NOTICE TO THE CUSTOMERS OF THE CITY OF HARLEM’S WATER AND SEWER UTILITY SYSTEM:

Two weeks ago, it was announced that the City of Harlem was partnering with Columbia County on the transfer of our utility system to the County. As of July 1, 2021, all customers who are serviced by the City of Harlem for Water and Sewer will be transferred to Columbia County for these services. The City will be providing the services for water and sewer thru the end of June. We will be sending out final bills between June 30th and July 6th as we will be doing final readings on June 29th-30th. The final bills will be for a 45-day period (May 14th thru June 30th). After this time, any service requests (new, disconnects, leaks, etc.) will go directly thru Columbia County Water and Sewer Utility. Columbia County will be contacting you with information on the transfer, billing, etc.

The City is working diligently with the County in providing account information (names and billing addresses). For those who may have been on automatic draft thru us, we have not provided that information. You will be responsible for that and will need to contact the County on setting that up. You can visit their website at www.columbiacountyga.gov and go to on-line payments to download their application. You will also be able to find more information on forms of payment they accept as well frequently asked questions.

All balances due on your accounts at the end of June are due and payable to the City of Harlem as normal. These balances are not being transferred to Columbia County and they will not be collecting payments for the balances due. When you start receiving your bills from Columbia County, those will need to be paid directly to Columbia County. Or as part of our agreement, there will be a drop box placed here at City Hall that you will be able to utilize. The City will not be responsible for any payments placed in this box and it shall not be used for City payments. Columbia County Water & Sewer Utility offices are located at 2140 William Few Parkway, Grovetown.

The City will continue to provide garbage and recycling service to the residents within the City limits of Harlem. Garbage service, and recycling to those who currently have it, will continue to be provided to the residents who live in the unincorporated area who are currently being serviced thru us. Columbia County does not provide garbage/waste services but do provide some information on haulers who do provide the service in the unincorporated area. They do have a recycling center located at 1960 William Few Parkway in Grovetown. Our current customers who live in the unincorporated area are not required to have service thru the City and may contract directly with someone of their choosing. You will need to contact the City to cancel your service and have the container(s) picked up. The residents within the incorporated area are required to have the service thru the City as the current hauler has an exclusive contract within this area. Billing for garbage will continue on a monthly basis and the bills will go out at the end of the month as normal with a due date of the 15th to avoid penalties.

We appreciate everyone’s patience and cooperation during this transition. Please let us know what questions you may have, and we will work to get those answers for you. Thank you for being a part of Harlem!