

02-0331

Resolution No. _____

STOCKTON CITY COUNCIL


RESOLUTION APPROVING CHANGES TO THE SCHEDULE OF WATER RATE FEES AND REGULATIONS TO CLARIFY THE UNIFIED BILLING PROCESS AND ADOPTING THE SCHEDULE OF WATER RATE FEES AND REGULATIONS EFFECTIVE JUNE 1, 2002

WHEREAS, a duly noticed public hearing was conducted on May 28, 2002, for the purpose of hearing public comment/testimony regarding adjustments to selected service fees; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF STOCKTON, AS FOLLOWS:


1. That the Schedule of Water Rate Fees and Regulations, which has changes to clarify the unified utility billing process, a copy of which is attached as Exhibit "A," and incorporated by this reference, be the charges of the City of Stockton for the identified municipal water utility services, and is hereby adopted.
2. That the effective date of said fees shall be June 1, 2002.

PASSED, APPROVED and ADOPTED MAY 28 2002



 GARY A. PODESTO
 Mayor of the City of Stockton

ATTEST:



 KATHERINE GONG MEISSNER
 City Clerk of the City of Stockton
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CITY ATTY
 REVIEW _____
 DATE MAY 16 2002

02-0331

SCHEDULE OF WATER RATE FEES AND REGULATIONS

MUNICIPAL UTILITIES DEPARTMENT

EFFECTIVE JUNE 1, 2002

I. WATER RATE FEES AND REGULATIONS

A. DEFINITIONS

- 1 APPLICANT A person applying for water service
- 2 CITY The City of Stockton, California, a municipal corporation.
3. CITY COUNCIL. The City Council of the City of Stockton, California.
- 4 CROSS CONNECTION Any unprotected connection between any part of a water system used or intended to supply potable water and any source or system containing nonpotable water or other substances not safe for human consumption.
5. CUSTOMER. A person receiving water or service from the City of Stockton.
- 6 CUSTOMER LINE The pipe, valves and fittings leading from the meter outlet into the property served, installed, maintained and owned by the customer
- 7 FIRE SERVICE. A connection used solely for the extinguishing of fires except as may be specifically authorized for public or other purposes by the water division
8. METER The water meter and its enclosure, valves and related appurtenances, which are and shall remain the exclusive property of the City of Stockton.
- 9 PERSON Any natural person, firm, partnership, association or corporation acting either for themselves or as the clerk, employee or agent of another.
- 10 SERVICE LINE OR SERVICE CONNECTION Pipe, valves and fittings laid from the main to and including the meter
- 11 TEMPORARY SERVICE. Service of non-permanent nature or of limited duration
- 12 UNIFIED BILL A utility bill which contains charges for various utility services provided to a specific service address such as water, storm water, solid waste, wastewater and garden refuse.
- 13 WATER DIVISION The Water Division of the Municipal Utilities Department of the City of Stockton.
- 14 WATER MAIN: The pipe owned and maintained by the City, usually four (4) inches in diameter or larger, laid in a street, road, right-of-way or easement capable of serving two or more customers.
- 15 WATER MAIN EXTENSION. A water main connected to an existing water main.
16. WATER SUPERINTENDENT: The Superintendent of the Water Division of the City of Stockton

B. APPLICATION FOR SERVICE

1. APPLICATION AND DEPOSIT Each person desiring a water supply from the City Water System must make application on a form provided by the City or its authorized agent. A deposit equal to two and one-half (2-1/2) times the estimated average monthly bill, but not less than \$60.00, may be required of an applicant for water service based on the creditworthiness of the applicant.
2. CUSTOMER AGREES TO BE BOUND Every customer shall be deemed to have expressed consent to be bound to the terms and provisions of the regulations then in effect and as may be amended at a later date. Whenever any regulation is violated, the City reserves the right to terminate the water without notice. The customer whose water is thus terminated shall forfeit all payments made and the water shall not be restored until all unpaid delinquent charges billed on the unified bill and any fees, charges and/or deposits associated with the violation and service termination are paid and all other requirements of these regulations are met.
3. UNPAID BILL Service shall not be granted to a customer at any location if that customer has unpaid delinquent bills for City utility services.

C. METER READING, BILLING AND COLLECTION

1. COMBINING OF METER READINGS Each meter on a customer's premise will be considered and billed separately. The readings of two or more meters will not be combined.
2. METER READING FREQUENCY Meters will normally be read at monthly intervals for the preparation of regular bills, and as may be required for the preparation of opening bills, closing bills and special bills.
3. NON-REGISTERING AND UNREADABLE METERS Bills for service will be based on an estimate if a meter fails to register the volume of water consumed or cannot be read. In estimating consumption due consideration will be given to fluctuations in usage caused by seasonal changes or known service interruptions.
4. FAILURE TO RECEIVE BILL It shall be the water service customer's responsibility to provide the City or its authorized agent the correct address to which bills are to be mailed. Failure to receive a bill shall not relieve the water service customer of responsibility for payment.
5. DEPOSITS ON ACTIVE ACCOUNTS: A deposit equal to two and one-half (2-1/2) times the estimated average monthly water service charges, but not less than \$60.00, may be required if all charges billed on a unified bill are not paid by the due date. This deposit will be added to the water service customer's account. Failure to pay the deposit shall be considered the same as failure to pay for water or water service.
6. SERVICE TERMINATION FOR NON-PAYMENT, DAMAGE TO CITY PROPERTY OR UNAUTHORIZED WATER SERVICE If water service is terminated because of unpaid delinquent charges billed on a unified bill, dishonored payments, unauthorized water service or damage to City property, water service shall not be restored to the service address or to the customer at another address until the amount of all delinquent unpaid unified bills, charges and fees, a deposit (if required) and a reconnection fee have been paid in full.
7. RECONNECTION FEE. A fee of \$20.00 shall be charged when water service is terminated because of non-payment of delinquent utility charges billed on a unified bill. This fee will be added to the water service customer's account. Failure to pay this fee shall be considered the same as failure to pay for water or water service. In addition to the reconnection fee, the City may require a customer to pay a deposit equal to two and one-half (2-1/2) times the estimated average monthly bill, but not less than \$60.00, before service is restored.
8. DAMAGE TO CITY PROPERTY A fee of \$20.00 per damaged lock or device shall be charged whenever the lock or device attached to the City's water meter is removed or broken by anyone other than authorized City personnel. Other damages to the City water meter or associated equipment will result in additional charges being levied, with a minimum charge for damages of \$50.00. These fees will be added to the water service customer's account. Failure to pay shall be considered the same as failure to pay for water or water service.
9. METER REMOVAL: A fee of \$40.00 shall be charged if a water meter is removed because of non-payment of delinquent utility charges billed on a unified bill. This fee will be added to the water service customer's account. Failure to pay shall be considered the same as failure to pay for water or water service.
10. EXTENSION OF ACCOUNT CLOSING DATE. A fee of \$20.00 shall be charged if a customer does not cancel their request to close an account (terminate service) at least one business day prior to the scheduled account closing date. This fee will be added to the water service customer's account. Failure to pay shall be considered the same as failure to pay for water or water service.

D. RATES AND SERVICE CHARGES

The following rates are applicable to all water service furnished on a metered basis:

1. METER SERVICE CHARGE: The service charge is a readiness-to-serve charge applicable to all metered service and to which is to be added the monthly charge computed at the quantity rates. For the purpose of computing opening and closing bills, the readiness-to-serve charge shall be prorated in accordance with the length of the billing period for which service was furnished.

2. SERVICE CHARGE PER METER PER MONTH:

5/8 inch meter.	\$ 11.90
3/4 inch meter.	13.79
1 inch meter.	18.31
1-1/2 inch meter.	26.39
2 inch meter.	34.00
3 inch meter.	60.38
4 inch meter.	86.77
6 inch meter.	143.34
8 inch meter.	207.55
10 inch meter.	258.54
12 inch meter.	364.08

3. QUANTITY RATES:

For the first 30,000 cf--per 100 cf	\$ 0.665
For all over 30,000 cf--per 100 cf	0.566

4. TEMPORARY SERVICE: Charges for water furnished through a temporary service connection shall be at double the established rates for like permanent customers. For unmetered temporary service of three days or less duration, a minimum rate of \$11.50 per day will apply.

5. BACKFLOW DEVICE TESTING CHARGES:

a. Double check valves	\$54.23 plus parts
b. Double check valves 2" and larger and reduce pressure devices (RPD)	Actual cost for time and material with \$54.23 minimum

6. PRIVATE FIRE HYDRANT SERVICE:

- a. APPLICABILITY: Applicable to all water service furnished for fire protection other than to the City of Stockton.
- b. RATE: For each hydrant, per month--\$4.35.

7. PRIVATE FIRE PROTECTION SERVICE: Service hereunder is for private fire protection systems to which no connections for other than fire protection purposes are allowed, and which are regularly inspected by the underwriters having jurisdiction, are installed according to specifications of the City and are maintained to the satisfaction of the City. The City may require a detector type meter approved by the Board of Fire Underwriters for protection against theft, leakage or waste of water.

8. CHARGES FOR PRIVATE FIRE PROTECTION SERVICE:

	<u>Per Month</u>
For each 1-1/2 connection.	\$ 6.24
For each 2 inch connection	8.31
For each 3 inch connection	12.45
For each 4 inch connection	16.60
For each 6 inch connection	24.92
For each 8 inch connection	31.76
For each 10 inch connection.	41.51
For each 12 inch connection.	49.80

9. SPECIAL CONDITIONS:

- a. The fire protection service connection will be installed at the cost to the applicant. Such cost shall not be subject to refund.
- b. If a distribution main of adequate size to serve a private fire protection system in addition to all other normal service does not exist in the street or easement adjacent to the premises to be served, a service main from the nearest existing main of adequate capacity may be installed by the City at the cost to the applicant. Such cost shall not be subject to refund.
- c. The City shall not be liable for any loss or damage because of lack of water or pressure. The City agrees to furnish only such quantities and pressures as are available in its general distribution system. Such service is subject to shutdown and variations as required by the operation of the water system.

10. CONNECTION CHARGES: (Effective 60 days after Council adoption)

a. Residential Connections:

A connection charge of \$395.00 shall be paid for each connection of a single family dwelling unit served by a single meter. For multiple family dwellings, apartments, mobile homes and condominiums served by a single meter, the connection charge shall be \$395.00 for the first unit and \$100.00 for each additional unit.

b. Non-Residential Connections:

All non-residential connection charges shall be computed in two ways and the connection charge shall be based on the larger of:

- 1. The size of the required water meter as shown below, or

<u>Meter Size</u>	<u>Connection Charge</u>
5/8 & 3/4 inch.	\$ 395.00
1 inch.	988.00
1-1/2 inch	1,975.00
2 inch.	3,159.00
3 inch.	6,318.00
4 inch.	9,873.00
6 inch.	19,745.00
8 inch.	45,415.00
10 inch	56,075.00
12 inch	78,980.00

- 2. The area of the land served multiplied by \$0.052 per square foot.

c. Combined Non-Residential and Fire Service:

When non-residential water service and fire protection water is provided through the same meter the connection charge shall be based on the sum of:

1. The connection charge for the size of meter required by the applicant if no fire service was provided, as calculated under 10(a) above, and
2. All costs incurred by the City for providing the larger meter and service installation required for fire protection service.

On all residential and non-residential connection fees a 3-1/2 percent administrative fee will be added.

E. MAIN EXTENSIONS

1. APPLICABILITY:

- a. All extensions of distribution mains, from the City's basic production and transmission system or existing distribution system to serve new customers, except for those specifically excluded below, shall be made under the provisions of this section unless authority is first obtained from the City Manager to deviate therefrom.
- b. Extensions solely for fire hydrant, private fire protection, resale, temporary, standby or supplemental service shall not be made under this section.

2. GENERAL PROVISIONS:

- a. A bona fide customer is referred to in subsections 3 and 4 hereinafter shall be a customer of permanent and established character, exclusive of the real estate developer or building, who receives water service at premises improved with structures of a permanent nature.
- b. Any facilities installed hereunder shall be the sole property of the City.
- c. The size, type, quality of materials and their location will be specified by the City and actual construction will be done by the City or by a constructing agency acceptable to it in conformity with the City of Stockton standards.
- d. Adjustment of any difference between the estimated cost and the reasonable actual cost of any main extension made hereunder will be made within sixty (60) days after the actual cost of the installation has been ascertained and the facilities accepted by the City.
- e. The City will not be required to make extensions where grades have not been brought to those established by public authority.
- f. Where the property of the applicant or applicants is located adjacent to a street or highway exceeding 70 feet in width, or a freeway, waterway or railroad right-of-way, the City may elect to install a main extension on the same side thereof as the property of the applicant or applicants, and the estimated cost in such case will be based on such an extension.
- g. No reimbursement shall be made for connection charges paid to the City.

3. EXTENSIONS TO SERVE INDIVIDUALS:

- a. The City will extend its water distribution mains to serve new bona fide customers at its own expense other than to serve subdivisions, tracts, housing projects, industrial developments or organized service districts, when the required total length of main extension from the nearest existing

distribution main is not in excess of fifty (50) feet per service connection. If the total length of main extension is in excess of fifty (50) feet per service connection applied for, the applicant or applicants for such service shall be required to advance to the City before construction is commenced that portion of the reasonable estimated cost of such extension in excess of the estimated reasonable cost of fifty (50) feet of the main extension per service connection, exclusive of the cost of service connection and meters and exclusive of any costs of increasing the size or capacity of the City's existing mains or any other facilities used or necessary for supplying the proposed extension. Such estimated reasonable cost shall be based upon the cost of a main six (6) inches in diameter except where a larger main is required by the special needs of the applicant applicants. The money so advanced will be refunded by the City without interest in payments equal to the reasonable actual cost of fifty (50) feet of the main extension, for which advance was made for each additional service connection, exclusive of that of any customer formerly served at the same location. Refunds will be made within 180 days after the date of first service to a bona fide customer. No refunds will be made after a period of ten (10) days from the date of completion of the main extension and the total refund shall not exceed the amount advanced.

- b. **EXCEPTIONS:** Where a group of five (5) or more individual applicants request service from the same extension, or in unusual cases the City, at its option, may require than the individual or individuals advance the entire cost of the main extension as herein provided and the City shall refund this advance as provided in subsection 4(b) of this section.

4. **EXTENSIONS TO SERVICE SUBDIVISIONS, TRACTS, HOUSING PROJECTS, INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENTS OR ORGANIZED SERVICE DISTRICTS:**

- a. An applicant for a main extension to serve a new subdivision, tract, housing project, industrial development or organized service district shall be required to construct or cause to be constructed off-site mains to a point where existing City mains are equal to or larger than the mains required to serve the applicant's development, including necessary service stubs or service pipelines, fittings, gates and housing therefor, including tees for fire hydrant when required by public authority, exclusive of meters. If additional facilities are required to provide pressure or storage for the service requested, the cost of such facilities may be included in the advance at option of the City.

b. **REIMBURSEMENTS:**

1. **Agreements:**

The City and the applicant may enter into an agreement for reimbursement to the applicant for the cost of major facilities, such as mains, transmission lines, storage tanks, wells and pumping stations which provide system wide benefits and are larger than required for the applicant's development. Such agreement may provide for reimbursement over a period not to exceed ten (10) years from the date of acceptance by the City of the facility or until the applicant's costs have been reimbursed, whichever occurs first. Reimbursement payments shall be made a such time and in such amounts as provided for in the agreement.

2. **Reimbursements:**

Reimbursements will be made only for:

- a. In-tract and off-tract water mains larger than 12 inches in diameter and which are not required for applicant's present or future tract development. Reimbursement will be made only for the cost difference of the main size required by the City and the cost of a 12 inch main. The City Engineer shall determine the cost

difference upon which the reimbursement shall be based.

- b. Major facilities, either in-tract or off-tract, such as wells, reservoirs, storage tank, pumping stations and transmission lines financed by the applicant.

3. Special Provisions:

Notwithstanding the provisions of this section, the City may enter into special agreements for the design, construction, acquisition and financing of water facilities and may set such special conditions and requirements as deemed appropriate to protect the City's interests.

F. INSTALLATION AND MAINTENANCE OF SERVICE AND METERS

1. ARRANGEMENT OF SERVICE PIPES: The service pipes must be so arranged that the supply to each customer's premises may be controlled by a separate meter stop located within the City right-of-way or easement.
2. BRANCH SERVICES: Where water is supplied to more than one dwelling unit, business or premises, through one (1) service line and meter, the City may at its discretion required that each dwelling unit or premise be metered separately.
3. MAINTENANCE OF WATER METERS: The meters are and will remain the exclusive property of the City and will be maintained and inspected by the City from time to time.
4. SIZE, TYPE AND SEALING OF METER: The City reserves the right to determine the size and type of meter to be installed for each specific location. All meters will be sealed by the Water Division at the time of installation, and no seal shall be altered or broken, except by one of its authorized employees.
5. METER OBSTRUCTION: Customers shall keep their premises adjacent to the meter free from all rubbish or material of any kind which would prevent employees of the Water Division from having free access to the meter.
6. DAMAGE TO CITY PROPERTY: The customer shall be liable for any damage to a meter or other equipment or property owned by the City which is caused by an act of the customer or customer's tenants, agents, employees, contractors, licensees or permittee's including the breaking or destruction of seals and locks by the customer on or near a meter. If a meter is damaged from hot water from the customer's line, the customer shall be required to pay for the cost of repairs of the meter and for the loss of revenue occasioned by the damage, and the customer shall immediately make the necessary corrections in customer's own water lines to prevent further damage to the meter.

G. CONTROL OF BACKFLOW AND CROSS CONNECTIONS

1. GENERAL: In accordance with the requirements of the regulations of the California Administrative Code, Title 17, Chapter V, Sections 7583 to 7622, inclusive, no water service connection to any premises shall be installed or maintained by the City unless the public water supply is protected as required by said State Regulations and the requirements stated below. This section supplements and does not supersede local plumbing regulations, codes or ordinances, or State Board of Public Health Regulations relating to water supply.
2. WHERE PROTECTION IS REQUIRED: Backflow prevention devices shall be installed on the service connection to any premises having:
 - a. Access to any auxiliary water supply;
 - b. Any substance handled under pressure in such fashion as to permit entry into the water system;
 - c. Any material dangerous to health or toxic substance that might possible be

introduced into the water system;

- d. Any lawn or garden sprinkling system.
3. TYPE OF PROTECTION: In general, types of backflow prevention devices shall be required as follows:
 - a. A service connection to premises having an auxiliary water supply or internal systems containing water of deteriorated quality shall be protected by an approved double check valve assembly.
 - b. A service connection to premises handling dangerous or toxic materials such as industrial plants, wharves, hospitals, mortuaries, etc., shall be protected by an approved reduced pressure principle backflow prevention device properly located and installed.

H. RESPONSIBILITY FOR CUSTOMER EQUIPMENT

1. The City shall not be liable for any loss or damage of any nature whatsoever caused by any defect in the customer's line, plumbing or equipment, and the City may, without further notice, discontinue service to any customer when a defective condition of plumbing or equipment upon the premises of the customer results or is likely to result in interference with property service or is likely to cause contamination of water.
2. UNAUTHORIZED TURN-ON: After the water has been shut off at the meter, should it be turned on by any person except an employee of the Water Division, the service will be shut off and a penalty of FIFTEEN DOLLARS (\$15.00) charged against the property. The service shall not be turned on until said penalty is paid.

I. RESPONSIBILITY FOR SERVICE

1. Subject to the requirements of the State Health Department, the City shall not be responsible for high or low pressure conditions, chemical, bacteriological or other physical conditions, interruption or shortage or insufficiency of supply or any loss or damage occasioned thereby. The use of water upon the premises of the customer shall be at the risk of the customer and responsibility of the City shall cease at the point of delivery of water. The point of delivery shall be at the outlet or customer's side of the meter, or in cases of privately owned water lines, the point of delivery shall be at the end of the City's service line. In case of shortage of supply, the City may give preference in the matter of furnishing service to customers as in its judgment shall be for the best interest of the City of Stockton from the standpoint of public convenience or necessity.
2. INTERRUPTIONS IN SERVICE: The Water Division, whenever it shall find it necessary or convenient for the purpose of making repairs or improvements to its system, may temporarily suspend the delivery of water. The City shall not be liable for loss or damage caused from variations of pressures or the interruption in service arising from any cause.
3. CHANGES IN SIZE OF METER OR SERVICE CONNECTION: Permanent changes in the size of meters and/or service connection will be made on request of the customer. The customer will be charged for the conversion on the basis of the actual cost to the City. If a customer increases the total water consumption on the premises serviced so that the meter is operating beyond its rated capacity or decreases the total water use so that the meter is too large to accurately indicate the water used, the City may, at its own expense, after notification to the customer, change the size of the meter.