



percent of the estimated property tax obligation must be paid to the county treasurer in each of five installments according to the following schedule:

In the case of the following estimates, the due date is on or before:

First	February 15
Second	April 15
Third	June 15
Fourth	August 15
Fifth	October 15

The remaining balance is due on or before January fifteenth of the following taxable year in accordance with Section 12-45-70. The treasurer must notify the county auditor of the amount of a property owner's payments received no earlier than October fifteenth and no later than November fifteenth. A notice of the remaining tax due and other authorized charges and information must then be prepared and mailed to the property owner.

(5) If a taxpayer electing to pay in installments does not timely make each payment pursuant to the schedule in subsection (4), the county may refuse to accept all other installment payments. If the county refuses to accept other installment payments, the remaining balance is due in accordance with Section 12-45-70.

(6) Estimated property taxes paid in installments during a property tax year are a credit against the total property tax due on the real property for the property tax year. The estimated property taxes paid in installments during a property tax year must be deposited by the county treasurer in an interest bearing account. The interest is to be retained by the treasurer to offset the administrative expenses of installment payments. Once final payment is made, and no later than January fifteenth of the following taxable year, the installment payments must be credited to the accounts of property taxing entities in the county in the same proportion that millage was imposed by such entities in the previous tax year with the necessary adjustments made to reflect current tax year millage impositions when property taxes for the current year are paid.

(7) If the credit allowed for estimated property tax paid during the property tax year results in an overpayment of property tax, the overpayment must be refunded to the taxpayer together with the actual interest earned by the county treasurer, running from the later of the due date of the installment resulting in the overpayment, without regard to additional amounts paid, or the actual date the overpayment was received by the county treasurer, to the date the refund is issued. Except that if the overpayment is issued to the taxpayer within forty-five days of the installment payment that resulted in the overpayment, the treasurer may retain the interest earned.

(8) Every tax notice for real property, for which the installment payment option has been elected, must contain a calculation of any estimated property tax due and a payment schedule and return envelopes for these payments.

(9) The payment of estimated property tax as provided in this section and the credit allowed arising from these payments in no way alters the due date, penalty schedule, and enforced collection of property taxes as provided by law.

**SEVERABILITY.** If any Section, Subsection, or part of this Ordinance shall be deemed or found to conflict with a provision of South Carolina law, or other pre-emptive legal principle, then that Section, Sub-section or part of this Ordinance shall be deemed ineffective, but the remaining parts of this Ordinance shall remain in full force and effect. Should a court of competent jurisdiction declare any word, phrase, clause or provision of this Ordinance invalid or unconstitutional, such declaration shall not affect this Ordinance as a whole or any part hereof except that specific provision declared by such court to be invalid or unconstitutional.

**CONFLICT WITH PRECEDING ORDINANCES.** If a Section, Sub-section or provision of this Ordinance shall conflict with the provisions of a Section, Sub-section or part of a preceding Ordinance of Horry County, then the preceding Section, Sub-section or part shall be deemed repealed and no longer in effect.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This Ordinance shall become effective on Third Reading, and be effective for the 2008 property tax year.

**AND IT IS SO ORDAINED, ENACTED AND ORDERED.**

Dated this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2007.

**HORRY COUNTY COUNCIL**

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Liz Gilland, Chairman

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Harold G. Worley, District 1

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Brent J. Schulz, District 2

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Marion D. Foxworth, III, District 3

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Michael L. Ryan, District 4

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Howard D. Barnard, III, District 5

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Robert P. Grabowski, District 6

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James R. Frazier, District 7

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Carl H. Schwartzkopf, District 8

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W. Paul Prince, District 9

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Kevin J. Hardee, District 10

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Al Allen, District 11

Attest:

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Patricia S. Hartley, Clerk to Council

Date of First Reading: April 3, 2007

Date of Second Reading: April 17, 2007

Date of Third Reading: May 1, 2007