

Chapter 144

WATER

[HISTORY: Adopted by the Town Board of the Town of Liberty 10-10-1974. Amendments noted where applicable.]

GENERAL REFERENCES

Chief Water and Wastewater Treatment Plant Operator — See Ch. 5.

Subdivision of land — See Ch. 130.

Zoning — See Ch. 147.

§ 144-1. Definitions.

As used in this chapter, the following terms shall have the meanings indicated:

BOARD — The Town Board of the Town of Liberty.

CHIEF — The Chief Water and Wastewater Treatment Plant Operator or such other person designated and appointed by the Board to supervise the operation of any district system or water improvement, inspect and supervise the installation of connections to the system or water improvement, superintend the employees of any district or water improvement, collect water rents and enforce observance of the ordinances, rules and regulations of any district or water improvement. [Amended 7-8-1996 by L.L. No. 4-1996]

CONSUMER — The owner or owners of premises supplied with water from any system or water improvement.

DISTRICT — Any water district in the Town of Liberty.

PERSON — Any individual, association, partnership or corporation.

SYSTEM — The wells, pumping apparatus, well sites, reservoirs, reservoir sites, water mains, pipes and all appurtenances of any district or water improvement, water supply and distribution facilities.

WATER IMPROVEMENT — Any water facility, service, function, activity or physical public betterment which may be provided by the Town under Town Law § 209-q.

§ 144-2. Effect of acceptance of service.

Every person who shall be supplied with water by any district or water improvement shall be deemed to have accepted and approved this chapter and the rules and regulations pertaining thereto. The continuance to take water after any amendment or change of or addition to such chapter, rules and regulations shall be deemed an acceptance of such amendment, change or addition.

§ 144-3. Application for service.

Any person desiring to be supplied with water from any district water system or water improvement system shall make application, in writing, to the Board at the Town Clerk's office upon blanks prescribed and furnished by the Board.

§ 144-4. Service pipes and fixtures.

- A. Manufacture and installation; expense of consumer; maintenance. [Amended 10-11-1984]
 - (1) All taps larger than 3/4 inch on the mains, service connections and service pipes from the main to bounds of highway or street, including curb cocks or valve and box for the same, shall be made, put in and installed only by the Chief or employee of the district or Town on a time-and-material basis. All labor and material shall be at the expense of the consumer. Three-fourths-inch service line to the curb box will be billed a flat rate as stated in the schedule of rates and charges. Rate adjustment shall be made from time to time as required in conjunction with water rates. [Amended 7-8-1996 by L.L. No. 4-1996]
 - (2) Upon completion of the service line to specifications of the district or Town, the line will be maintained by the district or Town at no additional expense to the consumer.
 - (3) Any existing service pipe that does not conform to specifications of the district or Town and develops a leak will be repaired or replaced by the district or Town at the consumer's expense and will then be maintained by the district or Town when the line is to specifications at no additional expense to the consumer.
- B. No person shall make any tap on the main or make any connections with the service pipes extending from the main to the curb cock or valve except the Chief or employee of the district or Town.
- C. All service pipes extending from the main to the curb cock or valve shall be Type K copper for underground use with a minimum diameter of 3/4 inch or such other material and size as shall be approved by the Chief, and from curb cock to meter also must be minimum size of 3/4 inch, Type K for underground use, and shall be furnished and laid at the expense of the consumer. Only O-ring type fittings designed for underground use approved by the Chief or delegate will be allowed before the meter. Only iron-threaded brass fittings and nipples will be allowed before the meter where necessary. No lead solder joints of any type will be allowed before the meter. [Amended 10-11-1984; 7-8-1996 by L.L. No. 4-1996]
- D. No connections shall be made to service pipes between main and the meter.
- E. All service pipes shall be laid and maintained at a depth of not less than five feet below the surface of the ground. [Amended 10-11-1984]
- F. All service pipes shall be maintained and kept in repair and free from leaks at the expense of the consumer. Leaks in service pipes shall be repaired within 48 hours after notice given to consumer. If leaks are not repaired within said period, the district shall have the right to discontinue the supply of water and to collect the expense of shutting off the water plus an estimated charge for loss of water caused by such a leak. Water shall not again be supplied to the premises until such expense and charges are paid in full.
- G. No person except the Chief or employee of the district or Town shall turn on or shut off the

water in any service pipes.

- H. Service lines between curb cock and meter are not to be buried unless inspected by the Chief or an employee of the district or Town.
- I. If the service line between curb cock and meter is not put into specifications, a meter pit and meter must be installed at the curb cock at the expense of the consumer.

§ 144-5. Other sources of supply.

No connection to any other source of supply of water shall be made or maintained to any pipes or plumbing fixtures that may be connected with any system. If any connection to another source of supply is made or maintained, the water from the system shall be shut off and service shall not be restored until such connection to the other source has been discontinued and the charges of shutting off and turning on the water have been paid.

§ 144-6. Inspections; reading of meters.

The Chief or person delegated by the Chief or any member of the Board shall have free access to any premises supplied by water from any system at all reasonable hours of the day for the purposes of inspecting the condition and use of all plumbing supply and service pipes and of reading the meter, making repairs or replacing meters.

§ 144-7. Hydrants.

No person except the Chief or employee of the district or a member of a duly organized fire company shall take water from any fire hydrant or shall operate, use or disturb any hydrant. No water shall be taken from any hydrant except for use by a duly organized fire company.

§ 144-8. Suspension of supply.

In the event that necessity shall arise, resulting from break, emergency or other unavoidable cause, to cut off the water supply in order to make necessary repairs, the Chief shall have the right to temporarily shut off the water supply. The Chief will use all reasonable and practicable measures to notify consumers in advance of such discontinuance of service, if possible. Neither the district nor the Board shall be liable for damages or inconveniences suffered by any consumer by reason of interruption of service, lessening of supply, inadequate pressure or any cause beyond its control.

§ 144-9. Meters.

A. General provisions.

- (1) All water will be supplied by meter measurement. The meters and connections will be furnished by the district or Town and remain the property of the district or Town. The consumer shall bear and pay all expenses of repairs to meters occasioned by fire, frost, accident or misuse. The consumer shall be liable for the loss of a meter from any cause.
- (2) No person other than the Chief or employee of the district or Town shall install,

remove or interfere or tamper with any meters or dials thereof. If a meter gets out of order or fails to properly register the water consumption, it will be changed or repaired, and the consumer will be charged according to the consumption during a previous corresponding period.

- (3) Meters will be read and billed quarterly. Pit meters will be read and billed quarterly, but may be estimated during winter months. Any adjustments required will be made in the following quarter. Bills shall be payable when rendered. [Amended 7-8-1996 by L.L. No. 4-1996]

B. Meter installation. The following regulations shall apply to the installation of meters:

- (1) Valves must be installed on the street side of the meter.
- (2) Service lines over one inch must have valve on both sides of the meter.
- (3) Swing-type check valves must be installed on the house side of the meter.
- (4) When water pressure exceeds 60 pounds pressure, reducer must be installed on the street side of the meter at the consumer's expense. Hours of water meter installation or removal shall be 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday. Emergency cases will be taken care of on a twenty-four-hour basis.

C. Meter pits. Any consumer not having a heated area for the installation of a water meter, such as a basement or utility room, shall install a meter pit to the following specifications: [Amended 10-11-1984; 7-8-1996 by L.L. No. 4-1996]

- (1) A meter pit shall have a four foot inside diameter by four foot deep concrete vault.
- (2) The vault may be circular or square; cement blocks are not acceptable.
- (3) The vault shall have a concrete extension of 12 inches by 24 inches with four-inch nonvehicular cover.
- (4) Meter pits are to have a positive four-inch drain to daylight.

§ 144-10. Extension of service. [Amended 7-8-1996 by L.L. No. 4-1996]

A. Application.

- (1) All applications must be approved by the Town Board.
- (2) Applicants must submit engineer's plans of the mains and projects to the Town Board.
- (3) The applicant must provide all required permits and comply with all Town, County, state, subdivision¹ and zoning² laws, ordinances, rules and regulations.
- (4) Applicants must post a surety company performance bond with the Town to be approved by the Town Board for the full estimated cost of the project before approval will be given.

1. Editor's Note: See Ch. 130, Subdivision of Land.

2. Editor's Note: See Ch. 147, Zoning.

B. Water main specifications.

- (1) The minimum pipe size shall be eight inches, which may be increased at the discretion of the Chief.
- (2) The pipe and fittings are to be ductile iron push on cement-lined, class 150 and shall meet ANSI class specification A-21.50 or A-21.51. The type of pipe may be increased or varied by the Chief.
- (3) The water main shall be installed on the opposite side of the road from any existing sewer or shall have a minimum separation of 10 feet. The water line will follow any Town, County or state road easement or right-of-way. Any water line in a right-of-way of a Town highway must meet water main specifications.
- (4) All subgrade shall be completed prior to the installation of any water mains or service laterals.

C. Pipe installation.

- (1) All pipes, fittings and valves shall be carefully handled to avoid damage and shall be inspected for defects before pipe is laid. Pipes shall have a cover of five feet.
- (2) All lumps, blisters, dirt, oil, grease or foreign objects shall be removed from the inside of the pipe.
- (3) The pipe shall be laid to conform to the lines and grades shown on the plans or as directed by the Town Engineer or Chief. Each bell and spigot shall be properly cleaned. Each pipe and any fittings shall be firmly supported on good foundations. Mechanical and rubber gasket pipe joints shall be made in strict accordance with the manufacturer's instructions. Where bolts are used, they shall be drawn up evenly with a torque wrench. In laying the pipe, the bottom of the trench shall be carefully graded and bell holes cut to receive the bell of the pipe.
- (4) After laying and inspecting the pipe, each pipe shall be carefully backfilled by placing material free from large clods or stones around the pipe. Said material shall be thoroughly compacted in six-inch layers so as to securely hold the pipe in place, but shall not be tamped so as to cause movement of the pipe. This careful placing shall continue until a minimum of one foot of earth has been placed and tamped over the tip of the pipe.

D. Thrust blocks. Concrete reaction or thrust blocking shall be placed behind all dead ends or other fittings and as directed by the Town Engineer or Chief. Concrete shall have a twenty-eight-day compressive strength of 3,000 psi (pounds per square inch). The excavation shall be carried out by hand at such locations in order to provide a good bearing against undisturbed materials within a short distance from the pipe or fitting.

E. Infiltration water. Where water is encountered during excavation, the contractor shall provide suitable pumping equipment so that at no time shall surface or ground water be allowed to enter the water main under construction.

F. Hydrants.

- (1) In the interest of standardization in the Town of Liberty, all fire hydrant manufacturers shall be those approved by the Chief.
- (2) Specifications.
 - (a) All fire hydrants shall have a six-inch mechanical joint elbow base, four-and-one-half-inch valve opening, two two-and-one-half-inch N.S.T. outlets, one four-and-one-half-inch N.S.T. outlet and a five-foot cover.
 - (b) All fire hydrants shall open left.
 - (c) All fire hydrants shall have one-and-one-half-inch operating nuts and caps.
 - (d) All hydrant drain holes shall be plugged.
 - (e) Hydrant arms must be valved.
 - (f) Hydrants shall be secured to the main by use of three-fourths-inch threaded rod and eye bolts or duc-logs.
 - (g) Hydrants shall be independently rodded with one pair of three-fourth-inch rods from the main tee to the valve and another pair from the valve to the hydrant base.
 - (h) Hydrants shall be placed at five-hundred-foot intervals.
 - (i) Hydrants shall be placed at the end of the dead-end line no matter what the distance.
- (3) Hydrant specifications or location may be varied by the Town Engineer or the Chief.

G. Valves.

- (1) Main line valves must be installed at one-thousand-five-hundred-foot intervals.
- (2) Branch-T's shall be valved on all sides.
- (3) All valves shall be brought to the grade level with a sliding-type valve box only.
- (4) Valve locations may be varied by the Town Engineer or Chief.
- (5) All gate valves shall be A.W.W.A. standard iron body, bronze-mounted, double-disc, mechanical-joint gate valves.
- (6) Valves will have an operating pressure of 150 psi and a test pressure of 300 psi.
- (7) Valves will have a nonrising stem.
- (8) Valves will have a two-inch operating nut.
- (9) Valves will open left.
- (10) Valves will have an O-ring packing gland.
- (11) Valves 12 inches or larger shall be mechanical-joint, butterfly-type Mueller B-3211-26 or equal.

(12) Valve class specification or make may be varied by the Town Engineer or Chief.

H. Main line meter pits and meters.

- (1) A meter pit may be installed on the main line to a development which is on private property if so desired by the consumer, or the Board may require a main line meter pit if the mains are not put into specifications. A meter pit and meter shall be installed at the consumer's expense.
- (2) Meter pit specifications.
 - (a) The meter will be of the compound-type and of a size adequate for application and shall be approved by the Chief.
 - (b) The meter will be installed in a poured concrete or precast concrete pit with a minimum size of 10 feet long, seven feet wide, seven feet high. The wall thickness of the pit shall be a minimum of eight-inch concrete. The floor of the pit shall be concrete with proper drain or sump pump.
 - (c) Any electrical wiring shall meet the requirements of the Town of Liberty Code. The pit shall have a concrete roof which shall be steel reinforced with a minimum of six-inch concrete.
 - (d) The pit shall be equipped with a three-by-three-foot aluminum access door, Bilco J-4AL or equal.
 - (e) The pit shall be equipped with an aluminum ladder from hatch to floor.
 - (f) A one-inch tap shall be provided for testing meters.
 - (g) A meter bypass must be installed in accordance with the Chief's specifications.

I. Testing and inspection.

- (1) The contractor shall provide full-time inspection by a licensed professional engineer.
- (2) The contractor's engineer will consult with the Town Engineer or the Chief from time to time as may be required by the project.
- (3) Inspections, or any work associated with inspections, will be charged to the contractor on an hourly basis.
- (4) The contractor shall supply all necessary materials and equipment to test the piping as described below, including pump, piping, valves and labor. The Town Engineer or Chief will supply the test gauge or will calibrate the contractor's gauge before and after the test. All pressure tests must be done in the Engineer's or Chief's presence and under said official's direction.
- (5) Two tests shall be required.
 - (a) The first test shall be a hydrostatic test of pressure only. This test shall be done when a section of line has been completed and the thrust blocks have been set up sufficiently. The line shall be partially backfilled during this test. All air must be bled out of the section to be tested. The hydrostatic test shall be of a

one-hour duration. Test pressure shall be as indicated by the Town Engineer or the Chief and in general shall be 1 1/2 times the actual working pressure applied to the lowest point of the section to be tested. With the required pressure on the line, the entire run shall be examined for evidence of leakage. Any leaks discovered shall be corrected and the test repeated until the Town Engineer or Chief is satisfied that the line is tight.

- (b) After the above work is completed and the line is completely backfilled, a leakage test of a two-hour duration shall be made with a pressure of 150 psi (or higher) as directed by the Town Engineer or the Chief, measured at the lowest portion of the test section and corrected for test-gauge height. No pipe installation will be accepted unless and until the leakage is less than the amounts allowed in A.W.W.A. specification C-600, latest revision, Section 13.7, Table 3, and amendments thereto. Such leakage (evaluated on a pressure of 150 psi) shall be less than 23.3 United States gallons per twenty-four-hour per mile-inch-nominal diameter of pipe.

J. Disinfection of mains.

- (1) Preliminary flushing. The main shall be flushed, prior to chlorination, as thoroughly as possible with the water pressure and outlets available. Flushing shall occur before the pressure test has been made. It must be of such volume so as to create a velocity of at least 2.5 feet per second per foot of pipe. All new work shall be disinfected by the contractor.
- (2) Disinfection shall be performed in an approved manner in accordance with the A.W.W.A. (standard of disinfection water mains) designation C-651-86.

K. Requirements for chlorination.

- (1) Before being placed in service, all new mains and repaired portions or extensions to existing mains shall be chlorinated so that a chlorine residual of not less than 10 ppm (parts per million) remain in the water after 24 hours standing in the pipe. Exemption from the requirement of chlorination may be granted by the public health authority having jurisdiction if distribution system chlorine residuals persist throughout the new main and are of sufficient magnitude so that samples of the water delivered by the new main meet the approval of the public health authority.
- (2) Application of chlorination shall follow the following methods in order of preference:
 - (a) Liquid chlorine gas-water mixture.
 - (b) Sodium hypochlorite and water mixture.

L. Cleanup.

- (1) The contractor shall remove all temporary structures, rubbish, waste materials, boulders, etc., resulting from the contractor's operations at the contractor's own expense. This material may be hauled to a disposal site approved by the Town Engineer or the Chief.
- (2) Storm drainage ditches will be restored.

- (3) Substitute drainage facilities will be maintained where needed during construction.
- (4) Any damage done to sewer lines, private or public, will be restored to the Town Engineer's or the Chief's approval.
- (5) Good construction methods shall be followed in this work and partial cleanup shall be accomplished whenever ordered by the Town Engineer or the Chief. If good cleanup is not accomplished within reasonable time, other work may be halted until cleanup is completed.

M. Variances.

- (1) No modification, change or variance of these specifications shall be valid unless the same shall be in writing and signed by the applicant and the Chief or Supervisor of the Town.

N. Print requirements upon completion of project. Upon completion of the project, the contractor shall provide the Town with two sets of reproducible prints and four sets of blueprints.

O. Service line specifications. Any development within the Town or any Town improvement areas shall meet the following requirements.

- (1) Water services shall be constructed of "Type K" copper, meeting ASTM specifications B-88.
- (2) Corporation taps shall be direct tap only.
- (3) Corporation taps shall be cc thread and compression as follows:
 - (a) Three-fourths-inch to one-inch: Mueller H15000 with H15067 90 adapter.
 - (b) One-and-one-half-inch to two-inch: Mueller H15023 I.P. x compression.
- (4) Curb stops shall be:
 - (a) Three-fourths-inch to one inch: Mueller H15219.
 - (b) One-and-one-half-inch to two-inch: Mueller H15209.
- (5) Compression adapters shall be:
 - (a) Male IP: Mueller H15428.
 - (b) Female IP: Mueller H15451.
- (6) Couplings shall be Mueller H15403 O-ring design.
- (7) Curb boxes and rods shall be:
 - (a) Three-fourths-inch to one-and-one-fourth-inch: Erie No. 2.
 - (b) One-and-one-half-inch to two-inch: Erie No. 4.
- (8) Any damaged one-and-one-half-inch to two-inch taps or damaged smaller taps will require a Mueller Double Strap Tap Saddle, 500 psi working pressure, H105 Series

with proper tap size.

P. Water meters.

- (1) Water meters shall be provided by the contractor and shall comply with existing Town standardization requirements.
- (2) Water meters - outside reading (remote) shall meet the following requirements:
 - (a) Rockwell ST, not SR11.
 - (b) United States gallons.
 - (c) Five-sixths-inch and three-fourths-inch (house meters): one-hundred-gallon pulse.
 - (d) Three-fourths inch, one-inch, one-and-one-half-inch, two-inch: one-thousand-gallon pulse.

Q. Meter installation. The following regulations shall apply to the installation of meters:

- (1) Ball valves must be installed on the street side of the meter.
- (2) Service lines over one inch must have a valve on both sides of the meter.
- (3) A swing-type check valve must be installed on the house side of the meter.
- (4) When water pressure exceeds 60 pounds pressure, a reducer must be installed on the street side of the meter.
- (5) All nipples and fittings before the meter shall be Schedule 40 brass.
- (6) There shall be no solder joints before meters.

R. Regarding meter locations.

- (1) The Town Sewer and Water Department shall control meter installations.
- (2) Each meter shall be located in an accessible heated area such as the basement or utility room. Crawl spaces, closets, under sinks, under beds, etc. are not acceptable.
- (3) Meter pits shall be required for any water service that does not meet the above criteria. Said water meter pits shall be of precast concrete vault or PVC pipe four feet in diameter, five feet deep.
- (4) Vaults shall have a concrete cover with a hatch opening 18 inches to 24 inches.
- (5) Pits shall have a positive four-inch drain.

§ 144-11. Water rates and charges.

- A. The Town Board, in accordance with § 198, Subdivision 3, of the Town Law, is hereby empowered to establish from time to time, by resolution, water rates, charges for service and fees to be paid by consumers within and outside any water district or any improvement

area.³

- B. The Town Board may provide, by ordinance or resolution, that unpaid water charges in arrears for 30 days or longer shall be subject to a penalty not exceeding 10% of the amount due and may further provide for cutting off the supply of water if such water charges are not paid within 60 days from the due date. [Amended 7-8-1996 by L.L. No. 4-1996]
- C. Unpaid water charges and fees shall be levied as taxes on the property of the consumer in accordance with the provisions of § 198, Subdivision 3, of the Town Law.

§ 144-11.1. Minimum rates. [Added 10-10-2000⁴]

- A. Minimum rate, each cycle. Any property that has a water hookup to the Town water system will be billed a minimum rate each billing cycle regardless if the meter has been removed or not.
- B. Minimum rate, nonresidential customers. Nonresidential customers will be billed a minimum rate four times the resident rate each billed cycle.

§ 144-12. Penalties for offenses; enforcement.

Any violation of this chapter or any rule or regulation adopted hereunder shall be deemed a violation punishable by a fine not to exceed \$250 or by imprisonment not to exceed 15 days, or both. The Town Board also shall have the right to enforce this chapter or any rule or regulation adopted hereunder by an action or proceeding for an injunction or by any other remedy available to it under law.

3. Editor's Note: The currently effective schedule of rates and charges established by resolution of the Town Board is on file in the office of the Town Clerk.

4. Editor's Note: This amendment also provided that it shall take effect 1-1-2001.