

CHAPTER 51: WATER

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GENERAL PROVISIONS

§ 51.01 RESALE RESTRICTED.

No water shall be resold or distributed by the recipient thereof from the municipal supply to any premises other than that for which application has been made and the meter installed except in the case of an emergency.

('74 Code, § 230:05) Penalty, see § 10.99

§ 51.02 TAMPERING PROHIBITED.

It shall be unlawful for any person not authorized by the municipality to tamper with, alter, or injure any part of the municipal waterworks or supply system, or any meter.

('74 Code, § 230:10) Penalty, see § 10.99

§ 51.03 WATER USE RESTRICTION; SHORTAGES.

Whenever the City Council shall determine that a shortage of the water supply threatens the city, the Council may, by resolution, limit the use of the city water supply system for lawn and garden sprinkling and irrigation. From May 1 to September 1 annually, all property with addresses that end with an odd number may be sprinkled on odd numbered days, and property with addresses that end with an even number may be sprinkled on even numbered days. The Council may also ban the use of water for lawn and garden sprinkling and irrigation. Notice of water use restriction shall be given in a manner as the Council may determine, including, but not limited to, notice on city bulletin boards or signs, newspaper articles, and radio broadcast, stating date on which the limitation is effective. This section does not apply to private wells used for irrigation.

(Ord. 98-1, passed 5-21-98) Penalty, see § 10.99

§ 51.04 BILLING.

Charges for water service shall be made every month to the property owner. All bills are to be paid as of the fifteenth day of the month in which they are issued.

('74 Code, § 230:25) (Am. Ord. passed 7-20-89)

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§ 51.05 DELINQUENT ACCOUNTS; SHUTOFF; COLLECTION.

(A) *Nonpayment.* The water supply may be shut off from any premises in which the water or sewerage bill remains unpaid for a period of ten days after the fifteenth day of the month in which the bill is issued. When shut off, the water shall not be turned on except upon payment of the usual fee for turning on, in the amount duly established by the Council from time to time, and payment of the amount due. No service of a residential customer shall be disconnected if the disconnection affects the primary heat source for the residential unit when the disconnection would occur during the period between October 15 and April 15, the customer has declared inability to pay on forms provided by the city, the household income of the customer is less than 185% of the federal poverty level as documented by the customer to the city, and the customer's account is current for the billing period immediately prior to October 15 or the customer has entered into a payment schedule and is reasonably current with payments under the schedule. The city shall, between August 15 and October 15, of each year, notify all residential customers of these provisions.

(B) *Collection.* Charges for water and sewer service more than 60 days past due in occupied residential or commercial premises shall be delinquent. Charges for water and sewer service more than 10 days past due in vacant or abandoned premises shall be delinquent. Delinquent charges may be recovered in a civil action. Delinquent charges may be certified to the County Auditor with taxes against the property served for collection as other taxes are collected.

(`74 Code, § 230:25) (Am. Ord. passed 9-10-87; Am. Ord. 347, passed 3-18-04)

§ 51.06 RESIDENTIAL EQUIVALENCY CHARGES (REC).

(A) The city establishes the following residential equivalency charges (REC) so each user of the city water and sewer system shall be paying a fair price for their proportionate use of the system:

<i>Facility</i>	<i>Parameter</i>	<i>REC Units</i>
Apartment	each unit	.5
Automobile service	2 service bays	1
Banquet room	3,000 sq. ft. GFA	1
Barber shop	4 chairs	1
Beauty parlors	8 stations	1
Bowling alley	8 alleys	1
Car wash (self-service)	1 stall	2
Car wash (automatic)	1 bay	4

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<i>Facility</i>	<i>Parameter</i>	<i>REC Units</i>
Churches	300 seats	1
Clubs/lodges	3,000 sq. ft.	1
Day care centers	20 people (clients and staff)	1
Gas station/convenience store	1,000 sq. ft. GFA	1
Group home	7 beds	1
Health club (showers)	1,000 sq. ft. GFA	1
Health club (no showers)	3,000 sq. ft. GFA	1
Laundromat	8 washing machines	1
Library	3,000 sq. ft.	1
Liquor store (on-sale)	40 seats	1
Motel/hotel	8 rooms	1
Museum	5,000 sq. ft. GFA	1
Nursing home	4 beds	1
Office (general)	5,000 sq. ft. GFA	1
Office (medical/dental)	1,000 sq. ft. GFA	1
Restaurant (full service)	12 seats	1
Restaurant (fast service)	30 seats	1
Retail stores	6,000 sq. ft. GFA	1
Schools	3,000 sq. ft. GFA	1
Swimming pools	900 sq. ft. pool area	1
Theaters	75 seats	1
Warehouses	20 employees	1

(B) The REC for a facility not included in the above list will be determined by the City Council.
(Ord. 380, passed 11-20-08; Am. Ord. 412, passed 8-21-14)

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§ 51.07 OPERATION, MAINTENANCE, REPLACEMENT, AND DEBT SERVICE FUNDS.

All revenues collected for the replacement, operation, and maintenance and debt service of the municipal waterworks or supply system shall be held in one account and must be used solely for the replacement, operation, and maintenance and debt service of the municipal waterworks or supply system. (Ord. 464, passed 6-18-20)

CONNECTIONS

§ 51.15 TURNING ON; AUTHORIZATION.

No water from the municipal water supply shall be turned on for service into any premises by any person but the Superintendent of the Water Department or some person authorized by him or her to perform this service.

(`74 Code, § 230:00) Penalty, see § 10.99

§ 51.16 TURNING ON; APPLICATION; FEE.

Application to have water turned on shall be made in writing by the homeowner, and shall contain an agreement by the applicant to abide by and accept all the provisions of this chapter as conditions governing the use of the municipal water supply by the applicant. A fee in the amount duly established by the Council from time to time shall be paid for turning on the water.

(`74 Code, § 230:00) (Am. Ord. passed 7-20-89)

§ 51.17 PLUMBING COMPLIANCE.

No water shall be turned on for service in premises in which the plumbing does not comply with the laws of the state and the ordinances of this municipality, provided that water may be turned on for construction work in unfinished buildings, subject to the provisions of this chapter.

(`74 Code, § 230:00) Penalty, see § 10.99

§ 51.18 CONNECTION PERMIT; INSPECTION AND FEE.

No connections with a water main shall be made without a permit being issued and 24 hours notice having been given to the Superintendent of the Water Department. All these connections shall be made and all work done at the expense of the applicant, who shall also furnish materials necessary for the work; all these connections shall be made under the supervision of the Superintendent and no connections

shall be covered until the work has been inspected by the Superintendent. Applications for connections must be made to the City Manager-Clerk, and a fee shall be paid in the amount duly established by the Council from time to time.

(`74 Code, § 230:00) (Am. Ord. passed 5-20-97) Penalty, see § 10.99

§ 51.19 CONNECTION; PERMISSION REQUIRED.

No person, firm, or corporation shall hereafter tap or connect, either directly or indirectly, with any water main within the corporate limits of this municipality without first having obtained permission therefor from the Council under the seal of the Manager-Clerk, nor shall any person so tap or connect either directly or indirectly without first having paid to the Manager-Clerk the fee or charge in the amount duly established by the Council from time to time.

(`74 Code, § 230:35) Penalty, see § 10.99

§ 51.20 PERMIT APPLICATION; CONNECTION CHARGE.

(A) Application for connection permits shall be made on forms furnished by the Council, and the applications shall be made at the office of the Manager-Clerk. The required fee as duly set by the Council from time to time must accompany each application.

(B) The Council shall act at each regular meeting on pending applications and in cases where permits are issued, the permits shall specify manner and conditions under which connections with the water system may be made by the applicant.

(`74 Code, § 230:40)

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§ 51.21 PERMIT APPLICATION; DRAWINGS REQUIRED.

All applications shall be accompanied by drawings of the proposed water construction, indicating the exact location of connection with the water system, and shall in every respect comply with all other municipal ordinances.

(`74 Code, § 230:50)

§ 51.22 TAPPING; SPECIFICATION REQUIREMENTS.

No person, firm, or corporation shall tap into or make a connection with any municipal water main unless the water pipe and connector used in making the connection shall be copper pipe, impervious to moisture and free from cracks, flaws, or other imperfections, or some other quality pipe meeting the same specifications and duly approved by the Engineer.

(`74 Code, § 230:45) Penalty, see § 10.99

§ 51.23 INSPECTIONS REQUIRED.

All water connections and water pipe from the point of connection to the building to be drained shall be inspected by the official inspector of the city, prior to the time that the water pipe is covered, and all requirements of this chapter and any other section or ordinance regulating excavations shall be strictly complied with.

(`74 Code, § 230:55) Penalty, see § 10.99

§ 51.24 PIPES; CONSTRUCTION AND INSTALLATION REQUIREMENTS.

(A) *Installation.* All service pipes from the mains to the premises served shall be installed by, and at the cost of, the owner of the property to be served or the applicant for the service. The installation shall be under the inspection of the Superintendent of the Water Department.

(B) *Pipe specifications.* No service shall be installed unless it conforms to specifications prepared by the Engineer and approved by the Council.

(C) *Repairs.* All repairs for service pipes and plumbing systems of buildings shall be made by an approved, licensed contractors and at the expense of the owners of the premises served. The municipality may, in case of an emergency, repair and service pipes, and if this is done, the cost of the repair work shall be repaid to the municipality by the owner of the premises served.

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(D) *Excavations.* Excavations for installing service pipes or repairing the same shall be made in compliance with the code provisions relating to making excavations in streets. Provided, that it shall be unlawful to place any service pipe in the same excavation with, or directly over, any service pipe or sewer pipe. The fee for service pipe excavations shall be in the amount duly established by the Council.

(E) *Shut-off boxes.* Shut-off boxes or service boxes shall be placed on every service pipe, and shall be located between the curb line and the sidewalk line where this is practicable. These boxes shall be so located that they are easily accessible and shall be protected from frost.

(⁷⁴ Code, § 230:15) Penalty, see § 10.99

§ 51.25 METER REQUIREMENTS.

(A) Meters required.

(1) All premises using the municipal water supply must be equipped with an adequate water meter furnished by the municipality; provided, that water service may be supplied by the municipality at a flat rate or charge until a meter may be installed.

(2) Before any premises is occupied a water meter shall be installed, as herein required, or application made for water service at the flat rate of charge until the meter can be installed, or no water shall be furnished to the premises.

(B) Installation. Meters shall be installed in a location that will be easy of access.

(C) *Reading meters.* All premises using the municipal water supply must be equipped with equipment, as determined by the city, to allow for a radio transmission meter reading. All premises owners or occupants are required to allow the city, or its agents, access to the meter to make any required readings, repairs or changes. Failure to allow access to the meter within ten days of written notice being sent to the premises by the city, shall result in water service to the premises being disconnected immediately and without further notice. Upon successful compliance with the provisions of this section by the premises, water service may be reconnected to the premises, with the owner or occupant being required to pay a new connection fee as determined by the city. The city reserves the right to check the meter connections or readings.

(D) *Testing meters.* Any municipal water meter shall be taken out and tested upon complaint of the consumer, upon payment of a fee in the amount duly established by the Council from time to time. If upon test the meter is not within 3% of being accurate, it shall be repaired or replaced and the fee returned to the consumer.

(⁷⁴ Code, § 230:20) (Am. Ord. passed 7-20-89; Am. Ord. passed 5-20-97; Am. Ord. 521, passed 3-21-24; Am. Ord. 550, passed 12-18-25)