

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 or a licensed plumber. All meters shall read in cubic feet. No person shall remove or alter a meter without the express consent of the Superintendent.

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 City personnel and repairmen and protected from freezing. All meters shall be equipped with a radio read device.

91.05 METER SETTING. The property owner shall provide all necessary piping and fittings for proper setting of the meter including gate valves on both the inlet and discharge sides of the meter. All meters shall be installed in the horizontal position. 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 three-fourth (3/4) inch 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. All meters shall be and remain the property of the City.

91.07 METER REPAIRS. Whenever a water meter 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, then the property owner shall be liable for the cost of repairs and replacement.

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

91.09 FEES. There shall be a fee charged to the property owner, in accordance with the schedule of such fees as established by resolution of the Council, for the following if performed by the City:

1. For installation or removal of a meter in an existing structure;
2. For installation of a meter in new construction.

91.10 METER TESTING. The Superintendent 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 5% 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 5% of the total water bill and not for a longer period than 3 months. If the meter is found to be accurate or slow or less than 5% fast, the user shall pay a testing charge of \$50.00, plus testing and shipping costs, which shall be added to the water bill and collected in the same manner.

91.11 IRRIGATION METERS. Customers may have an irrigation meter installed to measure water that is not disposed of through the public sanitary sewer system. The water measured by an irrigation meter may include water for swimming pools, watering yards, watering gardens or other similar uses. Prior to installation of such meter the customer must obtain an irrigation system permit. A written application for the permit shall be filed with the City and shall be accompanied by a permit fee as established by resolution of the Council. The cost of the irrigation meter and its installation shall be at the expense of the customer. No sewer charge will be assessed to water usage through the irrigation meter.