

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 Public Works Director of the City 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 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. The owner of any house, building or property which is used for human occupancy, employment, recreation or other purposes, and abutting on any street, alley or right-of-way in which a water main is located, is required, at the owner's expense, to install suitable plumbing as needed, and to connect such plumbing facilities directly to the water main, in accordance with the provisions of this chapter, and within ninety (90) days after the date of official notice to do so; provided that the water main is within two hundred (200) feet (61 meters) of the property line, or otherwise required by the County Health Department. No statement contained in this section shall be construed to interfere with any additional requirements that may be imposed by health officials or other applicable authorities.

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 FEE FOR PERMIT. Before any permit is issued the person who makes the application shall pay twenty-five dollars (\$25.00) for a residential permit or seventy-five dollars (\$75.00) for a commercial permit to the Clerk to cover the cost of issuing the permit and supervising, regulating, and inspection of the work.

(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 the *State Plumbing Code*.

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 Section 135.09.

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 Superintendent and unless provision is made so that each house, building or premise 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. 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 OR REPLACEMENT OF WATER SERVICE PIPES. Where old lead water lines are uncovered and discovered, or where new water service lines are laid from the main to the meter setting, the pipes shall be type K copper tubing, approved ductile cast iron or plastic tubing approved by the Superintendent in writing. Said tubing shall have a PSI rating greater than 160 PSI. All newly laid iron ductile and plastic water service lines shall be installed with tracer wire approved by the Superintendent. Pipe must be laid sufficiently waving, and to such depth, as to prevent rupture from settlement or freezing. No water service pipe shall be less than $\frac{3}{4}$ -inch diameter.

90.12 RESPONSIBILITY FOR WATER SERVICE PIPE. All costs and expenses incident to the installation, connection and maintenance of the water service pipe from the main to the building served shall be borne by the owner. 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.

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 STOP. 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 alteration 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. After following the procedures set out in Section 92.05, the Superintendent may shut off the supply of water to any customer because of any substantial violation of this chapter, valid regulation under Section 90.02 that is not being contested in good faith, or for any of the following reasons:

1. **Misrepresentation.** Misrepresentation in the application as to the property or fixtures to be supplied or use to be made of water.
2. **Failure to Report.** Failure to report to the City additions to the property or fixtures to the supplies or additional use to be made of water.
3. **Resale of Water.** Resale or giving away of water.
4. **Waste or Misuse.** Waste or misuse of water due to improper or imperfect service pipes and/or fixtures, or failure to keep same in suitable state of repair.
5. **Tampering.** Tampering with meter, meter seal, service or valves, or permitting such tampering by others.
6. **Cross Connection.** Connection, cross connection or permitting the same, of any separate water supply to premises which receive water from the City.

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 STOP AND HYDRANTS. It is unlawful for any person except the Superintendent to turn water on at the curb stop, 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 SERVICE OUTSIDE CITY LIMITS. Except by express written agreement of the City Council, no municipal water utility service shall be extended to any new or additional premises, building or user located outside the corporate limits of the City. Also, except by express written agreement of the City Council, no person shall make any new or additional connection or tap to any water pipe, service line, lateral or main which is presently a part of or connected to the municipal waterworks system, whether within or outside the corporate limits, that shall have the effect of extending municipal water service to any new or additional premises, building, or user located outside the corporate limits of the City, nor shall any existing service line or main on any premises be extended so as to provide municipal water service to any other part of the same premises which is not within the corporate limits of the City. The Superintendent shall refuse any application for connection to the municipal waterworks system which seeks a connection prohibited in this section. For the purposes of this section, "premises" means a parcel of real estate or adjoining parcels of real estate under common ownership. If by express written agreement, the City Council shall allow a new or additional connection to the municipal waterworks system or premises, building, or user located outside the corporate limits of the City, then a water rate shall be established for such premises, building, or user that will adequately reimburse the City for its expenses and investment in the municipal waterworks system and such additional connections.