



CITY OF WASILLA

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COUNCIL MEMORANDUM NO. 91-40

FROM: Deputy Administrator


DATE: June 6, 1991

RE: Council Memorandum 91-39 - Forgiving Utility Bills

Council Memorandum 91-39 requests that a specific organization be provided with free water and sewer service. The following information should be considered by Council during deliberations to approve or disapprove the request.

- (a) The utilities are self-supporting services paid for by the customers receiving that service. Any donation of services directed by Council would be from a specific group of citizens, and not an expense shared by or common to all City taxpayers.
- (b) If the Council determines that one non-profit or charitable agency is worthy of free utility services (paid for by utility customers or paid for by all taxpayers), it provides a precedent for other non-profit or charitable agencies. Others that may reasonably qualify under the same criteria might be: churches, schools, library, Veterans of Foreign Wars, state public assistant office, fire department, Lions Club, persons on welfare and/or unemployed, senior center, etc., etc.
- (c) The municipal utilities code requires that charges for services be made to each customer. If Council decides to waive charges for a customer(s), the code should be changed by amendment to the ordinance to allow for that decision. Staff will prepare an appropriate ordinance amendment if Council wishes to proceed in that direction.

Staff recommends that no exception to paying of utility bills be made. Staff has no recommendation as to who pays them.



Robert E. Harris
Deputy Administrator