

CHAPTER 91

WATER METERS

91.01 Purpose

91.02 Water Use Metered

91.03 Fire Sprinkler Systems- Exception

91.04 Separate Meter for Outside Watering

91.05 Location of Meters

91.06 Meter Setting

91.07 Meter Costs

91.08 Meter Deposit

91.09 Meter Repairs

91.10 Right of Entry

91.11 Meter Testing

91.12 Alter, Tamper, Relocate, Willfully Damage or Bypass
A Water Meter

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.

1. All water customers must be separately metered. Complexes with more than one unit must have separate meters and shut-offs to each unit to allow for individual water shut-off.

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 SEPARATE METER FOR OUTSIDE WATERING. A customer may add a second water meter for the purpose of measuring water to be used from outside faucets and for outside watering. The meter must be installed where it measures only the water on outside faucets on the premises being served and the location of such meter must be approved by the Council. The cost of the meter and its installation shall be at the expense of the customer.

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

91.06 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.

91.07 METER COSTS. Meters are paid for by the City.

91.08 METER DEPOSIT. A meter deposit in the amount of one hundred fifty dollars (\$150.00) is required from every customer. Such deposit shall be refunded at the time such customer moves from the City or upon disconnection of water service to such customer.

1. Refused Service. Any customer who is setting up an account with the City must produce a valid Iowa Driver's License and/or valid Iowa photo ID. Failure to produce this identification will be grounds for refusal of service.

91.09 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.

91.10 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.

91.11 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.

91.12 ALTER, TAMPER, RELOCATE, WILLFULLY DAMAGE OR BYPASS A WATER METER. It is unlawful for any unauthorized person (including a licensed plumber) to alter, tamper with, relocate, willfully damage, or bypass a water meter. It is unlawful for any person (including a licensed plumber) other than a City of Wapello employee to reconnect a water meter after City of Wapello personnel have disconnected it.

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