

## 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 maintenance worker of the City water system or any duly authorized assistant, agent or representative.
4. "Water main" means a water supply pipe provided for public or community use.
5. "Water service pipe" means the pipe 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 recommend 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.** The owners of any houses, buildings or properties used for human occupancy, employment, recreation or other purposes, situated within the City and abutting any street, alley, easement, or right-of-way in which there is now located, or may in the future be located, a public water main is hereby required to connect, provided that said public water main is located within one hundred (100) feet (30.5 meters) of the property line of such owner and is of such design as to provide service. Only those residences or businesses supplied by an existing private water source at the time of the adoption of the ordinance codified

in this chapter are exempt from a mandatory connection, and only when said private water sources can be shown to consistently provide pure and wholesome water.

**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 sixty (60) days after the permit is issued, except that when such time period is inequitable or unfair due to conditions beyond the control of 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.**

1. Special Tax. If the Council requires construction of a public water main extension to make water service available to adjacent properties, the Council may by ordinance assess a special tax (connection rights fee) for reimbursement of the cost of construction borne by the City for the water main to which connection is made. Charges, if not paid, are a lien upon the premises served. This connection charge is a one-time fee and shall apply only to water connections made to mains as designated by the Council, with fees as follows:

*(Code of Iowa, Sec. 364.12, 364.13, 384.38 & 384.84)*

A. Connection rights fee (special tax) for connection to existing City water mains within the corporate limits\* east of East Street, for the purpose of providing a distribution network, or any service line from those specific mains for the following categories:

1. Industrial/Commercial (development, subdivision or individual): Water = \$2500.00
2. Residential (development or subdivision): Water = \$2500.00

B. Connection rights fee (special tax) for connection to existing City water mains within the corporate limits\* east of East Street, for the purpose of providing a service line from the specific mains, other than those defined in A above:

1. Residential (single or individual): Water = \$300.00

\*No connections will be granted unless grantee voluntarily annexes to the City corporate limits, unless otherwise waived by the City Council.

2. Connection Tap Fees. The connection tap fee for a new tap for the purposes of a service line installation into the City's existing water mains shall be in accordance with the following fee schedule:

- A. 3/4-inch water \$225.00
- B. 1-inch water \$350.00

City to provide corporation stop and saddle, curb stop and valve box, and meter. City to only provide installation of tapping the existing main and installation of corporation stop and saddle (grantee to provide a safe and adequate excavation for this installation). All excavations, backfilling, surface restorations, piping and fittings to include installation is to be done by the grantee. Supplied meter is to be installed by customer in accordance with Superintendent's directions. All other associated costs incurred are the responsibility of the customer.

C. 2-inch water \$630.00

City to provide only the corporation stop and saddle, curb stop and valve box, and meter. No installation services provided by the City. Supplied meter is to be installed by customer in accordance with Superintendent's directions. All other associated costs incurred are the responsibility of the customer.

D. 3-inch and larger water at City cost

City to provide only the meter. Fee will be at the City's cost plus 10% for providing the meter selected for the installation, plus \$175.00 for inspection, plus "dry connection" main shutdown service time rendered for the installation to the existing City main. All other associated costs incurred are the responsibility of the customer. The customer shall utilize a mechanical joint fitting and valve piping system with retaining devices, valves to be gate valves with valve box, for these large size service installations. Supplied meter is to be installed by customer in accordance with Superintendent's directions.

3. Hook-Up Fees. The hook-up fee is for locations where existing taps and curb valves are in place and only the meter and customer service pipe need to be installed. The City shall provide meter and supervision only in accordance with the following:

A. 3/4-inch water \$100.00

B. 1-inch water \$150.00

**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 the Plumbing Code of the City.

**90.08 PLUMBER REQUIRED.** All installations of water service pipes and connections to the water system shall be made by a State-licensed plumber.

**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 or under the direct supervision of the Superintendent and in accord with the following:

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 Council 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 smaller than a three-fourths (3/4) inch tap. All mains of over six (6) inches

in diameter shall receive no larger than a one inch tap. Where a larger connection than a one inch tap is desired, two (2) or more small taps or saddles shall be used, as the Superintendent shall order. All taps in the mains shall be made at or near the top 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.

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

**90.11 INSTALLATION OF WATER SERVICE PIPE.** Water service pipes from the main to the meter setting shall 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 and connections of the water service pipe from the main to the building served shall be as described in Section 90.03. The owner shall indemnify the City from any loss or damage that may directly or indirectly be occasioned by the installation or maintenance of said water service pipe. The City shall be responsible for maintenance of the existing water service pipes which are located within the City's right-of-way or easements and are within sixty (60) feet from the water main tap or curb valve, whichever is the lesser distance. The City may or may not, on a case-by-case situation waive certain fees on any water main improvement project that may require a water service pipe relocation or modification.

**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. 364.12[3a & h])*

**90.14 CURB VALVE.** There shall be installed 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 Superintendent 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. Council notification is necessary prior to shut-offs.

**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.

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