

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 within the City:

(Code of Iowa, Sec. 384.84)

\$8.50 monthly minimum service charge. Service charge includes the first 1,000 gallons of water metered; and

\$3.50 for every 1,000 gallons metered in excess of the first 1,000 gallons.

Sales tax is to be added to all water bills so as to be in compliance with the provisions of the Code of Iowa.

(Ord. 345 - Jan. 01 Supp.)

92.03 RATES OUTSIDE THE CITY. Water service shall be provided to those customers outside the corporate limits who were receiving water service from the City as of June 30, 2002, at a rate equal to one hundred fifty percent (150%) of the rates provided in Section 92.02. No new connections to the City water system will be permitted for property located outside of the corporate limits.

(Ord. 365 - Nov. 02 Supp.)

(Code of Iowa, Sec. 364.4 & 384.84)

92.04 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 first 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 20th day of each month.
3. Late Payment Penalty. Bills not paid when due shall be considered delinquent. A flat fee of \$5.00 per account shall be added to each delinquent bill. This penalty shall be forgiven once per account during each calendar year. *(Ord. 347 – Feb. 01 Supp.)*

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

(Code of Iowa, Sec. 384.84)

1. Notice. The City shall notify each delinquent customer that service will be 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 and shall inform the customer of the nature of the delinquency and afford the customer the opportunity for a hearing prior to the disconnection.
2. Notice to Owner/Landlord. If the customer is a tenant, and if the owner/landlord of the property has made a written request for notice, the notice of delinquency shall also be given to the owner/landlord.
3. Hearing. If a hearing is requested by noon of the day preceding the disconnection, the Clerk shall conduct an informal hearing and shall make a determination as to whether the disconnection is justified.
4. Fees. A reconnection fee of twenty dollars (\$20.00) shall be charged to a customer whose service has been disconnected due to delinquency.

92.06 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)

92.07 LIEN EXEMPTION. The lien for nonpayment shall not apply to residential rental properties where water service is separately metered and the charges therefor are paid directly by the tenant, providing the landlord has given written notice to the Clerk that the tenant is liable for the charges and a deposit not exceeding the usual cost of ninety (90) days of water service is paid to the City. The landlord's written notice shall contain the name of the tenant

responsible for charges, the address of occupancy and the date of occupancy. A change in tenant shall require a new written notice and deposit. When the tenant moves from the rental property, the Clerk shall refund the deposit if the water service charges are paid in full and the lien exemption shall be lifted from the rental property.

(Code of Iowa, Sec. 384.84)

92.08 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. If the customer is a tenant and if the owner or landlord of the property 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. *(Ord. 385 - May 04 Supp.)*

(Code of Iowa, Sec. 384.84)

92.09 TEMPORARY VACANCY. A property owner may request water service to be temporarily disconnected and shut off at the curb stop when the property is expected to be vacant for an extended period of time. During a period when service is temporarily disconnected as provided herein the customer will be billed the monthly minimum service charge. The City will not drain pipes or pull meters for temporary vacancies. There shall be a fee collected for shutting the water off at the curb stop in accordance with the following:

1. Within City. A fee of twenty dollars (\$20.00) will be charged for shutting the water off at the curb stop.
2. Outside City. A fee of thirty dollars (\$30.00) will be charged for shutting the water off at the curb stop.
3. After Hours. If disconnection is requested other than during regular working hours, the City will charge one and one-half times the regular rate for the service.

(Ord. 326 - Jun. 98 Supp.)

92.10 CONNECTION FEE. *(Repealed by Ordinance No. 326 - Jun. 98 Supp.)*

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