

ORIGINAL
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ORDINANCE NO.: 2023-117

Amending the 1998 Code of Ordinances of the City of Columbia, South Carolina, Chapter 23, Utilities and Engineering, Article III, Water Service, Sec. 23-65, Right of city to shut off water in mains, Article V, Water and Sewer Rates, Sec. 23-145, Installation of water meters and cross connection control devices and Sec. 23-148, Sewer tapping fees

BE IT ORDAINED by the Mayor and Council this 17th day of October, 2023, that the 1998 Code of Ordinances of the City of Columbia, South Carolina, Chapter 23, Utilities and Engineering, Article III, Water Service, Sec. 23-65, Right of city to shut off water in mains and Article V, Water and Sewer Rates, Sec. 23-145, Installation of water meters and cross connection control devices and Sec. 23-148, Sewer tapping fees is amended to read as follows:

Article III. - Water Service

Sec. 23-65. – Temporary service for building or construction purposes.

Contractors, builders or others desiring water for building or construction purposes must make application to the Director of Engineering therefor, who will issue a permit or work order. There shall be one type of such service: by temporary construction meter. Services provided under this section shall not be used in lieu of permanent metered service when permanent service is appropriate. The amount to be paid during construction will be the irrigation rate as established in sections 23-143, 23-144 and 23-145. The applicant shall provide each temporary construction meter the same backflow prevention protection as required for a permanent service. Metered water service may be provided to the city's contractors and builders upon application to the Director of Engineering.

(Code 1979, § 5-2006; Ord. No. 2003-049, 3-10-04)

Article V. - Water and Sewer Rates

Sec. 23-145. – Installation of water meters and cross connection control devices.

(a) *Water meters.*

(1) Charges for water meter installation shall be:

Meter Size (inches)	Installed by City Forces	Developer/Owner Installed
¾	\$2,512.00	\$1,062.00
1	3,468.00	2,018.00
1½	4,350.00	2,900.00
2	8,490.00	7,040.00

- (2) Water meter boxes for meters four inches and larger shall be site-constructed to city specifications by the owner's contractor at the owner's expense.
- (3) Separate meters for exterior surface irrigation without sewer service charges may be permitted for any property served by regular potable water service.
- (4) It shall be unlawful for any person to use water through a water meter installed for irrigation for any purpose other than outside surface irrigation. Violation of this subsection shall result in immediate summary forfeiture of the irrigation meter and tap, in addition to penalties provided by this Code.
- (5) The water meter installation fees for temporary construction meters shall be those specified in this section for permanent service of the same size. When the temporary construction meter is

adequate to provide the permanent service desired, it may be converted to permanent service without payment of additional meter fees upon approval of the director of utilities and engineering. Such approval shall not be withheld when all other city requirements have been met.

- (6) Non-residential water meters other than irrigation meters are subject to water and sewer charges in the city's sewer service area where sewer is available and provided to the property unless it is illustrated and proven to the city engineer and/or the director of engineering that under no circumstance can the water provided through the meter discharge into the sanitary sewer system.

(b) *Cross connection control devices.*

- (1) Dual checkvalves one inch in size and under shall be purchased and installed by the city water distribution division, the cost of which is included in the meter installation fee.
- (2) Other cross connection control devices designed to prevent backflow over one inch in size shall be purchased, installed, and properly maintained by the owner. All cross connection control devices shall be installed pursuant to the requirements of this code, the manufacturer's specifications, and any other applicable code or regulation. If any cross connection control device is contained in a protective cover or container, such as a water meter box, the entire cover or container shall be purchased, installed, and maintained by the owner at the owner's expense.
- (3) It shall be unlawful for any person to use water through a meter provided by the city without an appropriate approved cross connection control device designed to prevent backflow being in place. Persons in violation of this subsection will be given 30 days' written notice to have an approved backflow preventer device installed, or water service will be discontinued. In those cases in which an approved backflow preventer device has not been installed within the 30 days, water service will be discontinued and the water meter removed. No further water service will be provided until such time as an approved cross connection control device designed to prevent backflow has been installed and an additional water meter installation fee has been paid.

(Code 1979, § 5-4003; Ord. No. 2000-034, 6-21-00; Ord. No. 2006-048, 11-15-06; Ord. No. 2006-109, 5-16-07; Ord. No. 2017-063, 8-1-17)

Sec. 23-148. – Sewer tapping fees.

(a) Tapping charges for sewer connections shall be:

- (1) Taps installed by developer/owner: \$300.00 for each tap constructed.
- (2) Taps installed by city forces: \$1,300.00 for each tap constructed.

(Code 1979, § 5-4004; Ord. No. 97-57, 9-17-97; Ord. No. 2006-049, 11-15-06; Ord. No. 2015-013, 2-10-15)

Requested by:

Assistant City Manager Shealy



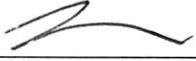
Mayor

Approved by:



City Manager

Approved as to form:



City Attorney

ATTEST:



City Clerk

Introduced: 10/3/2023

Final Reading: 10/17/2023