INTRODUCED BY **Mayor Thomas P. Koch**

MAYOR'S
SOLICITORS
MUN FINANCE
ASSESSORS
AUDITORS

CITY OF QUINCY

IN COUNCIL

ORDER NO.

ORDERED: **2012-022** **February 6, 2012**

Be it ordained by the City Council that the Quincy Municipal Code is amended as follows:

In Title 13 Public Services Chapter 13.04 Water Service System is herby amended by striking the existing Chapter in its entirety and inserting the following:

PASSED TO BE ORDAINED APRIL 23, 2012

ATTEST: Joseph Shea

CLERK OF COUNCIL

APPROVED
APR 25 2012
MAYOR

YEAS Coughlin, Croall, Finn, Gutro, Hughes, Laforest, McFarland, McNamee, Palmucci

NAYS Coughlin, Croall, Finn, Gutro, Hughes, Laforest, McFarland, McNamee, Palmucci

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CITY OF QUINCY
IN COUNCIL

2012-022 **February 6, 2012**

CHAPTER 13.04

Sections:

13.04.10 Definitions
13.04.20 Commissioner of Public Works - Authority
13.04.30 Bill Collection – Treasurer/Collector
13.04.40 Bills – Bill Issuance
13.04.50 Bills – Charges
13.04.60 Bills - Interest
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13.04.75 Meters – Ownership – Responsibility for Damage, Repairs, or Replacement – Meter larger than 1"
13.04.80 Access to Premises

13.04.10 Definitions

Unless the content specifically indicates otherwise, the meaning of the terms used in this ordinance shall be as follows:

Bill: The periodic mandate by the City for the payment of water use and/or consumption, sewer use, water/sewer services, interest, and charges.
Charge: The mandate by the City for payment for water/sewer goods and services provided to the Customer.
City: The City of Quincy, in the County of Norfolk in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.
Commissioner: The Commissioner of Public Works of the City of Quincy or his/her authorized deputy, agent or representative.
Customer: The person, individual, firm, company, partnership, association, society, corporation, group or any political subdivision of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts and/or any other legally defined entity listed in the Department of Public Work's records as the party responsible for the payment of bills for water service to a property.
Department: The City of Quincy Department of Public Works located at 55 Sea Street, Quincy, Massachusetts.
Enterprise Fund: A fund established by the City in accordance with G.L. Chapter 44, Section $53F^{1}/_{2}$.
Interest: The rate established by City Ordinance that enables the Department to assess on overdue Customer Bill balances.
Meter: An instrument used for measuring the quantity of water and/or sewer used by a Customer.

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Meter Reading Device: Any equipment or and/or appurtenances attached or otherwise connected to a meter which records and transmits the water use and/or consumption, and sewer use to the Department.
MWRA: the Massachusetts Water Resource Authority, as enabled in Chapter 372 of the Acts of 1984.
MWRA Special Assessment: Any assessment, including but not limited to the High Strength User Fee, which is assessed to the City by the MWRA, but attributable to an individual water and/or sewer Customer.
New Connection: A water or sewer service which is connected into the City water and/or sewer systems for a Customer and/or Premises/Property which has not been previously connected.
Premises/Property: A parcel of real estate or portion thereof, including any improvements thereupon, which is determined by the Department to be a single Customer for purposes of receiving, using, and paying for water use and/or consumption, sewer use, water/sewer services, interest, and charges.
Treasurer/Collector: The Treasurer/Collector of the City of Quincy or his/her authorized deputy, agent or representative.

13.04.20 Commissioner of Public Works – Authority

The Commissioner shall have supervision, direction and control of the Sewer, Water and Drain Department and shall make such rules and regulations for its governance as may be deemed necessary.

13.04.30 Bill Collection – Treasurer/Collector

The Treasurer/Collector shall receive and collect all water and sewer bill payments and any other income, and place the same to the credit of the water and sewer Enterprise Fund accounts.

13.04.40 Bills – Bill Issuance

A. Bills shall be issued by the Department and payment shall be due and payable to the Treasurer/Collector thirty (30) days from the date of billing.

B. Billing intervals for all customers shall remain unchanged from current practices. Bills shall be issued to Customers on a monthly, bi-monthly, or quarterly basis. Changes to the current billing interval shall be made by the Commissioner upon two weeks notice to the Customer.

13.04.50 Bills - Charges

The value of charges shall be recommended by the Commissioner and set by the City council. Initial setting of or changes to the value of charges shall be valid after fourteen (14) days public notice. This shall not effect the setting of the water and sewer rates.

The authorized list of charges which may be assigned by the Department shall be:

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A. Water Service Turn On/Turn Off
B. Manual Meter Read
C. Water Meter Test – Meter 1" or smaller
D. Water Meter Test – Meter larger than 1"
E. Meter Freeze Up
F. Damaged, tampered, or missing Meter
G. Damaged, tampered, or missing Meter Reading Device
H. Valve Replacement
I. Lawn Service Application
J. Water Service Application – 1" or smaller
K. Water Service Application - $1^1/_4$" to 3"
L. Water Service Application - 4" or larger
M. Unauthorized Water Connection
N. MWRA Special Assessment
O. Water Service Line Leak Repair
P. Fire Service Application
Q. Fire Flow Test Observation and Assistance
R. Fire Hydrant Meter Application
S. Fire Hydrant Meter Deposit – Meter 1" or smaller
T. Fire Hydrant Meter Deposit – Meter larger than 1"
U. Fire Hydrant Meter Late Return
V. Fire Hydrant Meter Service
W. Fire Hydrant Meter – Minimum Monthly Usage - 5/8" meter
X. Fire Hydrant Meter – Minimum Monthly Usage - 3/4" & 1" meter
Y. Fire Hydrant Meter – Minimum Monthly Usage - Meter larger than 1"
Z. Unauthorized Hydrant Use – 1st Offense
AA. Unauthorized Hydrant Use – 2nd Offense
BB. Cross Connection/New Construction – Initial Survey
CC. Backflow Prevention Device Test & Inspection – Double Check Valve
DD. Backflow Prevention Device Test & Inspection – Reduced Pressure Devices (each) - First five
EE. Backflow Prevention Device Test & Inspection – Reduced Pressure Devices (each) - Next ten
FF. Backflow Prevention Device Test & Inspection – Reduced Pressure Devices (each) - Sixteen or more
GG. Water/Sewer Pipe Inspection – single instance
HH. Water/Sewer Pipe Inspection – multi-day
II. Denial of Access to Premises/Property
JJ. Private Infrastructure Analysis
KK. Private Infrastructure Repair
LL. Street/Sidewalk Opening Application
MM. Water Testing – Customer requested

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13.04.60 Bills - Interest

The interest rate on past due water and sewer bills shall be set at fourteen percent (14%) per annum, pursuant to G.L. Chapter 40, Section 21E. Any Customer Bill due and payable to the City, including interest thereupon, which are not paid within the sixty (60) days from their due date, there shall be a lien upon such Premises/Property in the manner provided in G.L. Chapter 40, Sections 42A to 42F.

13.04.70 Meters – Ownership – Responsibility for Damage, Repairs, or Replacement – Meter 1" or smaller

The Department shall install meters and meter reading devices for all Customers authorized to be connected to the City's water distribution system. The meters and the meter reading devices shall be owned by the Department. In the case of new connections to the system, the cost of the meter shall be included in the New Connection application charge.

The Customer shall be responsible for protecting and securing the meter and meter reading device. Any meter or meter reading device damaged, tampered with, destroyed, or missing from its installed location shall result in the assessment of the appropriate charges.

The Customer may request a test of their meter to ensure accuracy upon payment of the applicable charge. In the event that the meter is metering the volume of water at a level above the meter's applicable AWWA accuracy standard, the applicable charge shall be refunded and the Customer may request a new meter be installed at the Department's expense. In the event that the meter is metering the volume of water at a level below the meter's applicable AWWA accuracy standard, no refund shall be given to the Customer and the Commissioner may require the installation of a new meter.

Repair and/or replacement of meters and meter reading devices which fail due to age or other cause not related to damage, tampering, or removal shall be the responsibility of the Department. The presence of instances of damage, tampering, or meter removal shall be determined by the Commissioner.

13.04.75 Meters – Ownership – Responsibility for Damage, Repairs, or Replacement – Meter larger than 1"

The meters and the meter reading devices shall be owned by the Department. In the case of new connections to the system, the Customer to be connected shall be responsible for the purchase price of the meter and the meter reading device in addition to the connection charge. Ownership for the newly installed meter and meter reading device shall revert to the Department upon the new water service being turned on.

The Customer shall be responsible for protecting and securing the meter and meter reading device. Any meter or meter reading device damaged, tampered with, destroyed, or missing from its installed location shall result in the assessment of the

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appropriate charges. The charges shall include the cost of replacing and/or repairing a damaged, tampered with, destroyed, or missing meter.

The Commissioner shall have the right to require the Customer to complete a test of their meter to ensure accuracy, such requests not to occur more frequently than once per year. The Customer shall be responsible for the cost of the meter test. In the event that a Customer's meter tests outside of the acceptable range of accuracy, as defined within the meter's applicable AWWA standard, the Commissioner shall have the right to require the replacement of the meter at the Customer's expense.

Repair and/or replacement of meters and meter reading devices which fail due to age or other cause not related to damage, tampering, or removal shall be the responsibility of the Customer. The presence of instances of damage, tampering, or meter removal shall be determined by the Commissioner.

13.04.80 Access to Premises/Property

In the event that the Commissioner has reason to believe that either the meter or meter reading device are recording/transmitting incorrect meter readings or that there may be a leak in private water mains/service lines, access to the Customer's Premises/Property is required. Customers shall, at any reasonable time, grant the Department access to enter a Customer's Premises/Property for the purpose of examining, removing, replacing, and/or repairing City meters, meter reading devices, pipes, service lines, fittings and parts for supplying or regulating water and of ascertaining the quantity of water consumed or supplied in accordance with G.L., Chapter 165, Section 11D.

The refusal of a Customer to grant access to their premises for the purpose of examining, removing, replacing, and/or repairing City meters, meter reading devices, pipes, service lines, fittings, and parts for supplying or regulating the supply of water shall result in a fine, as identified in this chapter, per visit to gain access, until such access is thereby granted, not to exceed one visit per business day.

In the event that damaged, tampered, destroyed or missing meters are found, applicable charges shall be assessed. In the event that water leaks from private water pipes/service lines are found between the City main and the water meter, the Commissioner shall provide notice to the Customer requiring repairs be made to the private water pipes/service lines. If such repairs are not completed within thirty (30) days of the notice, the Department shall have the right to enter the Premises/Property to make repairs. The customer shall be required to reimburse the Department for the full cost of repairs.

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CITY OF QUINCY
IN COUNCIL

ORDER NO.

ORDERED: 2012-022 May 7, 2012

Upon the recommendation of the Commissioner of Public Works and with the approval of His Honor, the Mayor, the value of charges shall be set at the following:

A. Water Service Turn On/Turn Off
   $75.00
B. Manual Meter Read
   $100.00 per billing interval
C. Water Meter Test – Meter 1" or smaller
   $100.00
D. Water Meter Test – Meter larger than 1"
   If commercial customer fails to comply with city's request to test the meter, then the city is authorized to engage a private vendor to disassemble and test the meter and charge the cost of same to commercial customer
E. Meter Freeze Up
   $100.00 plus cost of meter
F. Damaged, tampered, or missing meter
   $150.00 plus cost of meter
G. Damaged, tampered, or missing meter reading device
   $175.00 which includes replacement of meter reading device
H. Valve Replacement
   $150.00 which includes labor, parts and valves
I. Lawn Service Application
   $75.00
J. Water Service Application – 1" or smaller
   $75.00
K. Water Service Application - $1\frac{1}{4}$" to 3"
   $100.00
L. Water Service Application - 4" or larger
   $150.00
M. Unauthorized Water Connection
   $550.00 plus cost of meter
N. Massachusetts Water Resource Authority Special Assessment
   The Massachusetts Water Resource Authority billing charged to the city for high strength user(s) shall be charged to the high strength user(s) so identified by the Massachusetts Water Resource Authority

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O. Water Service Line Leak Repair
After notice to customer to repair a leak on the customer's property, if customer does not repair same then the city shall complete the repairs and charge the customer for the cost of said labor, materials and police detail(s)

P. Fire Service Application
$300.00

Q. Fire Flow Test Observation and Assistance
$250.00

R. Fire Hydrant Meter Application
$75.00

S. Fire Hydrant Meter Deposit – Meter 1" or smaller
$500.00 Deposit

T. Fire Hydrant Meter Deposit – Meter larger than 1"
$3500.00

U. Fire Hydrant Meter Late Return
$10.00 per calendar day

V. Fire Hydrant Meter Service
$100.00

W. Fire Hydrant Meter – Minimum Monthly Usage - 5/8" meter
$75.00 per month

X. Fire Hydrant Meter – Minimum Monthly Usage - 3/4" & 1" meter
$100.00 per month

Y. Fire Hydrant Meter – Minimum Monthly Usage - Meter larger than 1"
$300.00 Minimum Monthly Usage

Z. Unauthorized Hydrant Use – 1st Offense
$1000.00

AA. Unauthorized Hydrant Use – 2nd Offense
$5000.00

BB. Cross Connection/New Construction – Initial Survey
$200.00

CC. Backflow Prevention Device Test & Inspection – Double Check Valve
$75.00

DD. Backflow Prevention Device Test & Inspection – Reduced Pressure Devices (each) - First five (5)
$100.00

EE. Backflow Prevention Device Test & Inspection – Reduced Pressure Devices (each) - Next ten
$50.00 each

FF. Backflow Prevention Device Test & Inspection – Reduced Pressure Devices (each) - Sixteen or more
$25.00

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GG. Water/Sewer Pipe Inspection – single instance
$600.00 Combined Inspection

HH. Water/Sewer Pipe Inspection – multi-day
$100.00 per day

II. Denial of Access to Premises/Property
$25.00 per visit

JJ. Private Infrastructure Analysis
Cost of analysis/leak detection charged to customer

KK. Private Infrastructure Repair
Cost of repair: including labor, repair and materials

LL. Street/Sidewalk Opening Application
$75.00

MM. Water Testing
$25.00

NN. Final Meter Read
$50.00

PASS TO BE ORDAINED MAY 7, 2012

ATTEST: Maureen L. Hallsen
CLERK OF COUNCIL

APPROVED
MAY 10 2012
MAYOR

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