- 3) The Protest Manager and User shall be the Village Clerk.

(b) Procedures:

- 1) Upon thirty (30) days' delinquency of payment, the Chief Officer shall submit a claim (debt) to the Local Debt Recovery Program ("LDRP").
- 2) Submitted debt must be less than seven (7) years old and the amount due must be greater than \$9.99.
- 3) The Illinois Office of the Comptroller ("IOC") will withhold unpaid debt from state-issued checks, known as an "offset." The IOC also collects a nominal fee from the debtor. Offsets may come from income tax refunds, state employee paychecks, state vendor contracts, and/or lottery winnings over \$599.00.
- 4) When an offset occurs, the debtor has 60 days to protest, which will be reviewed by the Village of Brighton Public Works Committee, and a recommendation to either approve or deny the protest will be made within sixty (60) days.
- 5) The Village of Brighton will comply with all procedures established by the IOC for participation in their program.

Section 2. That this Ordinance shall be in full force and effect from and after its passage and approval by the President and Board of Trustees of the Village of Brighton.

PASSED, APPROVED, and PUBLISHED IN PAMPHLET FORM, by the president and Board of Trustees of the Village of Brighton this ___ day of _____ 2026.

VILLAGE OF BRIGHTON
Macoupin and Jersey Counties, Illinois

Matthew P. Kasten

Matthew P. Kasten, President

Attest:

Tamara Jenkins

Tamara Jenkins, Village Clerk