

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 Public Works Director. No other open, unmetered connection shall 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. Meters shall be kept free of all vegetation or any obstructions that limit access to the meter. If the area must be cleared, a 10-day notice shall be mailed to the owner, and if not resolved, the City shall remove the vegetation or obstruction and bill the owner for time and materials.

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 Public Works Director and shall be of a design and construction approved by the Public Works Director.

91.06 METER COSTS. The full cost of any meter larger than a three-quarter inch meter 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 Public Works Director 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 Public Works Director shall be permitted to enter the premises of any customer at any reasonable time to read, remove, or change a meter. Failure to comply with request to enter and inspect property shall result in a municipal infraction being filed against the owner of record of the property and legal action may be applicable.

91.09 METER TESTING. The Public Works Director or any designee 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 five percent or more, the cost of the test 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 more than five percent of the total water bill and not for a longer period than three months. If the meter is found to be accurate or slow or less than five percent fast, the user shall pay a testing charge of \$25.00.

91.10 SEPARATE METERS. Each individual dwelling unit of each individual, commercial, or industrial premises shall be served by separate water meters, except as otherwise provided in this chapter. Multiple dwellings of three or more dwelling units, and commercial or industrial premises, may be served by one water meter, provided that the owner of the dwelling or premises is responsible for the payment of all water bills.

91.11 METER FAILURE. In the event a water meter does not register properly, the water service charges for that month shall be based upon the average monthly consumption of the prior six months.

91.12 REMOTE READERS. All private water connections hereafter installed, whether for residential or commercial use, shall include a remote recording device. The remote recording devices shall be installed at a convenient location on the interior or exterior of the structure served by the water service connection to register the volume of water passing through the water meter. The remote recording device shall be furnished by and remain the property of the City.

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