

WATER METERS AND METERING

Ordinance #35

MULTIPLE UNIT INSTALLATIONS

Whenever a multiple unit residential, commercial or industrial building is to be constructed and served by the City water system, the owner shall submit to CITY OF BELLECHESTER for approval a set of drawings showing the proposed water service(s) and a plumbing schematic for the building and a tabulation of the plumbing fixture units to be installed.

METER OWNERSHIP

All water meters and metering-related equipment used for water and sewer billing will be furnished, owned and maintained by CITY OF BELLECHESTER. Meters used only for water billing will be furnished and maintained by CITY OF BELLECHESTER.

METER

CITY OF BELLECHESTER shall have the right to access the served premises at all reasonable times to install, read, inspect, maintain or remove any water meter or metering-related equipment. If a customer denies CITY OF BELLECHESTER reasonable access to a water meter or metering-related equipment, water service may be terminated until access is gained.

If a customer does not furnish a protected, suitable location for a meter, CITY OF BELLECHESTER may refuse connection of the premises to the City water system.

METER INSTALLATION

Location and Number

- (1) In a single-family residence and residential multiple-unit buildings where the individual units and underlying property are to be under individual ownership, the meter shall be installed in the residence/unit being served.
- (2) Water meters installed to serve manufactured homes with an unheated crawlspace, or structures of a temporary nature shall be installed as shown in **Exhibit B**.
- (3) In all other buildings not listed in (1) and (2) above, water meter(s) shall be located in a single common area readily accessible to CITY OF BELLECHESTER without entering an individual unit.
- (4) Water meters installed in a commercial/industrial building must be readily accessible.

Installation Requirements

- (1) Only the following may be connected to a water service ahead of the:
 - a) An approved separately metered water service to an additional building under the same ownership;
 - b) A private fire protection system
 - c) A metered irrigation service.
- (2) Water meter(s) shall be installed at the point of entry of the water service into the building. All water meter installations shall have a full flow stop valve on each side of, and adjacent to, the water meter.

- (3) For 1" and smaller meter installations, the water service line shall be brought vertically through the floor of the premises and shall have a readily accessible meter stop valve installed immediately before, and on the street side of, the meter between 12" and 48" above the finished floor. **(See Exhibit A.)** The pipe and meter shall be rigidly supported in order to prevent vibration when the meter operates.
- (4) A bypass (the same size as the meter) shall be installed for all meters 1-1/2" in size or larger.
- (5) The water meter shall be readily accessible. An unobstructed area extending not less than 12" above the meter, and on all sides and the front of the meter shall be provided to permit CITY OF BELLECHESTER to easily read and maintain the meter and operate the meter stop valves. Meter stop valves shall be maintained in operable condition.
- (6) In newly constructed buildings, the water meter(s) shall be installed immediately after the water service is flushed and in a heated location.
- (7) Any existing homes that cannot meet this criteria, will remain unmetered until home is relaced. If existing mobile homes are replaced, all water meters shall be installed inside the new home in a heated location.

MAINTENANCE, REPAIRS AND REPLACEMENTS

CITY OF BELLECHESTER maintains all water meters used to determine City water and sewer billings. Any repair expense caused by actions, neglect, tampering or carelessness of the owner or occupant of a premises will be charged to either the customer or the owner of the premises.

METER TESTING

CITY OF BELLECHESTER will test a meter at the request of a customer. If the meter is determined to accurately measure or under-register, CITY OF BELLECHESTER may charge the customer for the meter test.

Customers who request additional testing of a water meter within a twelve month period will be charged for the meter test in accordance with the CITY OF BELLECHESTER Miscellaneous Fee in effect at the time of the test.

FROZEN METERS

Customers shall be responsible for protecting water meters from freezing. If a meter freezes, the customer may be required to relocate the meter to a location approved by CITY OF BELLECHESTER. For manufactured homes, the meter shall be relocated to the interior of the home. If a meter is damaged by freezing and is replaced, the Frozen Meter Replacement Fee will be charged. Frozen Meter Replacement fee shall be the current meter replacement cost.

Exhibit A and Exhibit B

