

## **SECTION VI POTABLE WATER SYSTEM**

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### **6.01 CITY WATERWORKS SYSTEM**

The City shall construct, operate and maintain a water system for the benefit of the residents of the City.

### **6.02 UNDER CONTROL OF THE PUBLIC WORKS SUPERINTENDENT.**

The Public Works Superintendent shall have general charge and supervision of the operation and maintenance of the City water system. The Public Works Superintendent shall keep a full and complete record of all work done with suitable diagrams and drawings showing the location of all mains, the location, number and size of all taps, service pipes, curb boxes and shut off cocks connected to the water system. The Public Works Superintendent shall make a full and complete annual report to the Council, on or before the first regular meeting of each year, showing in detail the cost of construction and extensions made, maintenance and repair, the amount of water pumped, the water furnished to consumers and a general report on the condition of the system.

### **6.03 CONNECTION REQUIRED**

Every premises to which the water system facilities are available or can be made available by extensions which prove to be both feasible and economically in the best interests of the City, shall be connected to the City water system.

- 1) All connections to the water system shall be made directly with the water main adjacent to the premises to be connected.
- 2) A separate connection shall be made with the water main for each premises supplied with water unless a waiver is sought and obtained upon good cause shown.

#### **6.04 RULES AND REGULATIONS/IMPLIED CONTRACT**

The rules, regulations and water rates herein prescribed by the Councilor hereinafter prescribed, shall be considered a part of the contract with every person supplied with water from the water works system of the City, and every person supplied and taking water therefrom shall be deemed to have expressed consent to be bound thereby.

#### **6.05 SUSPENSION OF USE OF WATER**

The City reserves the right to suspend the use of water from the water system or any portion thereof, whenever, in the opinion of the Council, public exigency shall require it.

1) Suspension of water use may also be made in accordance with Section 6.17 relating to non-payment for water service.

#### **6.06 CONNECTIONS TO THE WATER SYSTEM**

No person shall make any connection to the water system without first obtaining a permit from the Public Works Superintendent. Any person desiring a permit for connections to the water system shall make written application to the City; the application shall contain the following items:

- 1) The address of the premises to be connected;
- 2) The name of the owner of the premises to which the connection shall be made;
- 3) The name of the plumber or contractor employed to do the work;
- 4) A plan or drawing showing the location of the proposed connection and the manner in which the connection is to be made.

An applicant for a permit shall pay into the City treasury \$50.00 prior to the issuance of a permit to make connection to the water system. The City may issue a permit if it is satisfied that all conditions have been met and that the connection to the water works system shall be made in compliance with law.

#### **6.07 CONDITIONS OF USE**

Any person, business or entity connected to the water system shall be bound by the following conditions:

- 1) All work shall be done in compliance with the Minnesota Plumbing Code.
- 2) The Public Works Superintendent shall supervise the tapping or any alterations of the water system mains.
- 3) No person except those in the service of the City or having special written permission from the Public Works Superintendent, shall under any circumstances tap any of the mains or distributing pipes of the water system or insert any stop or corporation cock therein.
- 4) The cost of original installation of all plumbing between the main and the meters as well as all repairs to the same, shall be borne entirely by the consumer. Such plumbing shall at all reasonable times be subject to inspection by the Public Works Superintendent. Any repairs found to be necessary by such representatives shall be made promptly or the city will discontinue service.
- 5) When it is determined that a break exists in the service line in an improved street between the main and the curb cock, the owner shall be responsible for the actual repairs and the required back fill "within one (1) foot of the service line. The City shall assume responsibility for the excavation, the completion of the back fill and the street restoration.

6) The City shall not maintain pipes and fixtures. All owners must at their own expense keep their service pipes from the point of connection with the water mains to their premises and all other apparatus in good working order and properly protected from frost and other dangers. No claims shall be made against the City by reason of any breaking of any service pipe or apparatus or from any other damage that may result from shutting off water for repairing or any other purposes or for variations in pressure. No reductions shall be made from the regular rates because of leaking pipes or fixtures.

#### **6.08 METER REQUIRED**

All dwellings, and places supplied with water from the City water system shall be metered. All meters shall be of a standard make approved by the Council and shall be installed, removed, and repaired by the Public Works Superintendent. All persons required to be connected to the City water system, by this Ordinance, shall authorize the City, its employees, and agents, to obtain and install water meters. Any person, place, dwelling, business, or other consumer refusing to authorize the installation of the required meter, shall be denied service.

#### **6.09 OWNERSHIP OF METERS**

(A) *Generally.* Except for extinguishment of fires, no person, unless otherwise authorized by the City Council or Public Works Superintendent, shall use water from the water system or permit water to be drawn therefrom unless the same be metered by passing through a meter supplied or approved by the city. No person not authorized by the City Council or Public Works Superintendent shall connect, disconnect, take apart, or in any manner change or cause to be changed or interfere with any meter or the action thereof, or break any meter or valve seal.

1) Water meters will be provided by the City at no charge to the resident. This applies to new construction and meters that need to be replaced through ordinary wear and tear. If the property owner requests a meter larger than the size normally provided by the City, the cost of the meter will be paid by the property owner.

2) Where a consumer has need for a larger line in addition to his or her domestic line, as in the case of a commercial consumer who needs a one-inch line for normal use and a six-inch or larger line for a fire sprinkler system, he or she will be permitted to run one line into the premises and "Y" off into two lines at the building. When this is done, the meter will be attached to the small or domestic line and a check valve as well as one-inch detection meter shall be put on the large line.

3) The city shall maintain and repair all meters when rendered unserviceable through ordinary wear and tear and shall replace them if necessary. When replacement, repair, or adjustment of any meter is rendered by the act, neglect (including damage from freezing or hot water backup) or carelessness of the owner or occupant of the premises, any expense caused the city thereby shall be charged against and collected from the water consumer.

4) A consumer may, by written request, have his or her meter tested by depositing \$75.00. In case a test should show an error of over 5% of the water consumed, a correctly registering meter will be installed, and the bill will be adjusted accordingly and the testing deposit refunded. This adjustment shall not extend back more than one billing period from the date of the written request.

5) All water meters shall be and remain the property of the city.

6) Authorized city employees shall have free access at reasonable hours of the day to all parts of

every building and premises connected with the water system for reading of meters and inspections.

7) It shall be the responsibility of the consumer to notify the city to request a final reading at the time of the customer's billing change.

**(B) *Water meter setting.*** All water meters hereafter installed shall be in accordance with the Minnesota Plumbing Code and any standards established by resolution of the City Council.

#### **6.10 LOCATION OF METERS**

All meters shall be placed on the service pipes at a location in the proximity where the service pipe enters the building. A stop and waste cock shall be installed between the meter and the wall. The meter shall be placed so as to be easily accessible and shall be kept free from all obstructions in order that the meter may be easily read and inspected at all times. When, in the opinion of the Public Works Superintendent, it is impossible to place the meter in a building, the meter may be placed in a box or pit constructed of brick, stone, cement or other materials other than wood, which box or pit must be constructed according to the plans or specifications furnished by the Public Works Superintendent. The Public Works Superintendent shall inspect the box or pit and shall certify that the same is constructed properly. Water meters shall be open to inspection by the City and its employees, at all reasonable times and refusal to allow inspection and reading shall constitute cause for discontinuing service.

#### **6.11 READING OF METERS**

The Public Works Superintendent shall keep a full and true record of all water delivered to consumers and shall cause meters to be read for each account due date before the I account due date or as soon thereafter as may be reasonably done.

#### **6.12 CONSUMER TO USE WATER ON OWN PREMISES ONLY.**

No consumer of water from the water system shall permit any occupant of any other premises to use water from his service, except by special permission from the Public Works Superintendent.

#### **6.13 WATER RATES**

The City Council for the City of Barrett shall establish such water rates as is deemed appropriate and may amend such water rates from time to time as is deemed to be necessary. The City may establish varying rates for different consumers but may not afford different rates to consumers within the same class. The City shall, therefore, establish classes of consumers and apply equal rates to each consumer within such class.

#### **6.14 CONTRACTS FOR WATER USAGE**

The City Council, may at is option, enter into agreements or contracts with individual or commercial consumers restricting the use of water from the City water system. The City may establish limits for individual or commercial consumers and notwithstanding provisions to the contrary within this ordinance, may charge additional sums for usage beyond the limits so established under this section.

### **6.15 DAMAGING OF WATER SYSTEM**

No person shall willfully or carelessly break, injure, mar or deface, interfere or disturb any building, machinery, apparatus, fixture, attachment or appurtenances of the water works system, hydrants, mains, curb cocks, meters, water supply or service pipes, or any part thereof, or deposit anything in any valve or curb cocks or box, or commit any act intending in any way to obstruct or impair the intended use of any of the above mentioned property. No person shall in any way alter or attempt to alter the reading on any water meter measuring device.

### **6.16 SHUTOFF OF WATER FOR NON-PAYMENT**

The City shall endeavor to collect delinquent water accounts promptly. In any case where satisfactory arrangements for payment have not been made, the City may, after the procedural requirements of Section 6.17 of this ordinance have been complied with, discontinue service to the delinquent customer by causing water service to be discontinued and shut off. When service to any customer has been discontinued under this ordinance, service shall not be restored until the entire delinquent amount has been paid together with a fee for reconnection in the amount of \$75.00. The amount of this fee may be set by the City Council on an annual basis without amending this ordinance.

### **6.17 PROCEDURE**

Water service shall be billed monthly and mailed/emailed to each consumer. Water charges shall be considered delinquent if they are unpaid at the close of business on the twentieth (20<sup>th</sup>) day following such billing. If the 20<sup>th</sup> day shall fall on a Saturday, Sunday or legal holiday, the time shall be extended to the close of business on the next succeeding day on which business is normally transacted. A penalty of ten percent 10% thereof shall be added to and become part of all delinquent utility bills. Water service shall not be shut off or discontinued until the opportunity for a hearing has first been given to the occupant or owner of the premises. The notice to disconnect shall be served by United States Mail. The notice shall state that if payment is not received by noon on the second Monday of the month, the water supply to the premises shall be shut off. The notice shall clearly inform the occupant/owner that prior to the second Monday of the month, he or she may, request a hearing with the City Council to contest the billing or give due and proper reason why the service should not be shut off. The request for a hearing shall be in writing and addressed to the City Clerk and delivered to the City Office by United States Mail or personally. If such a hearing is requested, water service shall not be discontinued until such hearing has been held. If, as a result of the hearing, the City Council or its designee finds that the amount claimed to be owing is actually due and unpaid and that there is not legal or proper reason why the water service should not be shut off, the service may then be shut off/discontinued in accordance with this ordinance.

### **6.18 ADOPTION OF MN PLUMBING CODE**

All water meters hereafter installed shall be in accordance with the Minnesota Plumbing Code and any standards established by resolution of the City Council. "The Minnesota Plumbing Code as amended is hereby adopted and incorporated as it set forth fully herein".


### **6.19 PENALTY**

Any person violating any provisions within this ordinance shall be guilty of a misdemeanor.

## 6.20 PASSAGE AND PUBLICATION

This Ordinance shall take full effect and be in full force from and after its passage and publication according to law.

Adopted this 8<sup>th</sup> day of April, 2024.

  
Michelle Jenson, Mayor

ATTEST:

  
Marita Rhude, Clerk/Treasurer

SEAL