

CITY OF BATAVIA

DATE: January 11, 2013
TO: Public Utilities Committee
FROM: John Dillon
SUBJECT: ORDINANCE 13-04, AMENDING WATER METER ORDINANCE

The Batavia Water Utility is changing out water meters throughout the City. The meters are being changed in specific areas targeted by geographical location (meter routes) with the oldest meters being replaced first. As meter routes are completed, the City plans to read the targeted meter routes utilizing a drive-by reading system, rather than utilizing meter readers. It is imperative that all meters within the route are changed to the radio read protocol for the drive-by reading system to be successful.

It is also imperative that all meters within the Batavia Water Utility are changed so the monthly utility bills are fair for all of our customers. The new meters are guaranteed to provide fair, accurate meter readings. There is no such guarantee available for a ten (10), twenty (20) or thirty (30) year old water meters. Therefore, to be fair to all of our customers, the City needs to develop a policy to ensure a new meter is installed in all properties during the change-out program. Occasionally there is severe difficulty with communications and entry into certain properties for meter related issues. The code does not adequately address such difficulties.

The City has at least two (2) feasible options.

1. Provide ample notice to the owner of the property that the meter change-out program is being instituted. After such reasonable notices, without any response, or refusal for entry, the City may want to **institute a water shut-off policy**.
2. Provide ample notice to the owner of the property that the meter change-out program is being instituted. After such reasonable notices, without any such response, or refusal to entry, the City may want to **institute a monthly fee** on the water/sewer bill to compensate the City for the costs associated with manually reading the meter, and to recoup any estimated losses through the use of the old water meter.

Recommendation: Staff recommends approval of Ordinance 13-04, to pursue a Code Change requiring a monthly fee to the water & sewer bill for those customers per attached Ordinance.

C. Bill McGrath
Gary Holm
Peggy Colby

CITY OF BATAVIA, ILLINOIS
ORDINANCE 13-04

AMENDING TITLE 8, CHAPTER 2, SECTION 8-2: AND TITLE 8,
CHAPTER 3, SECTION 12 OF THE BATAVIA MUNICIPAL CODE

ADOPTED BY THE
MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL
THIS ____ DAY OF ____ 2013

Published in pamphlet form
by authority of the Mayor
and City Council of the City of Batavia,
Kane & DuPage Counties, Illinois,
This ____ day of _____, 2013

Prepared by:

City of Batavia
100 N. Island Ave.
Batavia, IL 60510

CITY OF BATAVIA, ILLINOIS
ORDINANCE 13-04

AMENDING TITLE 8, CHAPTER 2, SECTION 8-2: AND TITLE 8,
CHAPTER 3, SECTION 12 OF THE BATAVIA MUNICIPAL CODE

WHEREAS, the City of Batavia has reviewed the City Code as it pertains to Water Meters; and

WHEREAS, a determination has been made that certain changes to the City Code as it pertains to Water Meters are necessary and appropriate; and

WHEREAS, it is in the best interests of the City of Batavia to modify the City Code to accommodate the recommended changes as outlined below:

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT HEREBY ORDAINED by the City Council of the City of Batavia, Kane and DuPage Counties, Illinois, as follows:

SECTION 1: That Title 8, Chapter 2, Section 8-2, of the Batavia Municipal Code is hereby amended and revised to provide as follows:

- A. Water meters shall be installed on all water services as required for the particular services. The size of water meter shall be established upon the probable demand load. The demand load shall be based upon the number and kind of fixtures or connections installed and on the probable simultaneous use of these fixtures or connections. The probable demand load tables and plumbing fixture units are published in the Illinois Plumbing Code.
- B. All meters shall be furnished and maintained by the City. The meter will be furnished at the time of application and upon payment of all service charges. Meters shall be installed with shut-off valves at both ends of the meter with a copper wire jumper across the meter with appropriate grounding clamps.
- C. All water meters shall be installed by City personnel. The water meter shall be located in the basement or utility room or an accessible location where meter can be

removed without the removal of any part of the building structure. The meter shall not be installed in the following locations: crawl spaces, under kitchen cabinets or sinks, living rooms, under enclosed stairways, locations where meters are subject to flooding or freezing; coal bins, ventilation shafts, or other undesirable locations as per the Water Utility. No water meters shall be located near any electrical panels or electrical cabinet where there is potential for conflict between the utilities.

- D. The metering facilities shall be installed in such a manner as to be plumb and to insure permanent attachment to a rigid, vibration free wall or structure. Meters shall be installed as near to the entry point of the water service to the building as practical. Meters shall be installed in the horizontal position. Vertical installations shall not be permitted. Meters shall be installed at approximately thirty-six inch (36") height and must be easily accessible. The building shall be plumbed with two (2) ball valves in the water service line, one each side of and adjacent to the water meter location. Both valves shall be easily accessible.
- E. Where metering equipment is installed in multiple-occupancy building, the meters shall be labeled, tagged, or stenciled showing the location of customer served. The metering facilities shall be located at the water entry point to the building and the meters shall be appropriately manifold plumbed. In an effort to conserve water, and use such resource efficiently, individual meters shall be required for each individual tenant occupied living unit.
- F. The City Water/Sewer Utility reserves the right to upgrade, replace, repair, service or read any meter as required. Upon proper notice from the City, property owners shall make an effort to accommodate any such work. Any owner who intentionally, or unintentionally, disregards such notice shall pay a penalty of \$25.00 per month until such work has been completed. Such penalty shall be charged on the monthly utility bill from the City.

That Title 8, Chapter 3, Section 12, and Title 8, Chapter 3, Section 12 of the Batavia Municipal Code is hereby amended and revised to provide as follows:

- 4. Estimates; Determination of Charge:
 - b. The City Water/Sewer Utility reserves the right to upgrade, replace, repair, service or read any meter as required. Upon proper notice from the City, property owners shall make an effort to accommodate any such work. Any owner who intentionally, or unintentionally, disregards such notice shall pay a penalty of \$25.00 per month until such work has been completed. Such penalty shall be charged on the monthly utility bill from the City.

SECTION 2: This Ordinance shall be in full force and effect upon its passage, presentation and approval according to law.

CITY OF BATAVIA, ILLINOIS ORDINANCE 13-04

PRESENTED to and **PASSED** by the City Council of the City of Batavia, Illinois, this ____ day of _____, 2013.

APPROVED by me as Mayor of said City of Batavia, Illinois, this ____ day of _____, 2013.

Jeffery D. Schielke, Mayor

Ward	Aldermen	Ayes	Nays	Absent	Abstain	Aldermen	Ayes	Nays	Absent	Abstain
1	O'Brien					Sparks				
2	Dietz					Wolff				
3	Jungels					Chanzit				
4	Volk					Stark				
5	Frydendall					Thelin Atac				
6	Liva					Clark				
7	Tenuta					Brown				
Mayor Schielke										
VOTE:		0 Ayes	0 Nays	0 Absent	0 Abstentions					
Total holding office: Mayor and 14 aldermen										

ATTEST:

Heidi Wetzal, City Clerk

8-2-8-2: WATER METERS:

A. Water meters shall be installed on all water services as required for the particular services. The size of water meter shall be established upon the probable demand load. The demand load shall be based upon the number and kind of fixtures or connections installed and on the probable simultaneous use of these fixtures or connections. ~~The building shall be plumbed with two (2) gate or ball valves in the water service line, one each side of and adjacent to the water meter location. Both valves shall be easily accessible.~~ The probable demand load tables and plumbing fixture units are published in the Illinois Plumbing Code.

<u>Probable Demand Load</u> G.P.M.—		<u>Fixture Units Installed Totals—</u>		<u>Size Of Meter</u> Minimum—
-	-	-	-	-
20	-	0 to	20	5/8-Inch
30	-	15 to	30	3/4-Inch
50	-	20 to	60	1-Inch
75	-	60 to	180	1 1/2-Inch
150	-	180 to	500	2-Inch
200	-	500 to	900	3-Inch
300	-	900 to	1,500	4-Inch
500	-	By Approval of City		6-Inch

B. All meters shall be furnished and maintained by the City. ~~All meters furnished by the City will include a remote reading head.~~ The meter will be furnished at the time of application and upon payment of all service charges. Meters shall be installed with shut-off valves at both ends of the meter ~~with a copper wire jumper across the meter with appropriate grounding clamps.~~

C. ~~All W~~water meters ~~and remote reading head~~ shall be installed by City personnel. The water meter shall be located in the basement or utility room or an accessible location where meter can be removed without the removal of any part of the building structure. The meter shall not be installed in the following locations: crawl spaces, under kitchen cabinets or sinks, living rooms, under enclosed stairways, locations where meters are subject to flooding or freezing; coal bins, ventilation shafts, ~~or other undesirable locations as per the Water Utility. No water meters shall be located near any and electrical panels or electrical cabinets where there is potential for conflict between the utilities. The location of the meter shall be not more than twenty five feet (25') from the exterior remote reading head. The remote reading head shall be installed on the outside of the building in a location so that said meter can be read without obstruction or entering the building or enclosure.~~

- D. The metering facilities shall be installed in such a manner as to be plumb and to insure permanent attachment to a rigid, vibration free wall or structure. Meters shall be installed as near to the entry point of the water service to the building as practical. Meters shall be installed in the horizontal position. Vertical installations shall not be permitted. Meters shall be installed at approximately thirty-six inch (36") height and must be easily accessible. The building shall be plumbed with two (2) ball valves in the water service line, one each side of and adjacent to the water meter location. Both valves shall be easily accessible.
- E. Where metering equipment is installed in multiple-occupancy building, the meters and reading heads shall be labeled, tagged, or stenciled showing the location of customer served. The metering facilities shall be located at the water entry point to the building and the meters shall be appropriately manifold plumbed. In an effort to conserve water, and use such resource efficiently, individual meters shall be required for each individual tenant occupied living unit.
- ~~F. For all customers who remodel and are not presently served by a remote meter head, improve or change any structure or building for which a building permit is required, the remote reading head furnished by the City shall be installed by the City personnel. (Ord. 85-20, 9-3-1985)~~
- F. The City Water/Sewer Utility reserves the right to upgrade, replace, repair, service or read any meter as required. Upon proper notice from the City, property owners shall make an effort to accommodate any such work. Any owner who intentionally, or unintentionally, disregards such notice shall pay a penalty of \$25.00 per month until such work has been completed. Such penalty shall be charged on the monthly utility bill from the City.