

## CHAPTER 90

### WATER SERVICE SYSTEM

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**90.01 DEFINITIONS.** The following terms are defined for use in the chapters in this Code of Ordinances pertaining to the Water Service System:

1. "Combined service account" means a customer service account for the provision of two or more utility services.
2. "Customer" means, in addition to any person receiving water service from the City, the owner of the property served, and as between such parties the duties, responsibilities, liabilities and obligations hereinafter imposed shall be joint and several,
3. "Superintendent" means the Superintendent of the City water system or any duly authorized assistant, agent or representative.
4. "Water main" means a water supply pipe owned by the City and provided for public or community use.
5. "Water service pipe" means the pipe owned by the property owner from the water main to the building served,
6. "Water system" or "water works" means all public facilities for securing, collecting, storing, pumping, treating and distributing water.

**90.02 SUPERINTENDENT'S DUTIES.** The Superintendent shall supervise the installation of water service pipes and their connection to the water main and enforce all regulations pertaining to water services in the City in accordance with this chapter. This chapter shall apply to all replacements of existing water service pipes as well as to new ones. The Superintendent shall make such rules, not in conflict with the provisions of this chapter, as may be needed for the detailed operation of the water system, subject to the approval of the Council. In the event of an emergency the Superintendent may make

temporary rules for the protection of the system until due consideration by the Council may be had.

*(Code of Iowa, Sec. 372.13[4])*

**90.03 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 system.

**90.04 ABANDONED CONNECTIONS.** When an existing water service is abandoned or a service is renewed with a new tap in the main, all abandoned connections with the mains shall be turned off at the corporation stop and made absolutely watertight.

**90.05 PERMIT.** Before any person makes a connection with the public water system, a written permit must be obtained from the City. The application for the permit 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. If the proposed work meets all the requirements of this chapter and if all fees required under this chapter have been paid, the permit shall be issued. Work under any permit must be completed within six (6) months after the permit is issued, except that when such time period is inequitable or unfair due to conditions beyond the control of the person making the application, an extension of time within which to complete the work may be granted. The permit may be revoked at any time for any violation of these chapters.

**90.06 CONNECTION CHARGE.** There shall be a connection charge in an amount set by resolution of the Council, plus any additional costs estimated as necessary by the City prior to connection, paid before issuance of a permit to reimburse the City for costs borne by the City in making water service available to the property served.

*(Code of Iowa, Sec. 384.84)*

**90.07 COMPLIANCE WITH PLUMBING CODE.** The installation of any water service pipe and any connection with the water system shall comply with all pertinent and applicable provisions, whether regulatory, procedural or enforcement provisions, of Division 4, Plumbing Rules and Regulations, of the State Building Code.

**90.08 PLUMBER REQUIRED.** All installations of water service pipes and connections to the water system shall be made by a plumber approved by the City. The Superintendent shall have the power to suspend the approval of any

plumber for violation of any of the provisions of this chapter. A suspension, unless revoked, shall continue until the next regular meeting of the City Council. The Superintendent shall notify the plumber immediately by personal written notice of the suspension, the reasons for the suspension and the time and place of the Council meeting at which the plumber will be granted a hearing. At this Council meeting the Superintendent shall make a written report to the Council stating the reasons for the suspension, and the Council, after fair hearing, shall affirm or revoke the suspension or take any further action that is necessary and proper.

**90.09 EXCAVATIONS.** All trench work, excavation and backfilling required in making a connection shall be performed in accordance with applicable excavation provisions as provided for installation of building sewers and/or the provisions of Chapter 135.

**90.10 TAPPING MAINS.** All taps into water mains shall be made by City staff in accord with the following:

*(Code of Iowa, Sec. 372.13[4])*

1. Independent Services. No more than one house, building or premises shall be supplied from one tap unless special written permission is obtained from the Superintendent and unless provision is made so that each house, building or premises may be shut off independently of the other.
2. Sizes and Location of Taps. All mains six (6) inches or less in diameter shall receive no larger than a three-fourths (3/4) inch tap without approval from the Superintendent. All mains of over six (6) inches in diameter shall receive no larger than a one inch tap. All taps in the mains shall be made in the top half of the pipe, at least eighteen (18) inches apart. No main shall be tapped nearer than two (2) feet of the joint in the main.
3. Corporation Stop. A brass corporation stop, of the pattern and weight approved by the Superintendent, shall be inserted in every tap in the main. The corporation stop in the main shall be of the same size as the service pipe.
4. Location Record. An accurate and dimensional sketch showing the exact location of the tap shall be filed with the Superintendent in such form as the Superintendent shall require.

**90.11 INSTALLATION OF WATER SERVICE PIPE.** Residential water service pipes (up to one inch) from the main to the meter setting shall be Type

K copper. The use of any other pipe material for the service line shall first be approved by the Superintendent. Pipe must be laid sufficiently waving, and to such depth, as to prevent rupture from settlement or freezing.

**90.12 RESPONSIBILITY FOR WATER SERVICE PIPE.** All costs and expenses incident to the installation, connection and maintenance of the water service pipe and fixtures, including a curb valve from the water main to the building served shall be borne by the owner. The property owner is the legal owner of the water service pipe and fixtures and is responsible for their maintenance and repair. No claims shall be made or maintained against the City for damages due to the breakage of any service pipes or appurtenances, or for accidental failure in the supply of water.

**90.13 FAILURE TO MAINTAIN.** When any portion of the water service pipe which is the responsibility of the property owner becomes defective or creates a nuisance and the owner fails to correct such nuisance the City may do so and assess the costs thereof to the property.

*(Code of Iowa, Sec. 364.1213a &*

**90.14 CURB VALVE.** There shall be installed by the property owner or the owner's contractor within the public right-of-way a main shut-off valve on the water service pipe of a pattern approved by the Superintendent. The shut-off valve shall be constructed to be visible and even with the pavement or ground.

**90.15 INTERIOR VALVE.** There shall be installed a shut-off valve on every service pipe inside the building as close to the entrance of the pipe within the building as possible and so located that the water can be shut off conveniently. Where one service pipe supplies more than one customer within the building, there shall be separate valves for each such customer so that service may be shut off for one without interfering with service to the others.

**90.16 INSPECTION AND APPROVAL.** All water service pipes and their connections to the water system must be inspected and approved in writing by the Superintendent before they are covered, and the Superintendent shall keep a record of such approvals. If the Superintendent refuses to approve the work, the plumber or property owner must proceed immediately to correct the work. Every person who uses or intends to use the municipal water system shall permit the Superintendent to enter the premises to inspect or make necessary alterations or repairs at all reasonable hours and on proof of authority.

**90.17 COMPLETION BY THE CITY.** Should any excavation be left open or only partly refilled for twenty-four (24) hours after the water service pipe is

installed and connected with the water system, or should the work be improperly done, the City shall have the right to finish or correct the work, and the Council shall assess the costs to the property owner or the plumber. If the plumber is assessed, the plumber must pay the costs before receiving another permit. If the property owner is assessed, such assessment may be collected with and in the same manner as general property taxes.

*(Code of Iowa, Sec. 364.12[3a & h])*

**90.18 SHUTTING OFF WATER SUPPLY.** The Superintendent may shut off the supply of water to any customer because of any violation of the regulations contained in these Water Service System chapters that is not being contested in good faith. The supply shall not be turned on again until all violations have been corrected and the Superintendent has ordered the water to be turned on.

**90.19 OPERATION OF CURB VALVE AND HYDRANTS.** It is unlawful for any person except the Superintendent to turn water on at the curb valve, and no person, unless specifically authorized by the City, shall open or attempt to draw water from any fire hydrant for any purpose whatsoever.

**90.20 SEPARATE WATER METER.**

1. A separate additional meter may be installed for the purpose of measuring water usage outside a residence or business when such water is not discharged into the public sanitary sewer system and is used specifically for irrigation, swimming pools, yards, gardens or other uses for which sanitary sewer service charges are not applicable. The property owner must purchase the additional meter and remote reading device from the City and pay for its installation. The property owner is responsible for the installation of the additional service line required for the meter and said installation shall be in accordance with the Superintendent's directives. The City shall retain ownership of the meter and shall have the right to inspect said meter from time to time to ensure proper operation of the meter and to check for illegal bypassing of any other meter on the premises. All water measured through the additional meter shall be exempt from sanitary sewer service charges.

2. Before any property owner makes a connection with the public water system, a written permit must be obtained from the City. The application for the permit 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. If the proposed work meets all the requirements of this section and if all fees

required under this section have been paid, shall be issued and materials provided to the property owner. Work under any permit must be completed within six months after the

permit is issued, except that when such time period is inequitable or unfair due to conditions beyond the control of the person making the application, an extension of time within which to complete the work may be granted. The permit may be revoked at any time for any violation of these sections.

3. The property owner is responsible for the cost to install the meter and all related materials. This cost shall be detailed in the annual fee schedule adopted by the City Council.

4. The second meter shall be termed "Seasonal Use" from April through October. The meter shall be deemed "vacant" during November through March provided no usage is recorded. During seasonal use the current monthly usage rate charges will be applied but the total water usage recorded through the second meter will be exempt from the sanitary service charges. During the vacant period an "availability" charge will be billed. If this meter is on a second service line to the structure it shall be shut off and on at the main during seasonal and vacant periods. If water usage is recorded during the vacant period, full charges will be applied to this usage.