

CHAPTER 92

WATER RATES

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92.01 SERVICE CHARGES. Each customer shall pay for water service provided by the City based upon use of water as determined by meters provided for in Chapter 91. Each location, building, premises or connection shall be considered a separate and distinct customer whether owned or controlled by the same person or not.

(Code of Iowa, Sec. 384.84)

92.02 RATES FOR SERVICE. Water service shall be furnished at the following monthly rates per property serviced within the City:

(Code of Iowa, Sec. 384.84)

1. Residential Customers. The rates for each residential user are:

- A. First 2,000 gallons – \$7.24
- B. Over 2,000 gallons – \$3.46 per 1,000 gallons

The minimum charge for each residential customer is \$7.24 per billing month.

2. Nonresidential Customers. The water service rates for nonresidential customers are:

- A. First 2,000 gallons – \$7.76
- B. Over 2,000 gallons – \$4.50 per 1,000 gallons

The minimum charge for each nonresidential customer is \$7.76 per billing month.

The foregoing rates shall be increased by four percent (4%) each July 1 unless such increase is waived or modified by the Council prior to the effective date of the increase.

92.03 RATES OUTSIDE THE CITY.

1. Water Rates. Water service shall be provided to any customer located outside the corporate limits of the City which the City has agreed to serve at rates one hundred sixty percent (160%) of the rates (including annual increases) provided in Section 92.02. No such customer, however, will be served unless the customer shall have signed a service contract agreeing to be bound by the ordinances, rules, and regulations applying to water service established by the Council.

(Code of Iowa, Sec. 364.4 & 384.84)

2. Fire Service Rates. The rate for fire service, exclusively for extinguishment of fires outside of the City limits, is \$20.00 per month, and no additional charges will be made for fire hydrants, sprinklers, hose connections, or standpipes connected to or supplied by such fire services. The rate increase under Section 92.02 also applies to this subsection.

92.04 NON-METERED WATER SERVICE RATES. Non-metered water service rates are billed by the size of the household or commercial or industrial customer, as follows:

RESIDENTIAL CUSTOMERS		
Household Size	Within City Limits	Outside City Limits
1 person	\$16.23	\$25.98
2 people	\$27.83	\$44.53
3 people	\$45.22	\$72.36
4 people	\$51.02	\$81.64
5 people	\$62.62	\$100.19
6 people	\$74.21	\$118.74
7 people	\$85.81	\$137.30
8 people	\$97.41	\$155.85
More than 8 people	\$97.41, plus \$11.60 for each extra person	\$155.85, plus \$18.55 for each extra person
COMMERCIAL/INDUSTRIAL CUSTOMERS		
10 to 19 employees	\$102.75	\$176.26
20 to 49 employees	\$118.98	\$204.09
50 or more employees	\$129.79	\$222.64

The rate increase under Section 92.02 also applies to this section.

92.05 BILLING FOR WATER SERVICE. Water service shall be billed as part of a combined service account, payable in accordance with the following:

(Code of Iowa, Sec. 384.84)

1. Bills Issued. The Clerk shall prepare and issue bills for combined service accounts on or before the last day of each month.
2. Bills Payable. Bills for combined service accounts shall be due and payable at the office of the Clerk by the fifteenth (15th) day of the following month.
3. Late Payment Penalty. Bills not paid when due shall be considered delinquent. A one-time late payment penalty of ten percent (10%) of the amount due shall be added to each delinquent bill.

92.06 SERVICE DISCONTINUED. Water service to delinquent customers shall be discontinued or disconnected in accordance with the following:

(Code of Iowa, Sec. 384.84)

1. Notice. The Clerk shall notify each delinquent customer that service will be discontinued or disconnected if payment of the combined service account, including late payment charges, is not received by the date specified in the notice of delinquency. Such notice shall be sent by ordinary mail to the customer in whose name the delinquent charges were incurred and shall inform the customer of the nature of the delinquency and afford the customer the opportunity for a hearing prior to the discontinuance or disconnection.
2. Notice to Landlords. If the customer is a tenant, and if the owner or landlord of the property or premises has made a written request for notice, the notice of delinquency shall also be given to the owner or landlord. If the customer is a tenant and requests a change of name for service under the account, such request shall be sent to the owner or landlord of the property if the owner or landlord has made a

written request for notice of any change of name for service under the account to the rental property.

3. Hearing. If a hearing is requested, the City shall conduct an informal hearing and shall make a determination as to whether the discontinuance or disconnection is justified.
4. Shut-off Fine. At the time of posting a discontinuance or disconnection notice on the property of a delinquent customer, a fine in the amount of thirty dollars (\$30.00) shall be charged to such customer.
5. Service Restoration Fee. A fee of forty dollars (\$40.00) shall be charged before service is restored to a delinquent customer.

(Ord. 2017-08 – Feb. 18 Supp.)

92.07 LIEN FOR NONPAYMENT. The owner of the premises served and any lessee or tenant thereof shall be jointly and severally liable for water service charges to the premises. Water service charges remaining unpaid and delinquent shall constitute a lien upon the premises served and shall be certified by the Clerk to the County Treasurer for collection in the same manner as property taxes.

(Code of Iowa, Sec. 384.84)

92.08 LIEN EXEMPTION.

(Code of Iowa, Sec. 384.84)

1. Water Service Exemption. The lien for nonpayment shall not apply to charges for water service to a residential or commercial rental property where water service is separately metered and the rates or charges for the water service are paid directly to the City by the tenant, if the landlord gives written notice to the City that the property is residential or commercial rental property and that the tenant is liable for the rates or charges. The City may require a deposit not exceeding the usual cost of ninety (90) days of such services to be paid to the City. When the tenant moves from the rental property, the City shall refund the deposit if all service charges are paid in full. The lien exemption does not apply to delinquent charges for repairs related to any of the services.
2. Other Service Exemption. The lien for nonpayment shall also not apply to the charges for any of the services of sewer systems, storm water drainage systems, sewage treatment, solid waste collection, and solid waste disposal for a residential rental property where the charge is paid directly to the City by the tenant, if the landlord gives written notice to the City that the property is residential rental property and that the tenant is liable for the rates or charges for such service. The City may require a deposit not exceeding the usual cost of ninety (90) days of such services to be paid to the City. When the tenant moves from the rental property, the City shall refund the deposit if all service charges are paid in full. The lien exemption does not apply to delinquent charges for repairs related to any of the services.
3. Written Notice. The landlord's written notice shall contain the name of the tenant responsible for charges, the address of the residential or commercial rental property that the tenant is to occupy, and the date that the occupancy begins. Upon receipt, the City shall acknowledge the notice and deposit. A change in tenant for a residential rental property shall require a new written notice to be given to the City within thirty (30) business days of the change in tenant. A change in tenant for a commercial rental property shall require a new written notice to be given to the City

within ten (10) business days of the change in tenant. A change in the ownership of the residential rental property shall require written notice of such change to be given to the City within thirty (30) business days of the completion of the change of ownership. A change in the ownership of the commercial rental property shall require written notice of such change to be given to the City within ten (10) business days of the completion of the change of ownership.

92.09 LIEN NOTICE. A lien for delinquent water service charges shall not be certified to the County Treasurer unless prior written notice of intent to certify a lien is given to the customer in whose name the delinquent charges were incurred. If the customer is a tenant and if the owner or landlord of the property or premises has made a written request for notice, the notice shall also be given to the owner or landlord. The notice shall be sent to the appropriate persons by ordinary mail not less than thirty (30) days prior to certification of the lien to the County Treasurer.

(Code of Iowa, Sec. 384.84)

92.10 TEMPORARY VACANCY. A property owner may request water service be temporarily discontinued and shut off at the curb valve when the property is expected to be vacant for an extended period of time. During a period when service is temporarily discontinued as provided herein there shall be no monthly minimum service charge. The City will not drain pipes or pull meters for temporary vacancies.

92.11 SERVICE FEES.

1. Change of Occupancy. There shall be required from every new customer or existing customer who is relocating a \$15.00 charge for the cost of establishing service.
2. Delinquent Notice Copies. A landlord may request, in writing, to have a copy of any or all of his or her tenants' delinquent notices. The charge for this service shall be \$5.00 per customer account number per month.

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