

## CHAPTER 50: WATER SERVICE SYSTEM

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### § 50. 01 DEFINITIONS.

For the purpose of this chapter, the following definition shall apply unless the context clearly indicates or

requires a different meaning.

**WATER DEPARTMENT.** As used in this chapter, shall be construed to mean that department of the city government having charge and control of the municipal water treatment plant and water distribution system of the city.

(Prior Code, § 13.04.010)

**§ 50.02 RULES AND REGULATIONS.**

The following rules and regulations are established for the operations of the Water Department and the control of all persons doing any plumbing work in and upon any of the mains, connections and appliances to the city water works system.

(Prior Code, § 13.04.020)

**§ 50.03 NEW SERVICE PERMIT REQUIRED.**

It is unlawful for any person, firm or corporation to make or cause to be made any connection with, attach to or tap any lateral or trunk line water service main, or make any excavations in any street, alley or public property, or under any sidewalk in the city for the purpose of making such connection, tap or attachment to any water service main without having made written application and obtained a new service permit. The permit fee in the sum of \$10 shall be paid by the owner, or contractor, before any work is done. Proof of insurance or bond must be provided to the Finance Officer to protect, indemnify and save the city harmless from all damages, claims or liability arising by reason of the excavation of the streets, alleys or public property of the city for the purposes herein referred to by said person, firm or corporation. (ORD 1051, Effective 5.17.18)

**§ 50.04 EXPENSES FOR NEW TAP AND SERVICE.**

All expenses of a new tap and service shall be borne by the person, firm or corporation demanding water.

(Prior Code, § 13.04.040)

**§ 50.05 WATER HOOKUP FEE.**

Any property owner who intends to hook up to a city water main shall pay to the city a hookup fee in an amount set by resolution of the City Commission. This hookup fee shall be in addition to any cost recovery fee set forth by separate resolution or ordinance for the installation of the water main.

(Prior Code, § 13.04.050)

**§ 50.06 WATER LINE HOOKUP FEE.**

Any property owner who hooks on to the city water line on West Street north of the intersection of West Street and Highway 18 shall pay to the city, a hookup fee in the amount of \$2,000 for each and every hookup attached thereto.

(Prior Code, § 13.04.060)

**§ 50.07 PIPE SIZE AND TYPE.**

Except as hereinafter provided, copper pipe is required in making connections with the city water mains from the mains to the curb. The pipes shall be as follows: copper pipe one inch, one and one-quarter inch or two inch bore type K soft tubing to stand a minimum of 150 pounds pressure per square inch. No deviation from the sizes, weights and strength of copper pipe to be used between the main and curb as above specified will be permitted. Type K copper tubing of the best quality shall be used when installing the water service from the curb stop to the water meter. The service should be of ample size to serve all fixtures at all times. The minimum size from the main to the curb stop is one inch and from the curb stop to the meter is one inch. Copper pipe between the curb stop and the meter shall be installed with copper pipe, between the corporation stop and

meter; and must be installed by use of flared connections. In the case of corrosive or adverse soil conditions, these pipe specifications may be changed by the Utilities Commissioner or engineer. (ORD 1051, Effective 5.17.18)

**§ 50. 08 SERVICE LINE STOP VALVES.**

In all cases where water service pipes enter a building the same must be provided with stop valves placed within nine inches of the wall or floor where the pipe enters the building. The stop must have a wheel attached thereto for the purpose of turning same so that the water may be turned off in case of leaks in the building, and such shut-off must be kept accessible and workable at all times. Combination stop and waste valves and cocks shall not be installed in an underground service pipe.  
(Prior Code, § 13. 04.080)

**§ 50. 09 CURB STOP BOXES AND VALVES.**

All curb stop boxes and shutoff valves for controlling the supply of water to consumers shall be placed in the dedicated right-of-way inside the curb line of the street with the top of the stop box even with the grade of the sidewalk or curb, but this rule shall not apply where the water supply is controlled by a valve or valves within the street. No person shall tamper in any way with a curb valve and box or turn the water off or on except as herein provided. In the event that a valve box or valve needs to be replaced or fixed for any reason, notification shall be given to the property owner and said owner shall initiate repair within a time limit set by the Utilities Commissioner or engineer. All costs of the repair will be borne by the property owner. If no action is taken to repair the valve box or valve, the valve box or valve shall be repaired or ordered repaired by the City Water Department, with full charges made to the property owner, or discontinued service thereto for nonpayment of repairs. (ORD 1051, Effective 5.17.18)

**§ 50. 10 EXPANSION LOOPS REQUIRED.**

All future service pipes connected to the city water mains shall be provided with a suitable expansion loop, located near the main, to ensure that no force will be exerted on the corporation cock. Such connections shall be made in accordance with the specifications prepared by and on file in the office of the City Engineer.  
(Prior Code, § 13. 04.100)

**§ 50. 11 OWNER RESPONSIBLE FOR PIPE AND FIXTURES.**

The Water Department will not be responsible for pipes and fixtures. The Water Department will be responsible from the main to the curb stop, not including the curb stop. All owners must, at their own expense, keep their service pipe from and including the curb stop to their premises, and all other apparatus in good working order and properly protected from frost and other danger. No claim shall be made against the city by reason of the breaking of any service pipe or apparatus or from any other damage that may result from shutting off water for repairing or any other purpose. No reduction will be made from regular rates because of leaking pipes, fixtures or breakage.  
(Prior Code, § 13. 04.110)

**§ 50. 12 CONSUMERS MUST NOT PERMIT OTHERS TO USE WATER.**

No consumer shall permit the owner or occupant of other premises to use water from his or her service without special permission from the Water Department.  
(Prior Code, § 13.04.120) Penalty, see § 50.99

**§ 50.13 ONE CONSUMER TO EACH SERVICE.**

Not more than one consumer shall be supplied from each service line. Each service line shall have a curb box and stop valve located at the curb line of the street. Owners of real property or buildings who lease or subdivide shall be responsible for all water used from the service at the point of the curb stop valve. Owners of buildings where more than one meter is used with only one shut-off at the curb line or street valve will be held responsible for all water used for the premises.  
(Prior Code, § 13.04.130)

**§ 50.14 EXTENSION OF SERVICE PIPES.**

Water service pipes must not be extended from one premises to another without special permission from the Water Department.  
(Prior Code, § 13.04.140) Penalty, see § 50.99

**§ 50.15 SEPARATION OF WATER SERVICE FROM SEWER SERVICE.**

Water pipes must not be laid in the same trench with sewers but an entirely separate trench must be provided therefore, with at least ten feet of undisturbed or compacted earth separating the two trenches.  
(Prior Code, § 13.04.150)

**§ 50.16 PIPES INSPECTED BEFORE COVERING.**

No water pipe laid underground shall be covered and the trenches filled up until after the water has been turned into such pipes and the pipes shall have been tested by the Plumbing Inspector or an authorized employee of the Water Department and found to be water-tight and below frost line, except where otherwise specifically permitted by the City Engineer.  
(Prior Code, § 13.04.160)

**§ 50.17 REPLACING OR REPAIR OF SERVICE LINE.**

In the event it is necessary to replace a service pipe because of a leak in the service, the city shall be responsible for the tap and pipe up to the point of connection to the curb stop. The property owner shall be responsible for replacement of service from and including the curb stop to their premises. If a leak exists, the Water Department shall give notification to the owner and the service shall be shut off at the curb stop until the service is fixed or replaced in accordance with Water Department regulations.  
(Prior Code, § 13.04.170)

**§ 50.18 FAILURE TO REPAIR PRIVATE SERVICE LINE.**

In case of a leak, in any private service line, or if a faulty curb stop is found by the City Water Department, the property owner must initiate repair of the service line within a time limit set by the Utilities Commissioner or engineer. If no action is taken to repair the service line, the service line shall be repaired or ordered repaired by the City Water Department, with full charges made to the property owner, or discontinue service thereto for nonpayment of repairs. (ORD 1051, Effective 5.17.18)

**§ 50.19 SERVICE LINE WORK.**

No person except a regularly license master plumber, his or her employee, a licensed digger or a regular employee of the Water Department shall be permitted to do any work on any pipes or connections to the city water mains, between the mains and the building without a service line work permit. The permit, together with

a \$10 permit fee, shall be filed with the Finance Officer before any work is done. All such work shall be tested and must be inspected by the Water Department or the Plumbing Inspector before it is covered and the ditch refilled. (ORD 1051, Effective 5.17.18)

**§ 50. 20 METER REQUIRED.**

All dwellings or businesses supplied with city water service must be metered. All meters shall be of a type approved by the City Water Department and shall be installed by the Water Department. The initial cost of a five-eighths inch or one-half inch meter shall be borne by the city. Any meter larger than five-eighths inch shall be paid for and furnished by the consumer. The supply of water through each service shall be recorded by one meter only, for which one account will be rendered by the Water Billing Department. All consumers outside the city limits must pay for their meters at cost plus any handling charges. The supply of water through each service shall be recorded by one meter only, for which one account will be rendered by the Water Billing Department. The city reserves the right to read, inspect and require maintenance of any meters.

(Prior Code, § 13. 04.200)

**§ 50. 21 METER INSTALLATION.**

All meters shall be installed on service pipes not to exceed two feet from the wall where such pipe enters the premises with a stop and waste valve between such meter and the wall, and such meter shall be so placed as to be easy of access and shall be kept free from all obstructions so that same may be easily read and inspected and shall be protected by the consumer from freezing and other danger. All one and one-half inch and larger meters shall have a stop valve on both the inlet and outlet side of the meter. All installations requiring a larger meter than two inches shall be served through a header that will accommodate as many as two inches or smaller meters as is required to serve the installation unless otherwise specified by the Water Department or City Engineer.

(Prior Code, § 13. 04.210)

**§ 50. 22 METERS FAILING TO REGISTER.**

In cases where water meters fail to register the amount of water passing through them by being stopped up or from any cause whatever, the quantity used shall be determined and the charge based upon previous consumption or an analysis of the account during the past 12 months. If meters are damaged by freezing, hot water or otherwise, the owner or occupant must pay for such damage. The cost of ordinary maintenance will be borne by the Water Department. In case of breakage or stoppage or any other irregularity in the water meter, the owner or occupant shall notify the Water Department at once and any necessary repairs will be made by the Water Department as hereinbefore provided.

(Prior Code, § 13. 04.220)

**§ 50. 23 TAMPERING WITH METERS.**

No person shall tamper in any way with a water meter or interfere with its registering. No person shall in any way by-pass the water around the meter or make any connections on the water line ahead of the water meter. In such cases the Water Department shall approximate the water bills according to information and records on file in the Water Department during the past 12 months.

(Prior Code, § 13.04.230) Penalty, see § 50.99

**§ 50.24 TESTING METERS.**

In case there is any doubt as to the accuracy of any meter on the part of the consumer, he or she may have the meter tested by depositing the fee hereinafter required by the Water Department and if the meter proves to be correct, the deposit shall be retained to pay for the labor in making such test. If the meter should prove to be more than 2% fast, the deposit will be refunded and proper reductions made from the bill for the preceding period. In case the meter is more than 2% slow, the property amount will be added to the bill and the deposit retained. Fees for testing meters shall be as follows:

5/8 inch meter	\$20.50
3/4 inch meter	\$20.50
1 inch meter	\$25
1-1/2 inch meter	\$40
2 inch meter	\$60
3 inch meter	\$85
4 inch meter	\$105

(Prior Code, § 13.04.240)

**§ 50.25 METER BOXES.**

All meters located outside of basements must be placed in meter boxes or vaults. All such boxes or vaults must be constructed of cement or cement blocks and be not less than four feet long and three feet wide, inside measurements, and must be provided with a close-fitting cover with an opening large enough for an average size person to enter and with steps to enable one to descend into the box. Meters must be installed so that they will be above the ground water table, with a stop valve on both the inlet and outlet side of the meter.

(Prior Code, § 13.04.250)

**§ 50.26 VALVE BETWEEN METER AND BOILER.**

When a meter is placed on a pipe connected to a boiler or other hot water apparatus, a relief valve approved by the Plumbing Inspector must be placed between such meter and the boiler or other hot water apparatus to protect such meter from back pressure of steam or hot water.

(Prior Code, § 13.04.260)

**§ 50.27 CITY NOT RESPONSIBLE FOR DAMAGE.**

The city will not be responsible for accidents resulting from insecure boilers, or from variation in the water pressure or the ram of the water from the mains or from the collapse from any cause whatever.

(Prior Code, § 13.04.270)

**§ 50.28 CROSS CONNECTIONS.**

No cross connection is allowed between the city water system and any other water system or water supply whatever. Water service will be discontinued immediately if protective devices are found to be

defective or if cross connections are found to exist on the premises.  
(Prior Code, § 13.04.280) Penalty, see § 50.99

**§ 50.29 AUTOMATIC VALVES.**

No licensed plumber or any other person shall connect to the water system of the city any apparatus controlled by an automatic valve without providing a proper air chamber therefore.  
(Prior Code, § 13.04.290) Penalty, see § 50.99

**§ 50.30 MAY SHUT OFF TO MAKE REPAIRS.**

In the event of leak or other accidents to pipes or other apparatus connected with the city water works, licensed plumbers in an emergency may shut off the water to the curb stop to make the necessary repairs. Where it is necessary to disconnect a water meter, notice must be given to the Water Department. No plumber or other person shall remove any meter from any premises or change the location of any meter in any premises without first receiving permission therefore from the Water Department. When plumbers make repairs to pipes or fixtures on any premises, they shall leave the water turned on or turned off as they found it to be when they entered upon the premises to make such repairs.  
(Prior Code, § 13.04.300)

**§ 50.31 LEAVE WATER TURNED OFF.**

In no case shall any plumber or person after completion and test on any new construction plumbing work, if it be the first introduction of the service, leave the water turned on to the premises without permission from the Water Billing Department.  
(Prior Code, § 13.04.310)

**§ 50.32 SUBMIT PLANS.**

In plumbing a building where various floors are to be supplied from separate service the plumber undertaking the work shall submit his or her plans to the Plumbing Inspector for approval.  
(Prior Code, § 13.04.320)

**§ 50.33 USE OF WATER FOR BUILDING PURPOSES.**

Any person desiring to use water for building construction work must make application to the Water Department and shall pay for the water so used on the basis fixed by the Water Department either by meter or otherwise. When water is used without a meter, a meter must be ordered installed as soon as the building is completed or before the occupant moved in and before any water is used for any other purpose other than building construction. A violation of this rule will entitle the Water Department to estimate an additional water bill for water so used in violation to the owner or contractor in addition to the regular penalty clause.  
(Prior Code, § 13.04.330)

**§ 50.34 SPRINKLING.**

All water used by customers within and without the city limits for air cooling systems, streets, lawn or garden sprinkling is subordinate to domestic use or fire protection, and may be restricted by the Water Department by public notice at any time should the scarcity of water or an emergency of any kind so require. This restriction shall not apply to air cooling systems designed and used in manufacturing and industrial processing applications. Water shall not be drawn from a fire hydrant during a fire other than for firefighting purposes. The city reserves the right to terminate the water supply of any water customer who fails to comply with water use restrictions imposed by the Water Department.

(Prior Code, § 13.04.340) Penalty, see § 50.99

**§ 50.35 NOTICE TO CONTINUE OR DISCONTINUE REQUIRED.**

Owners or consumers desiring to continue or discontinue the use of water shall give notice to the Water Billing Department and regular rates shall be continued until such notice is given. Owners must give notice of change of tenants.

(Prior Code, § 13.04.350)

**§ 50.36 INTERFERING WITH FIRE HYDRANTS.**

No person except as authorized by the Water Department or Fire Department shall open or take any water from any fire hydrant belonging to the Water Department, nor shall any person in any way interfere with, injure, break or deface any fire hydrant belonging to the Water Department. Any person damaging a fire hydrant or water main or any connection shall notify the Water Department or the Police Department at once, and the person responsible for the damages shall pay the cost of repairs or replacement.

(Prior Code, § 13.04.360) Penalty, see § 50.99

**§ 50.37 ABANDONMENT OF SERVICE.**

In case any water service pipe should have to be abandoned, the owner of the water service to be abandoned shall have a licensed plumber or contractor cut off the water service pipe at the curb stop within a time limit set by the Commissioner of Water and Sewer, or the city shall cause the same to be turned off, and the cost of turning off the service, plus a penalty of 10% of the costs, shall be assessed to the property owner. There shall be no backfilling of the trench at the point at which the water service has been turned off, until the curb stop is inspected by the Water Superintendent or his or her duly authorized agent.

(Prior Code, § 13.04.370)

**§ 50.38 INSPECTION OF WATER MAINS CONSTRUCTED UNDER PRIVATE CONTRACT.**

When water mains are constructed under private contract, all materials, design and construction shall be inspected and approved by the City Engineer or his or her representative and shall be in accord with specifications of the city.

(Prior Code, § 13.04.380)

**§ 50.39 REIMBURSEMENT TO CITY OF ADMINISTRATIVE COSTS OF WATER MAINS CONSTRUCTED UNDER PRIVATE CONTRACT.**

When water mains are constructed under private contract, the contractor constructing the water mains shall reimburse the city for all costs of inspection, design, blueprints, engineering and administration incurred by the city during the course of such private contract construction.

(Prior Code, § 13.04.390)



**§ 50. 40 AUTHORITY OF DEPARTMENT.**

The Utilities Commissioner, or other officers or employees of the Water Department shall be permitted to, at all reasonable hours or at any time in case of emergency, enter the premises or buildings of consumers for the purpose of reading meters and to examine water pipes and fixtures and the manner in which water is used. The Water Department shall have the right to set or remove a meter or change its location whenever it is deemed advisable to do so. (ORD 1051, Effective 5.17.18)

**§ 50. 41 WATER SHUT-OFF EXPENSE.**

The Water Department may shut off the water to any premises when the water rental is not paid by the user in accordance with the rules of the Department or upon violation of any of the rules and regulations of the Department or of this chapter by the use or owner of the premises served. When the water is so turned off, it shall not be turned on again until arrangements have been made with the Department for the payment of all the arrears together with the additional sum of \$25 to cover the expense of shutting off and turning on the water. When a partial payment is made, the credit shall apply on the oldest item of the account. No person shall turn on the water to any premises from which the water has been turned off as herein provided without authority from the Water Department. (Prior Code, § 13. 04.410) Penalty, see § 50.99

**§ 50. 42 INTERFERING WITH OR DAMAGING PROPERTY OF WATER DEPARTMENT PROHIBITED.**

No person shall willfully deface, damage, move, obstruct or interfere with any fire or water hydrant, main or other property of the Water Department, and for violation of this section any person convicted thereof, in addition to other penalties provided, shall be required to pay the cost of repairing the property so damaged. (Prior Code, § 13. 04.420) Penalty, see § 50.99

**§ 50. 43 CONTAMINATION PROHIBITED.**

It is unlawful for any person or the owner or occupant of any house, barn, yard, stable or pig sty or other house or enclosure, or of any place where any animals are kept, to allow any manure, garbage, refuse or cleaning of any kind to accumulate, to be or remain on any property within the city in such manner as to contaminate or threaten contamination to any water supply. Nothing in this section shall prevent the keeping of horses or other pet animals upon such premises if the owner or person in charge thereof will each day clean all barns, cages or other places where such horses or other pet animals are kept and deposit the filth or refuse there from in concrete or other water-tight receptacles, vaults or basins or haul said refuse to the designated refuse disposal area. (Prior Code, § 13. 04.430) Penalty, see § 50.99

**§ 50. 44 WATER CONSUMERS TO COMPLY WITH SANITARY REGULATIONS.**

All water consumers connected with the city water system must comply with the sanitary regulations of the city. (Prior Code, § 13. 04.440) Penalty, see § 50.99

**§ 50. 45 CONSTRUCTION OF CESSPOOL AND PRIVY.**

It is unlawful for any person or the owner or occupant of any lot, house or building to maintain or use upon such property any privy or cesspool.

(Prior Code, § 13.04.450) Penalty, see § 50.99

**§ 50.46 BREAKING SEALS.**

No person shall break any seal upon any meter, valve, private fire hydrant or other fixtures that may be sealed by the Water Department, except that the seals on private fire hydrants and private fire protection valves may be broken in case of fire, and when so broken shall be reported to the Water Department within 24 hours.

(Prior Code, § 13.04.460) Penalty, see § 50.99

**§ 50.99 PENALTY.**

(A) Any master plumber or other person, firm or corporation who shall violate any of the provisions of this chapter, other than those rules governing consumers shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor and each and every violation of the provisions of this chapter shall constitute a separate offense.

(B) Any person or persons, firm or corporation violating the provisions of this chapter or failing to comply with any of the provisions thereof, shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor and upon conviction thereof, shall be punished by a fine of not exceeding \$500 or by imprisonment for a period of not to exceed 30 days, or by both such fine and imprisonment. Whenever any person such as a clerk, servant, agent or employee of any other person, or of any firm or corporation, violates any of the provisions of this chapter, he or she shall be deemed guilty as well as the principal and they shall be punished as herein provided.

(Prior Code, § 13.04.470)