

CHAPTER 99

SEWER SERVICE CHARGES

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99.01 SEWER SERVICE CHARGES REQUIRED. Every customer shall pay to the City sewer service fees as hereinafter provided.

(Code of Iowa, Sec. 384.84)

99.02 SEWER RATES ESTABLISHED.

1. Each user shall pay for the services provided by the City based on use of the treatment works as determined by water meter readings or other appropriate methods acceptable to the City.
2. For all users, monthly user charges shall be based on actual water usage, except where a practical method of wastewater measurement is available.
3. For each month after the publication and effective date of the ordinance codified herein, each customer shall be charged a minimum monthly charge. Each customer shall pay sewer service charges for the use and for the service supplied by the municipal sanitary sewer system based upon the amount of water consumed as follows:
 - A. First 1500 gallons or lesser amount per month at \$10.66 (minimum charge).
 - B. All usage over 1500 gallons at \$6.07 per one thousand gallons.
 - C. Buildings which have multiple dwelling and/or commercial units but have only one water meter shall be charged the minimum billing per unit; each building shall receive credit for 1500 gallons per unit. All usage over the credited gallons shall be billed at \$6.07 per one thousand gallons.
4. For each month after the publication and effective date of the ordinance codified herein, each customer shall be charged a Sewer Debt Fee of \$5.00 for the purpose of retiring debt associated with the Wastewater Treatment System.

5. Any user who discharges toxic pollutants which cause an increase in the cost of managing the effluent or the bio-solids from the City's treatment works, or any user which discharges any substance which singly or by interaction with other substances causes identifiable increases in the cost of operation, maintenance, or replacement of the treatment work, shall pay for such increased costs. The charge to each user shall be as determined by the City Clerk
6. The City will review the user charge system at least every two (2) years and revise user charge rates as necessary to ensure that the system generates adequate revenues to pay the costs of operation and maintenance including replacement and that the system continues to provide for the proportional distribution of operation and maintenance including replacement costs among users.

99.03 SPECIAL RATES. Where, in the judgment of the Superintendent and the Council, special conditions exist to the extent that the application of the sewer charges provided in Section 99.02 would be inequitable or unfair to either the City or the customer, a special rate shall be proposed by the Superintendent and submitted to the Council for approval by resolution.

(Code of Iowa, Sec. 384.84)

99.04 USE OF RATE REVENUE. The user charge system shall generate annual revenues to pay costs of annual operation and maintenance, including replacement, and costs associated with debt retirement of bonded capital associated with financing the treatment works which the City may by ordinance designate to be paid by the user charge system. That portion of the total user charge which is designated for operation and maintenance, including replacement of the treatment works, shall be established by this chapter. The portion of the total user charge collected which is designated for operation and maintenance, including replacement, shall be deposited in a separate non-lapsing fund known as the Operation, Maintenance, and Replacement Fund. A fund designated as the Wastewater Treatment Works Replacement Fund is also established, for the specific purpose of ensuring replacement needs over the useful life of the wastewater treatment works. Where sewer revenue bonds of the City are outstanding, the provision of the resolution authorizing the issuance of bonds shall, in the event of conflict, prevail over the provisions of this section.

99.05 PRIVATE WATER SYSTEMS. Customers whose premises are served by a private water system shall pay sewer charges based upon the water used as determined by the City either by an estimate agreed to by the customer or by metering the water system at the customer's expense. Any negotiated, or agreed upon sales or charges shall be subject to approval of the Council.

(Code of Iowa, Sec. 384.84)

99.06 PAYMENT OF BILLS. All sewer service charges are due and payable under the same terms and conditions provided for payment of a combined service account as contained in Section 92.04 of this Code of Ordinances. Sewer service may be discontinued in accordance with the provisions contained in Section 92.05 if the combined service account becomes delinquent, and the provisions contained in Section 92.08 relating to lien notices shall also apply in the event of a delinquent account.

99.07 LIEN FOR NONPAYMENT. The owner of the premises served and any lessee or tenant thereof shall be jointly and severally liable for sewer service charges to the premises. Sewer 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)

99.08 SPECIAL AGREEMENTS PERMITTED. No statement in these chapters shall be construed as preventing a special agreement, arrangement or contract between the Council, and any industrial concern whereby an industrial waste of unusual strength or character may be accepted subject to special conditions, rate and cost as established by the Council.

99.09 DEPOSIT. A deposit intended to guarantee the payment of bills for service shall be provided as specified in Section 92.09.