

ORDINANCE NO. 1183

AN ORDINANCE PROHIBITING ELECTRIC METER TAMPERING; ESTABLISHING AND DEFINING PRESUMPTIVE VIOLATIONS; AND PROVIDING PENALTIES FOR VIOLATIONS.

Be it Ordained by the Governing Body of the City of Cawker City:

Section 1. METER TAMPERING UNLAWFUL. It shall be unlawful for any person to break the seal of any electrical meter; to remove or disconnect any electrical meter; to switch, install, or alter any wiring; to make any electrical connections; to attach any wires; to attach any devices to wires or meters; or to arrange any wiring, meter, equipment or device in a manner to obtain electric energy supplied by the City of Cawker City, or to use or waste or allow to be used or wasted the same, without such electric energy being properly metered, billed for or paid for in accordance with the rates established by resolution or ordinance; provided, however, that duly licensed electricians performing work regulated by the ordinances of the City of Cawker City may use sufficient electricity to test their work.

Section 2. PRESUMPTION OF VIOLATION. There is a rebuttable presumption that there is a violation of this ordinance if, on premises controlled by the customer or by the person using or receiving the direct benefit of electric utility service, there is either, or both, of the following:


(a) Any instrument, apparatus or device primarily designed to be used to obtain utility service without paying the full lawful charge therefor.

(b) Any meter that has been altered, tampered with or bypassed so as to cause no measurement or inaccurate measurement of utility services.

Section 3. PENALTIES. Violation of this ordinance shall be punishable by a fine not to exceed \$1,000, and any violators shall be required to pay restitution to the City of Cawker City for any necessary meter repair or replacement.

Section 4. EFFECTIVE DATE. This ordinance shall take effect and be in force from and after its publication in the official city newspaper.

Passed by the Council the 8th day of February 2023.


Drew Duskie, Mayor

ATTEST: 
Denelle Mick, City Clerk

