

RULES AND REGULATIONS

1. CONNECTIONS:

- a. New connections to the City's water system may be authorized upon receipt and approval of a City Utility Connection Application and Application & Contract for Utility Service. The applications must be executed by the owner of the property or a duly authorized agent of the owner. Applications will not be approved until the applicant certifies that he/she will comply with the rates, rules, and regulations of the City and agrees to grant to the City a perpetual easement necessary to construct, maintain, or replace any lines that are essential to the present as well as future needs of the system.
- b. The application shall state the name of the owner of the property, character and extent of the service desired, description of the premises including the name of the street, road or house number, if any, the number and kind of fixtures that the service will supply, and such other information as the City may reasonably require.
- c. The user may be required to pay a cash deposit to secure water service. In the event service to the user is terminated, either voluntarily by the user, or by the City for cause, the deposit shall be held and applied by the City to any unpaid balance then owing on the user's account. Should the account be fully paid at the time of termination of service to the user, the deposit shall be refunded by the City within a reasonable time thereafter.
- d. Connection will not be made until all required fees or deposits have been paid in full.

2. CHANGES IN OWNERSHIP/SERVICE

A new Application & Contract for Utility Service must be submitted for any change in ownership of property. For any change in service as described in the original application a new Utility Hookup Application must be submitted also. The City reserves the right to discontinue service until such application is made and approved.

3. RESPONSIBILITY

- a. The City will furnish and maintain at its own cost all necessary pipes, fittings, meters, and meter boxes for each service connection which remain the property of the City and which shall at all times be accessible to and under the control of the City.
- b. The private line from the meter at the service connection to the customer's premises shall be laid and maintained by the customer at his own cost. The line shall be of ample size, standard weight and quality, and all cutoffs, valves, fixtures, and appliances furnished by the customer shall be maintained in good condition.
- c. The customer agrees that no other present or future source of water will be connected to any water lines serviced by the City and will disconnect from such other source prior to connecting to the City system.
- d. Water charges to the customer shall commence on the date that the City makes the service available.
- e. The City is authorized to inspect any and all private lines and fixtures at all reasonable hours to determine that lines are properly installed and that all fixtures and appliances are functioning properly.
- f. Any leak in any pipe or fixture on the premises of a customer shall be immediately repaired by the customer. Service may be discontinued until such repair is made.
- g. The City shall in no event be responsible for maintaining any customer private lines or for damages done by escaping water. Any damages caused by careless or negligent work or improper filling of excavation of customer service lines shall be chargeable to the person causing such damage. Any expense or repair to private lines or mains shall be recovered from such person and failure to pay such damages will result in discontinuance of service.

4. CUSTOMER:

A customer is defined as a person, business, or corporation, receiving service through a single service line for a single building or business.

- a. Only one residence or business will be authorized per meter. Multiple dwelling units or commercial services will require specific approval by the City.

- b. Each separate place of business and each residence housing a family shall pay a separate minimum user charge based upon the attached equivalent use schedule.
 - c. A shut-off valve must be placed in each service line to be used in case of necessity whereby service can be cut off without using the main City cut-off.
5. METERS:
- a. The meters shall be furnished and maintained by the City. The meters shall be conveniently located to provide service to the customer and the City will not arbitrarily select an alternate location. The City shall have final authority in any question of a service line connection to the City's distribution system.
 - b. The quantity recorded by the meter shall be conclusive on both customer and City except when the meter has been found to register inaccurately or has ceased to register. Adjustments on any billing due to a non-working or faulty meter will be computed upon an estimate of consumption based either upon the customer's prior use during the same season of the year, or upon a reasonable comparison with the use of other customers receiving the same class of service during the same season and under similar circumstances and conditions.
6. DISCONTINUANCE OF SERVICE:
- Service under any application or any approved usage based on the permit may be discontinued for any of the following reasons.
- a. For misrepresentation in the application as to the property or fixtures to be supplied or the use to be made of the water supply.
 - b. For the use of the water on any property of for a purpose other than described in the application. Excessive use of water to prevent freezing, or for cooling is not a legitimate use and is particularly prohibited.
 - c. For changing the use to be made of the supply without notice to any consent of the City.
 - d. For willful waste of water through improperly maintained pipes, fixtures, or otherwise.
 - e. For neglecting to make payments or for non-payment of any account or obligation incurred for service from the City.
 - f. For molesting any service lines, meter, or other appliance of the City controlling or regulating the water supply.
 - g. Willful violation of any rules and regulations of the City.
7. DISCONNECT OR SHUT-OFF OF SERVICE
- a. No service, fixture, or appliance will be considered cut-off until it is disconnected or sealed in a manner acceptable to the City.
 - b. No plumber, owner, or other non-authorized person shall turn off the water at any City valve or remove the meter without the consent of the City.
 - c. In case of emergency or for any unavoidable cause, the City may cut-off the water supply to make necessary repairs, connections, or the like. The City will use all reasonable and practical measures to notify the customer of such shut-off or service. The City shall not be liable for any inconvenience or damage incurred by such interruption of service, lessened supply, inadequate pressure, poor quality water or for causes reasonably beyond the City's control.
 - d. The City, in the event the supply of water is inadequate to meet all needs of the customers, may prorate the water available among the customers on such basis as is deemed equitable by the City. Priority shall be given to domestic, livestock, and garden, in that order. There shall be no guarantee of water for fire fighting; however, all reasonable measures will be taken by the City to provide a reserve for such purpose.
 - e. No person except an employee of the City duly authorized shall take water from any fire hydrant for any purpose except for extinguishing fires unless specifically permitted in writing by the City.
 - f. No person will be allowed to furnish water to another person except in case of emergency and then only such emergency has passed.
8. RATES:
- a. Each property connected to the water system shall be assessed for the purpose of establishing the minimum water rate to be charged to and against such property according to the estimated water consumption point, EU schedule, attachment A, as attached or hereby amended by City resolution.

The monthly minimum charges for water service are then based on an equivalent use rate, as determined by the Council, to adequately fund the Water Department in the current operation and maintenance expense, debt retirement, and future capital improvements.

These minimum rates provided for are hereby levied and assessed against each parcel of land, building, or property having connection to the water system, and shall be billed to and paid by the owner of each lot, parcel of land, building or property. It is specifically enacted that any building or structure connected to the water system will be subject to the minimum water use rate charge established in these rules and regulations, regardless if such building or structure is unused or unoccupied.

The minimum water charge for single living units will be based on a rate charge per dwelling, (1 EU). Multiple living units, churches, civic lodges, and all other commercial users shall be classified as either small (less than 2 EU) or large (2+ EU) commercial users, according to the City's assessment of that property, and their minimum monthly charge will be based upon that classification. In no case shall the minimum monthly water charged to any user be less than one Equivalent User (EU).

In addition to the minimum water charge as established by EU (Equivalent Use), each user shall pay for water used in excess of the maximum number of gallons of water included in the minimum monthly water charge. This rate, as well as the EU rate will be established by resolution of the City Council.

To track and monitor approved, but unconnected water hookups and their potential impact on the water system, minimum monthly Unconnected/Unused Water Rate schedule will apply. If water service is available to the property and hookup connection is approved, but no meter is installed, and no buildings or premise are connected to the water system.

Approved, but Unconnected/Unused Monthly Water Rates:

\$5.00 per month per approved EU connection

\$1.00 per month, per connection, for those hookups made in connection with unsold lots in approved subdivisions or hookups made in connection with previously approved written easements or agreements.

If the property owner does not desire to pay the unconnected/unused monthly sewer fees to maintain the approved connection to the sewer system, the sewer connection will be considered abandoned and new connection fees, at current rates will apply to future use of the property.

b. WATER RATES:

RESIDENTIAL RATE:

Single Family Dwelling: 1 EU

\$25.000-8,000 gallons
 Plus \$.35 per each 1,000 gallons, or fraction thereof, next 8,000 gallons
 Plus \$.65 per each 1,000 gallons, or fraction thereof, over 16,000 gallons

COMMERCIAL RATE:Small Business: 1-1.99 EU's (Less than 2)

\$25.00.....0-8,000 gallons

Plus \$.60 per each 1,000 gallons, or fraction thereof, next 42,000 gallons

Plus \$.90 per each 1,000 gallons, or fraction thereof, over 50,000 gallons

Large Business: 2 or more EU's

\$47.00.....0-16,000 gallons

Plus \$.70 per each 1,000 gallons, or fraction thereof, next 34,000 gallons

Plus \$.95 per each 1,000 gallons, or fraction thereof, over 50,000 gallons

Irrigation Rates:

~~\$37.50~~ per 50x100 lot, per year or

~~\$45.00~~ per acre per year

- c. The failure of a customer to pay water charges on or before the 10th of each month shall result in the automatic imposition of the following penalties:
- i. Non-payment within 30 days from the billing date will be considered delinquent and a delinquent notice will be sent.
 - ii. Non-payment within 30 days from the date account was determined delinquent will result in the water shut-off order for the customer's property. The customer will be given an opportunity of a hearing before the City Council. Non-appearance or an unsatisfactory response to the default as determined by the City will result in the discontinuance of service and the delinquency being assessed against taxes.
 - iii. A fee of \$15.00 will be charged for re-connection of the service after all delinquencies have been paid.

9. AMENDMENTS:

The Water Department Operating Rules and Regulations may be amended by the City at any time in the future, by passage of a City Resolution.