

Sponsors: Mosher / Bean

Discussion / Direction

to waive late fees levied on utility bills for federal employees affected by the government shutdown



City and Borough of Sitka

100 Lincoln Street • Sitka, Alaska 99835

MEMORANDUM

To: Mayor Paxton and Assembly Members
Keith Brady, Municipal Administrator

From: Assembly Members Kevin Mosher and Aaron Bean

Date: January 4, 2019

Subject: Discussion / Direction waiver of late fees for federal employees affected by government shutdown

Background: The U.S. government is currently in a partial shutdown, causing some federal employees, including some people in Sitka, to not receive pay.

Analysis: This is a highly unusual circumstance. Many times in the past, whenever there has been a government shutdown, federal employees received back pay for the period of the shutdown. We feel that the assembly should give consideration to waiving the city utility 1% late payment penalty fee for the period covered during the shutdown.

Fiscal Note: This will most likely be an insignificant amount waived. Also, this is not asking for the utility bills themselves to be waived, just the 1% late payment fee during the period covered by the shutdown.

Recommendation: We recommend the assembly direct staff to allow federal employees who are affected by this shutdown, to be able to come to city hall & request the 1% late fee levied on their utility bills be waived for the period covered by the current partial government shutdown.