

## CHAPTER 91

### WATER METERS

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**91.01 PURPOSE.** The purpose of this chapter is to encourage the conservation of water and facilitate the equitable distribution of charges for water service among customers.

**91.02 WATER USE METERED.** All water furnished customers shall be measured through meters furnished by the City and installed by the City.

**91.03 FIRE SPRINKLER SYSTEMS - EXCEPTION.** Fire sprinkler systems may be connected to water mains by direct connection without meters under the direct supervision of the Superintendent. No open connection can be incorporated in the system, and there shall be no valves except a main control valve at the entrance to the building which must be sealed open.

**91.04 LOCATION OF METERS.** All meters shall be so located that they are easily accessible to meter readers and repairmen and protected from freezing.

**91.05 METER SETTING.** The property owner shall provide all necessary piping and fittings for proper setting of the meter including a valve on the discharge side of the meter. Meter pits may be used only upon approval of the Superintendent and shall be of a design and construction approved by the Superintendent.

**91.06 METER COSTS.** The full cost of any meter larger than that required for a single-family residence shall be paid to the City by the property owner or customer prior to the installation of any such meter by the City, or, at the sole option of the City, the property owner or customer may be required to purchase and install such meter in accordance with requirements established by the City.

**91.07 METER REPAIRS.** Whenever a water meter owned by the City is found to be out of order the Superintendent shall have it repaired. If it is found that damage to the meter has occurred due to the carelessness or negligence of

the customer or property owner, or the meter is not owned by the City, then the property owner shall be liable for the cost of repairs.

**91.08 RIGHT OF ENTRY.** The Superintendent shall be permitted to enter the premises of any customer at any reasonable time to read, remove, or change a meter.

**91.09 SEPARATE METERS.** The water supply to each family unit served by the City shall be metered by one meter. Apartment houses and multiple dwellings shall have one meter for each family unit and for each business which may occupy said apartment or multiple dwelling, with the exception that if a structure pre-dated the original enactment of the ordinance codified in this section, and said structure does not have a separate meter for each unit, and it would be impracticable to install separate meters for each unit, then the owner of said apartment house or multiple dwelling structure may pay pursuant to one meter. However, in no event shall the minimum monthly bill be less than the amount charged for each unit times the standard minimum billing. In the event of a structural change to the building, this exception shall not apply and the owner will be required to provide separate meters for each unit.

**91.10 TESTING.** Upon the written request of any customer, the meter serving said customer shall be tested by the City. Such test will be made without charge to the customer if the meter has not been tested within twelve (12) months preceding the requested test; otherwise, a charge of five dollars (\$5.00) will be made and then only if the test indicates meter accuracy within the limits of two percent (2%).

**91.11 FAILURE TO REGISTER.** Where the meter has ceased to register or meter reading could not be obtained, the quantity of water consumed for billing purposes will be based upon an average of the prior six months' consumption, and the conditions of water service prevailing during the period in which the meter failed to register.