

CHAPTER 51: WATER AND SEWER SERVICE

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§ 51.01 BOARD TO REGULATE.

The sewer and water system of the town shall be under the control of, and the duty of prescribing and enforcing a full compliance with all the rules and regulations governing all connections with the public sewer and water system shall be vested in the Board or its authorized agent.

(1978 Code, § 5-1001)

Statutory reference:

Public enterprise services, see G.S. §§ 160A-311 et seq.

§ 51.02 WATER AND SEWER SUPERINTENDENT.

The Board of Commissioners may select some competent person to supervise under their general control the entire water and sewer facilities of the town. The Board may from time to time prescribe the duties and responsibilities of the Superintendent. The Superintendent, or his or her assistant, shall, at all reasonable hours, have free access to all premises for the purpose of examining hydrants, fixtures or connections on which town water pressure is maintained.

(1978 Code, § 5-1002)

§ 51.03 PERMIT FOR CONNECTION REQUIRED.

No person, firm or corporation shall connect with the water system of the town until they shall have made application for permission to so connect in writing to the Town Clerk, paid connection fees, and shall state the name of the street and the name of the person, firm, or corporation. All connections will be made by the Water and Sewer Department.

(1978 Code, § 5-1003)

§ 51.04 SEPARATE CONNECTIONS REQUIRED.

Each individual business or residential building or structure shall install a separate water and sewer connection, or at the discretion of the Board.

(1978 Code, § 5-1004)

§ 51.05 SEWER REQUIRED.

- (A) All owners of property which is or may be located upon or within 250 feet distance of the sewerage system of the town, where the sewerage system is in operation, shall connect with such sewerage system all water closets, bath tubs, lavatories; sinks, drains, shower baths and other connections upon their respective properties or premises so the contents may be made to empty into such sewer or sewer system. The term *SEWERAGE* shall mean the wastewater and its contents from kitchens, bathrooms, lavatory, toilets, laundry, septic tank nitrification line of any residence, business establishments, industrial plants, institutions, public buildings or otherwise disposed of in a manner approved by the local health administrator.
- (B) No outdoor privies, or septic tanks, may be hereafter constructed within 250 feet of any sewer line, and the Board of Commissioners or the health officer may require and enforce immediate abandonment of any such privy or septic tank.
- (C) No person shall maintain or use a residence that is not provided with sewerage, where such sewerage is available, or with septic tanks approved by the State Board of Health, or with sanitary privy which complies in construction and maintenance with the requirements of the State Board of Health.
- (D) No outdoor privies will be allowed where town sewer is available. If such connection is not available such person must build a septic tank according to the requirements of the State Board of Health. No repairs shall be made to septic tanks when town sewerage is available.
- (E) No person, group of persons, firm or corporation shall build or remodel any structure used for human habitation or occupancy within the town which is not provided with water carried sewerage facilities.

(1978 Code, § 5-1005)

§ 51.06 USE OF TOWN WATER.

- (A) No consumer will be allowed to supply or sell water to other persons, families or corporations, nor shall any person take or carry any water from any hydrant, watering trough, or public fountain.
- (B) The fire hydrants are for the use of the Fire Department for fighting fires and are not to be used by any unauthorized person for any purpose without permission from the Board.

(1978 Code, § 5-1006)

§ 51.07 UTILITY RATES.

- (A) Water rates, deposits, connection and reconnection charges shall be determined from time to time by the Board and shall be kept on file in the office of the Clerk.
- (B) All bills for water used during the previous month are due and payable on the first day of the month following the current month of service.
- (C) The town specifically reserves, and shall exercise, the right to disconnect water service to delinquent customers, upon such terms as the Board shall direct.
- (D) Payment terms and turn-off dates are determined by the Board and are on file in the office of the Town Clerk.

(1978 Code, § 5-1007)

Statutory reference:

Disconnection for non payment, municipal authority see G.S. § 160A-314

§ 51.08 ADJUSTMENT OF BILLS FOR METER ERROR.

The Town Clerk may adjust and settle inequitable and abnormal water bills due to meter error.
(1978 Code, § 5-1008)

§ 51.09 RESPONSIBILITY FOR RENTER'S WATER BILLS.

Property owners shall be held responsible for renters' water bills, and when a party moves from a rented house the water shall be cut off and not turned back on until bill is paid in full.
(1978 Code, § 5-1009)

§ 51.10 WORK ON WATER SYSTEM.

All work on the water system and all connections or disconnections thereto shall be performed by the authorized employees of the town or their representatives or plumbers approved by the town.
(1978 Code, § 5-1010)

§ 51.11 ACCESS TO PROPERTY.

The Superintendent or his or her assistant shall at all reasonable hours have free access to all premises for the purpose of examining hydrants, fixtures or connections to the town water system. (1978 Code, § 5-1011)

§ 51.12 TAMPERING WITH OR OBSTRUCTING WATER AND SEWER LINES PROHIBITED,

No person shall touch, tamper, or in any manner manipulate or turn the cut-offs on the water mains forming a part of the water system of the town, nor shall any person tamper with or harm in any manner whatsoever any water or sewer line, main or any appurtenance thereto. No person shall throw or deposit any material or substance in any water or sewer line that will in any manner obstruct such line.

(1978 Code, § 5-1012)

§ 51.13 PRIVATE WATER SUPPLY REGULATED.

- (A) It shall be unlawful for any person, firm or corporation to furnish, supply, or provide, for gain or profit, any water from a private well or pumps in or to any dwelling, boarding house, inn, hotel, motel, cafe or other commercial establishment, or any room or rooms of the same, when said dwelling house or any room or rooms therein are rented, or offered for rent to the public, or when said boarding house, inn, hotel, motel, cafe, or other commercial establishment is open to or used by, the public, unless and until an analysis of the water from such private well or pump shall have first been submitted and approved by the Town Clerk of the town. Applicant will bear all cost involved.
- (B) If the water analysis referred to in division (A) of this section shall be made by or under the direction of the County Board of Health or the Department of Public Health of the State of North Carolina.
- (C) If the water analysis bears the approval of either of the authorities referred to in division (B) of this section, the Town Clerk shall approve the same by endorsing thereon the word "approved" and affixing thereto his signature as Town Clerk. If, however, the analysis shows that the water is contaminated and unfit for human consumption, the Town Clerk shall not approve the analysis, but shall deliver the analysis to the Mayor and Board of Commissioners of the town, which Board may disapprove the analysis and return the same to its owner.

(1978 Code, § 5-1013)

§ 51.14 WATER FOR CONSUMERS OUTSIDE OF TOWN.

Water shall not be furnished to consumers outside of the town except at such terms and conditions as may be approved in each case by the Board.

(1978 Code, § 5-1014)

§ 51.15 ENFORCEMENT.

In addition to charging violators of the provisions of this chapter with a misdemeanor offense under G.S. § 14-4, this chapter may also be enforced by appropriate equitable remedies, including mandatory injunction, issued by a court of competent jurisdiction, as provided in G.S. § 160A-175(d)(e).

(1978 Code, § 5-1015)