

CHAPTER 92 - WATER RATES

92.01 Service Charges
92.02 Rates for Service
92.03 Rates Outside The City
92.04 Billing for Water Service
92.05 Service Discontinued

92.06 Lien for Nonpayment
92.07 Lien Exemption
92.08 Lien Notice
92.09 Customer Deposits

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 to all customers within or outside the city in the following billing cycles for the periods specified:

1. Dec. 2020-Dec. 2021

1. Residential. Water service shall be supplied at the following monthly rates billed quarterly:
 - a. \$22.39 per month base rate (minimum charge)
 - b. \$ 7.50 for every 1,000 gallons of water
2. Commercial. Water service shall be supplied at the following monthly rates billed monthly:
 - a. \$22.39 per month base rate (minimum charge)
 - b. \$ 8.67 for every 1,000 gallons of water up to 50,000 gallons per month
 - c. \$ 9.56 for every 1,000 gallons in excess of 50,000 gallons in a month
3. Institutional. Water service shall be supplied at the following monthly rates:
May 1, 2021 – December 2021
 - a. Base Rate: \$22.84
 - b. \$9.69 for every 1,000 gallons of water up to 50,000 gallons per month
 - c. \$10.58 for every 1,000 gallons in excess of 50,000 gallons in a month.

2. Jan.-Dec. 2022

1. Residential. Water service shall be supplied at the following monthly rates billed quarterly:
 - a. \$22.84 per month base rate (minimum charge)
 - b. \$ 7.65 for every 1,000 gallons of water
2. Commercial. Water service shall be supplied at the following monthly rates billed monthly:
 - a. \$22.84 per month base rate (minimum charge)
 - b. \$ 8.84 for every 1,000 gallons of water up to 50,000 gallons per month
 - c. \$ 9.75 for every 1,000 gallons in excess of 50,000 gallons in a month

3. Institutional. Water service shall be supplied at the following monthly rates:
 - a. Base Rate: \$23.30
 - b. \$9.88 for every 1,000 gallons of water up to 50,000 gallons per month
 - c. \$10.79 for every 1,000 gallons in excess of 50,000 gallons in a month.

3. Jan.-Dec. 2023

1. Residential. Water service shall be supplied at the following monthly rates billed quarterly:
 - a. \$23.30 per month base rate (minimum charge)
 - b. \$ 7.80 for every 1,000 gallons of water

2. Commercial. Water service shall be supplied at the following monthly rates billed monthly:
 - a. \$23.30 per month base rate (minimum charge)
 - b. \$ 9.02 for every 1,000 gallons of water up to 50,000 gallons per month
 - c. \$ 9.95 for every 1,000 gallons in excess of 50,000 gallons in a month

3. Institutional. Water service shall be supplied at the following monthly rates:
 - a. Base Rate - \$23.76
 - b. \$10.08 for every 1,000 gallons of water up to 50,000 gallons per month
 - c. \$11.00 for every 1,000 gallons in excess of 50,000 gallons in a month.

Multiple Units Served by One Water Meter. In those situations where more than one dwelling unit or commercial space is served by a single water meter, such as condominiums, trailer courts, cooperatives or associations, a minimum charge shall be imposed for each dwelling unit or commercial space. If the minimum quantities of all served units is exceeded, a charge for the excess usage will be imposed based upon the rates set out above.

(Ord. 180 - March 20 Supp.)
(Ord. 184 - March 20 Supp.)

92.03 RATES OUTSIDE THE CITY.

Water service shall be provided any customer located outside the corporate limits of the City which the City has agreed to serve at rates one hundred twenty-five percent (125%) of the rates provided in Section 92.02. No such customer, however, will be served unless the customer shall have signed a service contract agreeing to be bound by the ordinances, rules and regulations applying to water service established by the Council.

(Code of Iowa, Sec. 364.4[2] & 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. Meters Read. Water meters shall be read quarterly for residential premises and monthly for commercial premises.

2. Bills Issued. The Clerk shall prepare and issue bills for combined service accounts on or before the thirtieth (30th) day of the month.

3. Bills Payable. Bills for combined service accounts shall be due and payable at the office of the Clerk within thirty (30) days for residential customers and by the twenty-first (21st) of the following month for commercial customers.
4. Late Payment Penalty. Bills not paid when due shall be considered delinquent. A late payment penalty of ten percent (10%) shall be added to each delinquent bill after the due date.”

(Ord. 155 – Aug. 2015 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 Clerk shall notify each delinquent customer that service will be discontinued if payment of the combined service account, including late payment charges, is not received by the date specified in the notice of delinquency. Such deadline shall not fall on a Friday or before a holiday. 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 discontinuance.
2. Notice to Landlords. If the customer is a tenant, and if the owner or landlord of the property has made a written request for notice, the notice of delinquency shall also be given to the owner or landlord.
3. Hearing. If a hearing is requested at least three (3) days before the deadline, the Superintendent shall conduct an informal hearing and shall make a determination as to whether the disconnection is justified. The customer has the right to appeal the Superintendent's decision to the Council, and if the Council finds that disconnection is justified, then such disconnection shall be made, unless payment has been received.
4. Fees. A fee of fifty dollars (\$50.00) shall be charged before service is restored to a delinquent customer. No fee shall be charged for the usual or customary trips in the regular changes in occupancies of property.

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 a residential rental property where water service is separately metered and the rates or charges for the water service are paid directly to the City by the tenant, if the landlord gives written notice to the City that the property is residential rental property and that the tenant is liable for the rates or charges. The City may require a deposit not exceeding the usual cost of ninety

(90) days of water service be paid to the City. The landlord's written notice shall contain the name of the tenant responsible for charges, the address of the rental property and the date of occupancy. A change in tenant shall require a new written notice to be given to the City within ten (10) business days of the change in tenant. When the tenant moves from the rental property, the City shall refund the deposit if the water service charges are paid in full. A change in the ownership of the residential rental property shall require written notice of such change to be given to the City within ten (10) business days of the completion of the change of ownership. The lien exemption does not apply to delinquent charges for repairs to a water service.

(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.

(Code of Iowa, Sec. 384.84)

92.09 CUSTOMER DEPOSITS.

When water service is established to a new customer, residential or commercial, the new customer shall be required to pay to the city a deposit in the amount of \$250.00 to ensure against non-payment of water usage. The deposit may be applied by the city to any delinquent water account or delinquent solid waste fee provided under Section 106.08. If a portion of the deposit is applied to a delinquent account, the account holder shall restore the deposit to the amount of \$250.00 within thirty (30) days of notice from the city. If the deposit is not restored, water service may be terminated.

If there are no delinquencies on an account for a period of twelve (12) consecutive months after service is established, the City Clerk may, upon request of the account holder, refund the deposit.”

(Ord. 154 – Supp. Aug. 2015)