

TITLE VI PHYSICAL ENVIRONMENT

CHAPTER 3 UTILITIES - WATER SYSTEM

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6-3-1 ENFORCEMENT. The Director of Public Works shall supervise the installation of water service pipes and their connections to the water main and enforce all regulations pertaining to water services in this City in accordance with this Chapter. This Chapter shall apply to all replacements of existing service pipes as well as to new ones. The City Council shall make such rules, not in conflict with the provisions of this Chapter, as needed for the detailed operation of the waterworks. In the event of an emergency, the Director of Public Works may make temporary rules for the protection of the system until due consideration by the City Council may be had.

(Code of Iowa, Sec. 372.13(4))

6-3-2 ADOPTION OF STATE PLUMBING CODE. The installation of any water-service pipe and any connection with the municipal water system shall comply with all pertinent and applicable provisions, whether regulatory, procedural or enforcement provisions, of the State Plumbing Code as amended and as published by the Iowa Department of Public Health, which is hereby adopted. An official copy of the State Plumbing Code as adopted and a certified copy of this Ordinance are on file in the office of the City Clerk for public inspection.

6-3-3 LICENSE REQUIRED. All installation of water service pipes and connections to the municipal water system shall be made by a plumber licensed by this City. The Director of Public Works shall have the power to suspend the license of any plumber for violation of any of the provisions of this Ordinance. A suspension, unless revoked, shall continue until the next regular meeting of the City Council. The Director of Public Works shall notify the plumber immediately by personal written notice of the suspension, the reasons for the suspension and the time and place of the City Council meeting at which the plumber will be granted a hearing. At this City Council meeting, the Director of Public Works shall make a written report to the City Council stating the Director's reasons for the suspension. The City Council, after a fair hearing, shall revoke the suspension or take further action that is necessary and proper.

6-3-4 MANDATORY CONNECTIONS. All residences and business establishments within the City limits intended or used for human habitation, occupancy or use shall be

connected to the public water supply if it is reasonably available and if the building is not furnished with pure and wholesome water from some other source.

6-3-5 PERMIT. Before any person, firm, corporation or other association shall make a connection with the public water system, a written permit must be obtained from the Director of Public Works. The application for the permit shall be filed with the Director of Public Works on blanks furnished by the Director of Public Works. The application shall include a legal description of the property, the name of the property owner, the name and address of the person who will do the work and the general uses of the water. No different or additional uses shall be allowed, except by written permission of the Director of Public Works. The Director of Public Works shall issue the permit, bearing the Director's of Public Works signature and stating the time of issuance, if the proposed work meets all the requirements of this Ordinance and if all fees required under this Ordinance have been paid. Work under any permit must be begun within six (6) months after issuance of the permit. The Director of Public Works may at any time revoke the permit for any violation of this Ordinance and require that the work be stopped. The owner or plumber may appeal such action in the manner provided in Section 6-3-3 of this Ordinance.

(Code of Iowa, Sec. 372.13(4))

1. Every person desiring a supply of water must make application therefore to the clerk-treasurer or Director of Public Works upon such form as may be prescribed by the Council and provided for that purpose. The application must state fully and truly all the uses to which the water is to be applied, and no different or additional use will be allowed, except by written permission issued by the waterworks committee upon proper application being made therefore. No more than one house or premises shall be supplied from one tap, except by written permission of the majority of the members of the waterworks committee and not then in any case unless provision is made so that such house or premises can be shut off independently of every other house or premises. These provisions shall apply to all new or renewed installations.

2. The Director of Public Works shall issue the permit for the connection to the water main and all connections to the water mains shall be made by or in the presence of the Director of Public Works or other properly authorized person.

6-3-6 FEE FOR PERMIT. Before any permit is issued, the person making the application shall pay a fee of seventy-five dollars (\$75.00) to the City Clerk to cover the cost of issuing the permit and supervising, regulating and inspecting the work. (See footnote at end of Chapter)

6-3-7 WATER SUPPLY CONTROL. The plumber making the connection to the municipal water system shall install a main shut-off valve of the inverted key type on the water-service pipe near the curb with a suitable lock of a pattern approved by the Director of Public Works. The shut-off valve shall be covered with a heavy metal cover having the letter "W" marked thereon, visible and even with the pavement or ground.

The plumber also shall install a shut-off valve and waste cock on every service pipe inside the building near the entrance of the water-service pipe into the building; this must be located so that the water can be shut off conveniently and the pipes drained. Where one service pipe is installed to supply more than one customer, there shall be separate shut-off valves inside the building for

each customer so that service to one customer can be shut off without interfering with service to the others.

1. There shall be a stop and waste cock of a pattern and weight approved by the Council, attached to every service pipe, at a point where it enters the building, inside the same, easily accessible and so situated that the water can be conveniently shut off and drained from the pipes.

2. Stock cocks shall be placed in every service pipe at the outer sidewalk line and protected by stop cock box of a pattern approved by the Council, reaching from the stop cock to the surface of the ground, of a suitable size to admit of a stop key for turning on and off the stop cock with a heavy metal cover, have the letter "W" marked thereon, visible and even with the pavement or ground. Where one service pipe is intended to supply two or more consumers, there shall be separate service cocks for each.

6-3-8 MAKING THE CONNECTION. Any connection with the municipal water system must be made under the direct supervision of the Director of Public Works or the Director's authorized assistant. All taps in the water main must be at least (12) inches apart and on the side and near the top and not in any case within 18 inches of the hub.

(Code of Iowa, Sec. 372.13(4))

6-3-9 INSPECTION. Every person, firm, or corporation taking water supplied through the waterworks system shall permit the Director of Public Works, waterworks committee, and employees of the department, at all reasonable hours of the day to enter their premises or buildings to examine the pipes and fixtures and the manner in which the water is used to read meters, and they must frankly and without concealment, answer questions put to them relative to the use of water on such premises.

6-3-10 TAPS. Taps for four-inch main shall be 5/8 inch and for six-inch main shall be 11/16 inch. If larger than one-inch tap is necessary, two or more taps shall be used.

6-3-11 EXCAVATIONS. Excavations to do work under this Ordinance shall be dug so as to occasion the least possible inconvenience to the public and to provide for the passage of water along the gutter. All such excavations shall have proper barricades at all times, and warning lights placed from one-half hour before sunset to one-half hour after sunrise. In refilling the excavation, the earth must be laid in layers and each layer tamped thoroughly to prevent settlement, and this work, and any street, sidewalk, pavement or other public property that is affected, must be restored to as good a condition as it was previous to the excavation. The plumber must maintain the affected area in good repair to the satisfaction of the City Council for three (3) months after refilling. All water service pipes must be laid so as to prevent rupture by settlement or freezing. No excavation shall be made within six (6) feet of any laid water or sewer pipe while the ground is frozen, and no water or sewer pipe shall be exposed to frost, except by special written permission of the Council.

6-3-12 INSPECTION AND APPROVAL OF NEW CONNECTIONS. All water-service pipes and their connections to the municipal water system must be inspected and approved in writing by the Director of Public Works before they are covered. The Director of Public Works

shall keep a record of such approvals. If the Director of Public Works refuses to approve the work, the plumber or owner must proceed immediately to correct the work so that it will meet with the Director's approval. Every person who uses or intends to use the municipal water system shall permit the Director of Public Works or the Director's authorized assistants to enter the premises to inspect and make necessary alterations or repairs at all reasonable hours and on proof of authority.

(Code of Iowa, Sec. 372.13(4))

6-3-13 COMPLETION BY THE CITY. Should any excavation be left open or partly refilled for twenty-four (24) hours after the water-service pipe is installed and connected with the municipal water system, or should the work be improperly done, the Director of Public Works shall have the right to finish or correct the work, and the City Council shall assess the costs to the property owner or the plumber. If the plumber is assessed, the plumber must pay the costs before the plumber can receive another permit, and the plumber's bond required by the Plumbing Ordinance shall be security for the assessment. If the property owner is assessed, such assessment shall be collected with and in the same manner as general property taxes.

(Code of Iowa, Sec. 364.12(3)(h))

6-3-14 METERS.

1. All meters, where installed, shall be so placed as to be easy of access and convenient to read and inspect. They shall also be protected from frost in a manner as to prevent freezing.

2. All water shall be supplied through meters that accurately measure the amount of water supplied to any building. The Director of Public Works or the Director's assistant shall make a test of the accuracy of any water meter at any time when requested in writing. If it is found that such meter overruns to the extent of 10 percent or more, the cost of the tests shall be paid by the City and a refund shall be made to the customer for overcharges collected since the last known date of accuracy but not for longer than six (6) months. If the meter is found to be accurate or slow, less than 10 percent fast, the patron shall pay the reasonable costs of the tests.

3. Any meter found inaccurate beyond a tolerance of 10 percent shall not be returned to service until properly adjusted.

4. Should a meter get out of order of repair, or fail to register properly, the consumer will be charged with the average monthly consumption as shown by the meter, when in order, for the twelve monthly periods previous thereto or any fraction thereof if the same has not been used that long.

5. Where all water is measured by meter, no reduction shall be allowed for leakage of water after the same has been measured unless the Council orders an adjustment.

6. Meters shall be cleaned and tested at least once a year, or when deemed necessary by the waterworks committee of the Council, and all defective meters shall be repaired by the Director of Public Works or licensed plumber and again put in operation.

7. In no case shall licensed plumbers or others remove a meter from its setting or interfere with its reading for any cause, without first obtaining a permit from the Director of Public Works or waterworks committee of the Council.

8. Service pipes must be thoroughly flushed before a meter is attached. No meter shall be placed on a straight run but shall be placed at least six (6) inches above the service pipe on a loop.

9. All butcher shops, restaurants, hotels, barber shops, garages, and businesses where a motor vehicle washrack is used or maintained for hire, places of businesses having a refrigerator within running water, shall install meters for measuring the water consumed.

10. Meters, where required or installed, shall be furnished by the city. A second meter will be furnished by the property owner and be of a type and manufacture approved by the Council or purchased from the town at cost and be installed by a licensed plumber, the Director of Public Works or other competent person. Such installation shall be in the basement of the house when practicable, otherwise to be placed in a frost proof meter box of not less than twenty-four (24) inches in diameter, or properly bricked up pit of not less than 24 by 30 inches, all duly protected from frost and to be kept in such condition that the meter therein can, at any time, be readily inspected.

6-3-15 NOTICE OF MOVING. An owner of property (whether or not the owner occupies the property) shall give the City at least ten (10) days notice before the owner (if owner-occupied) moves from the property. In the case of property not occupied by the owner, the City shall have the authority, in its discretion, to turn off the supply of water to the property after the occupant moves out if there are unpaid water bills for the property and if the total amount of the bills is not contested by the owner. The City will turn on the supply of water to the property once all the water bills for the property are paid and the new occupant has paid a deposit.

6-13-16 WATER USE.

1. Water will not be turned on in any house or private service except by order of the Director of Public Works, waterworks committee of the Council, or authorized person. This rule shall not be construed to prohibit plumbers from turning water into any pipes to test the same for the purpose only.

2. No consumer shall supply water to other families nor suffer them to take water off their premises, or after water is introduced into any building, or upon their premises, shall any person make or employ any plumber or other person to make any taps or connections with the pipes upon the premises for alterations, extensions, or attachments without filing a regular application therefor and issuing a permit by the clerk or waterworks committee of the Council.

3. All persons using water shall keep the hydrants, taps, hose, water closets, urinals, bath, or other fixtures allotted to their use, closed except when obtaining water for use, and shall be responsible for any damage or injury that may result to others from the improper use of water.

4. The use of hose for sprinkling yards, gardens, and streets or for washing windows and sidewalks is prohibited in case of fire or when there is an alarm of fire, and in case of an

emergency or threatened shortage of water, the use of water for the above or other similar uses may be prohibited by the Council or waterworks committee thereof.

Footnote: See 384.38(3) concerning establishing districts and connection fees.