

CHAPTER 25 – WATER, SEWERS AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL

Sec. 25-120. Determination of wastewater quantity and billings.

(a) For users with installed water meters that are to be billed on basis of water consumption, sewer charges herein shall become effective after each user's first regular meter reading. For uses to be billed on a flat rate the charges shall be effective on the first month after the rates established herein become effective.

(b) Any affected user who fails or refuses to install a water meter to any source of water supply used, within thirty (30) days after written notice by the director of finance to do so, shall be charged on water usage estimated by the director of finance.

(c) If a user discharges sanitary sewage, industrial wastes, water or other liquids into the city sewer system, either directly or indirectly, and it can be shown by such party, to the satisfaction of the director of finance that a portion of the water as measured by the water meter does not and cannot enter the sewer system, then the director of finance may determine in such manner and by such method as he may find practicable the percentage of metered water entering the sewer system. The quantity of water used to determine the sewer charge shall be that percentage, determined by the director of finance, entering the sewer system. In the absence of suitable data to make such a determination the sewer user charge will be based on the amount of water supplied to the premises. The director of finance may require or permit the installation of acceptable additional water or sewer meters at such party's expense and in such a manner as to determine the quantity of water actually entering the sewer system, in which case, the quantity of water used to determine the sewer charge shall be the quantity of water actually entering the sewer system as so determined.

(d) After installation of approved measuring equipment, it shall be the obligation of each user to conduct a test on such measuring equipment at least once every twelve (12) months to determine its accuracy and the results thereof shall be furnished in writing to the director. Those users seeking renewal of an industrial wastewater discharge permit or an interim industrial wastewater discharge permit shall file the results as part of the report required in this chapter. It shall also be the user's responsibility to notify the city within a reasonable time in advance so that the department may, if it chooses, have a witness present during the test. If upon test the percentage of accuracy is found to be within the accuracy tolerance as established by the manufacturer's specifications, the measuring equipment shall be determined to have correctly measured the quantity delivered to the sewer system. If, however, upon test the percentage of accuracy is found to be in excess of the accuracy tolerance specified by the manufacturers, then the measuring equipment shall be immediately adjusted to register correctly the quantity delivered to the sewer system. The billings to such user shall be adjusted for a period extending back to the time when the inaccuracy began, if such time is ascertainable, or for a period extending back one-half of the time elapsed since the date of the last test or the date of the last adjustment, if the time is not ascertainable.

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(e) All users for which the water supply is from other suppliers of water shall furnish to the city either a certified meter reading of water delivered to its plant or company, or a copy of the billing from the water supplier. In this event, the user's charges will be calculated and the same conditions will apply as if the city were the supplier of water to the user.

(Code 1977, § 12-5-13)