

CHAPTER XV. UTILITIES

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ARTICLE 1. GENERAL PROVISIONS

- 15-101. DEFINITION. For purposes of this article utility services shall include water, sewer, solid waste (refuse) and other utility services provided by the city. (Code 2013)
- 15-102. DELINQUENT ACCOUNTS. Unless otherwise provided, water, sewer, solid waste (refuse) or other utility service shall be terminated for nonpayment of service fees or charges in accordance with sections 15-103:104. (Code 2013)
- 15-103. NOTICE; HEARING. (a) If a utility bill has not been paid on or before the due date as provided in this chapter, a delinquency and termination notice shall be issued by the city clerk within five days after the delinquency occurs and mailed to the customer at his or her last known address. A copy also shall be mailed to the occupant of the premises if the occupant and the customer are not the same person.
- (b) The notice shall state:
- (1) The amount due, plus delinquency charge;
 - (2) Notice that service will be terminated if the amount due is not paid within 10 days from the date of the notice unless the date on the notice to pay the charges due shall be on a Saturday, Sunday or legal holiday, in which event such notice will give the consumer until the close of the next business day in which to pay the charges;
 - (3) Notice that the customer has the right to a hearing before the designated hearing officer;
 - (4) Notice that the request for a hearing must be in writing and filed with the city clerk no later than three days prior to the date for termination of service.
- (c) Upon receipt of a request for hearing, the city clerk shall advise the customer of the date, time and place of the hearing which shall be held within three working days following receipt of the request. (Code 2013)
- 15-104. SAME; FINDING. Following the hearing, if the hearing officer shall find that service should not be terminated, then notice of such finding shall be presented to the city clerk. If the officer finds that service should be terminated, an order shall be issued terminating service five days after the date of the order. The customer

shall be notified either in person or by mailing a letter to his or her last known address by certified mail, return receipt requested. However, if the order is made at the hearing in the presence of the customer, then no further notice need be given. The hearing officer has a right, for good cause, to grant an extension, not to exceed 10 days, for the termination of such service. (Code 2013)

15-105. UTILITY DEPOSIT. (a) Each new customer making application for utility service shall make a cash deposit to the city to serve as a guaranty for the payment of service thereafter furnished to the customer's premises.

(b) The deposit(s) required by subsection (a) shall not exceed an amount equal to the expected average bill for a three month period for such utility service(s). At its discretion, the city may require a single utility deposit to be paid by the property owner or customer. If a single deposit is requested, the total amount of the deposit shall not exceed an amount equal to the expected average bills for a three month period for all such utility services provided by the city.

(c) In the event that utility service shall be disconnected or discontinued for failure to pay any bill due the city for such utility, such cash deposit shall be applied as a credit against all amount due from the customer to the city, and if there shall remain any surplus of such deposit, the same shall be returned to the customer.

(d) Deposits collected pursuant to this ordinance shall be governed by the provisions of K.S.A. 12-822 as amended. (Code 2013)

15-106. DELINQUENT ACCOUNTS; REFUSAL OF SERVICE; TERMINATION OF SERVICE; LIEN AGAINST PROPERTY. (a) In the event that any person, except the United States or the state of Kansas, shall fail to pay the fees or charges for such utility services(s), utility service shall be terminated as provided in sections 15-102:104. The governing body may refuse the delivery of utility service(s), as permitted by law, until such time as the fees and charges are paid in full.

(b) In the event that any person, except the United States or the state of Kansas, residing, occupying, using or operating on property to which utility service(s) furnished by the city is not paid, the unpaid fees or charges shall constitute a lien upon the property to which the utilities are furnished. The amount of the unpaid fees or charges shall be certified by the governing body to the county clerk of the county in which the property is located, to be placed upon the tax roll for collection, subject to the same penalties and collected in the same manner as other taxes are collected by law.

(c) The lien, described in subsection (b) of this section, shall not attach to property for unpaid utility fees or charges when the utility service(s) have been contracted for by a tenant and not by the landlord or owner of the property to which the utility service is provided.

(d) If at the time of application for utility service the applicant has an outstanding balance or unpaid fees or charges for utility services provided by the city, the application shall not be accepted until all fees or charges are paid in full.

(e) If utility service is furnished to leased premises on the application and request of the lessor of the premises, then all billings for utilities furnished to such leased premises shall be made directly to the lessor, and the lessor shall be fully liable for the cost of service furnished. (Code 2013)

- 15-107. LANDLORD LIABILITY. (a) Owners of premises served by utility service under this article shall be liable for payment of the costs of any utility service account delinquency arising from service provides to such premises, regardless of whether the utility service was furnished upon the application and request of the owner or lessee of the premises. This provision shall also apply when the premises are leased by or through an agent or other representative of the owner.
- (b) In the event that a delinquency arises involving leased premises, in addition to the tenant, the owner or owner's agent shall be notified in writing of the delinquency of the lessee by first class regular mail within 10 days after the billing to the lessee becomes delinquent. Notice shall be sufficient if mailed to the last known address of the owner or owner's agent known to city personnel responsible for said mailing, after reasonable inquiry.
- (c) If utility service is furnished to a leased premises on the application or request of the lessor of the premises, then all billings for utilities furnished to such leased premises shall be made directly to the lessor, and the lessor shall be fully liable for the cost of service finished.
- (d) The city may collect the amount of the unpaid bill for utility services by any lawful means. Provided, however, that in no event may the city place a lien, as provided in subsection (b) of 15-106, on real estate of the lessor.
(Code 2013)
- 15-108. PETTY CASH FUND. A petty cash fund in the amount of \$100 is established for the use of the city utilities department, for the purpose of paying postage, freight, temporary labor, and other emergency expenses, including refund of deposits made to secure payment of accounts. (Code 2013)
- 15-109. SAME; DEPOSITS. The petty cash fund shall be deposited in the regular depository bank of the city and paid out on the order of the city clerk by check which shall state clearly the purpose for which issued. (Code 2013)
- 15-110. SAME; VOUCHERS. Whenever the petty cash fund becomes low or depleted, the city clerk shall prepare vouchers covering expenses as have been paid from the petty cash fund and shall submit such vouchers together with the paid checks to the governing body for review and allowance of the amounts from the regular funds of the utilities. Warrants issued therefor shall be payable to the petty cash fund and shall be deposited therein to restore said petty cash fund to its original amount.
(Code 2013)

ARTICLE 2. WATER

- 15-201. SUPERINTENDENT OF WATER AND SEWAGE. The general management, care, control and supervision of the city water system shall be in the superintendent of water and sewage, who shall be appointed by the mayor with the consent of the governing body. (Code 2013)
- 15-202. REGULATIONS. The furnishing of water to customers by the city through its waterworks system shall be governed by the regulations set out in this article. (Code 2013)
- 15-203. SERVICE NOT GUARANTEED. The city does not guarantee the delivery of water through any of its mains and connecting services at any time except only when its mains, pumping machinery, power service connection are in good working order, and the supply of water is sufficient for the usual demand of its consumers. (Code 2013)
- 15-204. SERVICE CONNECTIONS REQUIRED. (a) The owner of all houses, buildings, or properties used for human occupancy, employment, recreation, or other purpose, situated within the city abutting on any street, alley, or right-of-way in which there is now located or may in the future be located near public water mains, is hereby required at his or her own expense to make connection to such public water main.
(b) Before any connection is made to the city's water system an application must be made in writing to the city clerk by the owner of the premises, or his or her authorized representative, for a permit to make such connection. (Code 2013)
- 15-205. APPLICATION FOR SERVICE. (a) Any person, firm or corporation desiring a connection with the municipal water system shall apply in writing to the city clerk, on a form furnished by the city for that purpose, for a permit to make the connection.
(b) The application shall:
(1) Contain an exact description including street address of the property to be served;
(2) State the size of tap required;
(3) State the size and kind of service pipe to be used;
(4) State the full name of the owner of the premises to be served;
(5) State the purpose for which the water is to be used;
(6) State any other pertinent information required by the city clerk;
(7) Be signed by the owner or occupant of the premises to be served, or his or her authorized agent.
(c) Each application for a connection permit shall be accompanied by payment of fees and/or costs specified in section 15-207. (Code 2013)
- 15-206. CITY TO MAKE CONNECTIONS. All taps shall be given, street excavations made, corporation cocks inserted, pipes installed from main to curb, and the curb

cock installed in a meter box to which the service pipe is to be connected only by city employees. (Code 2013)

15-207. CONNECTION FEES. The fees for connection to the city waterworks system shall be as follows:

(a) For connecting water main with three-fourths inch tap, three-fourths inch service line and installing three-fourths inch meter - \$_____ plus tax;

(b) For connecting water main with larger than a three-fourths inch tap, service line or meter - \$_____ plus tax.

(Code 2013)

15-208. CURB COCKS. There shall be a curb cock in every service line attached to the city main, the same to be placed within the meter box. Curb cocks shall be supplied with strong and suitable "T" handles. (Code 2013)

15-209. CHECK VALVES. Check valves are required on all connections to steam boilers or on any other connection deemed necessary by the water superintendent. Safety and relief valves shall be placed on all boilers or other steam apparatus connected with the water system where the steam pressure may be raised in excess of 40 pounds per square inch. (Code 2013)

15-210. UNAUTHORIZED SERVICE. It shall be unlawful for any person, firm, or corporation, other than duly authorized city officials or employees to turn water on or off at the water meter or curb cock shut off, with a key or in any other manner, without first obtaining written permission from the mayor or the governing body. (Code 2013)

15-211. METERS. (a) All water furnished to customers shall be metered.

(b) Meters shall be located between the sidewalk or property line and curbing when the main is in the street, and on private property within three feet of the alley line when the main is in the alley. In the business district the meters may be installed in the basement at a location specified by the city.

(c) The city's responsibility stops at the property line.

(Code 2013)

15-212. SAME; TESTING. Meters shall be tested before being set and at any other time thereafter when they appear to be measuring incorrectly. If a test is requested by the customer and the meter is found to be accurate within two percent, the meter will be deemed correct and a charge of \$10.00 will be made to the customer. (Code 2013)

15-213. TAMPERING WITH METER. It shall be unlawful for any person to break the seal of any meter, to alter the register or mechanism of any meter, or to make any outlet or connection in any manner so that water supplied by the city may be used or wasted without being metered. It shall be unlawful for any person except an authorized employee of the water department to turn any curb cock on or off. (Code 2013)

- 15-214. LEAKS PROHIBITED; PENALTY. No allowances shall be made for water used or lost through leaks, carelessness, neglect or otherwise after the same has pass through the meter. However, every customer shall have the right to appeal to the city from water bill or meter reading which he or she may consider excessive. (Code 2013)
- 15-215. DISCONNECTION, RECONNECTION CHARGE. The governing body shall establish, by ordinance, a water service disconnection and reconnection charge. Whenever the city receives a request from a customer for termination of water service the disconnection charge shall be added to the customer's final bill. Any service disconnected for nonpayment of delinquent bill shall be reconnected only upon payment of the delinquent bill, interest penalty thereon, and the reconnection charge. (Code 2013)
- 15-216. UTILITY DEPOSIT. At the time of making application for water service, the property owner or customer shall make a cash deposit in the amount and manner specified in section 15-105 to secure payment of accrued bills or bills due on discontinuance of service. (Code 2013)
- 15-217. INTERRUPT SERVICE. The city reserves the right to interrupt water service for the purpose of making repairs or extensions to water lines or equipment. (Code 2013)
- 15-218. PROHIBITED ACTS. It shall be a violation of this article for any unauthorized person to:
- (a) Perform any work upon the pipes or appurtenances of the city's waterworks system beyond a private property line unless such person is employed by the city;
 - (b) Make any connections with any extension of the supply pipes of any consumer without written permission to do so having been first obtained from the governing body;
 - (c) Remove, handle or otherwise molest or disturb any meter, meter lid, cutoff, or any other appurtenances to the water system of the city.
- (Code 2013)
- 15-219. WASTING WATER. Water users shall prevent unnecessary waste of water and shall keep sprinklers, hydrants, faucets and all apparatus, including the service line leading from the property to the meter in good condition at their expense. (Code 2013)
- 15-220. RIGHT OF ACCESS. Authorized employees of the city may enter upon any premises at reasonable hours for the purpose of reading the meter or servicing or inspecting meters or water lines. (Code 2013)
- 15-221. RATES. The rates per month for the use of water in the city shall be set by resolution. (Code 2013)
- 15-222. PAYMENT OF BILLS. All water bills for the previous month's water service shall be paid on or before the 14th day of the month following the service. For any

billing not paid when due a late charge of 10 percent will be added to the bill. (Ord. 2002-1; Code 2013)

- 15-223. DELINQUENT ACCOUNTS; NOTICE; HEARING; FINDING; LIABILITY. Water service shall be terminated for nonpayment of service fees or charges as provided in sections 15-102:104. (Code 2013)
- 15-224. USE DURING FIRE. No person owning or occupying premises connected to the municipal water system shall use or allow to be used during a fire any water from the water system except for the purpose of extinguishing the fire. Upon the sounding of a fire alarm it shall be the duty of every such person to see that all water services are tightly closed and that no water is used except in extraordinary cases of emergency during the fire. (Code 2013)
- 15-225. CROSS-CONNECTIONS PROHIBITED. No person shall establish or permit to be established or maintain or permit to be maintained, any cross connection whereby a private, auxiliary, or emergency water supply other than the regular public water supply of the city may enter the supply and distributing system of the city unless specifically approved by the Kansas Department of Health and Environment and the governing body. (Code 2013)
- 15-226. SAME; PROTECTIVE BACKFLOW DEVICES REQUIRED. Approved devices to protect against backflow or backsiphonage shall be installed at all fixtures and equipment where backflow and/or backsiphonage may occur and where there is a hazard to the potable water supply in that polluted water or other contaminating materials may enter into the public water supply. Any situation in which a heavy withdrawal of water, such as a sudden break in the main or water being used from a fire hydrant, may cause a negative pressure to develop which could lead to backsiphonage of polluted water into the system shall be improper and must be protected by approved backflow preventive valves and systems as determined by the superintendent. (Code 2013)
- 15-227. SAME; INSPECTION. The city utility superintendent or other designee of the governing body shall have the right of entry into any building or premises in the city as frequently as necessary in his or her judgment in order to ensure that plumbing has been installed in accordance with the laws of the city so as to prevent the possibility of pollution of the water supply of the city. (Code 2013)
- 15-228. SAME; PROTECTION FROM CONTAMINANTS. Pursuant to the city's constitutional home rule authority and K.S.A. 65-163a, the city by its utility superintendent may refuse to deliver water through pipes and mains to any premises where a condition exists which might lead to the contamination of the public water supply system and it may continue to refuse the delivery of water to the premises until that condition is remedied. In addition, the city utility superintendent may terminate water service to any property where the cross connections or backsiphonage condition creates, in the judgment of the superintendent, an emergency danger of contamination to the public water supply. (Code 2013)

ARTICLE 3. RESERVED

ARTICLE 4. SEWERS

15-401. DEFINITIONS. Unless the context clearly indicates otherwise, the meaning of words and terms as used in this article shall be as follows:

(a) Building Drain - shall mean that part of the lowest horizontal piping of a drainage system which receives the discharge from soil, waste, and other drainage pipes inside the walls of the building and conveys it to the building sewer, beginning five feet outside the inner-face of the building wall.

(b) Building Sewer - shall mean the extension from the building drain to the public sewer or other place of disposal.

(c) B.O.D. (denoting Biochemical Oxygen Demand) - shall mean the quantity of oxygen utilized in the biochemical oxidation of organic matter under standard laboratory procedure in five days at 20 degrees centigrade, expressed in parts per million by weight.

(d) PH - shall mean the logarithm of the reciprocal of the weight of hydrogen ions in grams per liter of solution.

(e) Individual Domestic - means any single family residence, commercial business, office, institution, school, church or public entity having an individual direct or indirect connection to the wastewater facilities of the city and on individual city or private water service meter, or connection to any such water service.

(f) Industrial - means any industrial business engaged in the manufacturing or processing of one or more products, and in which wastewaters are produced from such manufacturing or processing and said wastewaters are discharged directly or indirectly to the wastewater facilities of the city.

(g) Multi-domestic - means any multi-family residence, apartment or mobile home and any commercial business, office, institution, school, church or public entity having a direct or indirect connection to the wastewater facilities of the city and not having an individual water service meter but is served with city or private metered water by the owner of the property on which it is located.

(h) Superintendent - shall mean the superintendent of the city or his or her authorized deputy, agent or representative.

(i) Sewage - shall mean a combination of the water-carried wastes from residences, business buildings, institutions and industrial establishments, together with such ground, surface, and storm waters as may be present.

(j) Sewer - shall mean a pipe or conduit for carrying sewage.

(k) Public Sewer - shall mean a sewer in which all owners of abutting properties have equal rights, and is controlled by public authority.

(l) Combined Sewers - shall mean sewers receiving both surface runoff and sewage, are not permitted.

(m) Sanitary Sewer - shall mean a sewer which carries sewage and to which storm, surface, and ground waters are not intentionally admitted.

(n) Storm Sewer or Storm Drain - shall mean a sewer which carries storm and surface waters and drainage, but excludes sewage and polluted industrial wastes.

(o) Sewage Treatment Plant - shall mean any arrangement of devices and structures used for treating sewage.

(p) Suspended Solids - shall mean solids that either float on the surface of, or are in suspension in water, sewage, or other liquids, and which are removable by laboratory filtering.

(q) User - means any person as defined in section 1-102, including an institution, governmental agency or political subdivision producing wastewater requiring processing and treatment to remove pollutants and having premises connected to the wastewater facilities.

(r) Wastewater - means sewage, the combination of liquids and water carried wastes from residences, commercial and industrial buildings, institutions, governmental agencies, together with any ground, surface or storm water that may be present.

(s) Normal wastewater. - The strength of normal wastewater shall be considered within the following ranges:

(1) A five day biochemical oxygen demand of 300 milligrams per liter or less;

(2) A suspended solid concentration of 350 milligrams or less;

(3) Hydrogen ion concentration of 5.0 to 9.0.

(Code 2013)

15-402. SEWER CONNECTION REQUIRED. The owner of all houses, buildings, or properties used for human occupancy, employment, recreation, or other purpose, situated within the city and abutting on any street, alley, or right- of-way in which there is now located or may in the future be located a public sanitary sewer of the city, is hereby required at his or her expense to install suitable toilet facilities therein, and to connect such facilities directly with the proper public sewer in accordance with the provisions of this article, within 90 days after date of official notice to do so, provided that said public sewer is within 140 feet of the property line. (Code 2013)

15-403. PERMIT; CONNECTION FEE. (a) No person shall uncover, make any connections with or opening into, use, alter, or disturb any public sewer or appurtenance thereof without first obtaining a written permit from the city.

(b) There shall be charged a fee of \$_____ payable at the time of making application for the permit.

(Code 2013)

15-404. APPLICATION. Any person desiring to make a connection to the city sewer system shall apply in writing to the city clerk who shall forward the application to the utility superintendent. The application shall contain:

(a) The legal description of the property to be connected;

(b) The name and address of the owner or owners of the property;

(c) The kind of property to be connected (residential, commercial or industrial);

(d) The point of proposed connection to the city sewer line.

(Code 2013)

15-405. COSTS. All costs and expense incident to the installation and connection of the building sewer shall be paid by the owner. The owner shall indemnify the city

from any loss or damage that may directly or indirectly be occasioned by the installation of the building sewer. (Code 2013)

15-406. SEWER CONNECTION. The connection of the building sewer into the public sewer shall be made at the "Y" branch if such branch is available at a suitable location. Where no properly located "Y" branch is available, the connection shall be made in the manner approved by the utility superintendent and at a location designated by the superintendent. (Code 2013)

15-407. SEWER FOR EACH BUILDING. A separate and independent building sewer shall be provided for every building except where one building stands at the rear of another on an interior lot and no private sewer is available or can be feasibly constructed to the rear building. In such case, the building sewer from the front building may be extended to the rear building and the whole considered as one building sewer. (Code 2013)

15-408(1) SAME; SPECIFICATIONS. The building sewer shall be constructed of cast iron pipe, ASTM specifications A74-42, or approved equal; vitrified clay sewer pipe, ASTM specifications C13-44T, or approved equal; or an approved plastic pipe. Any plastic pipe to be installed on any building sewer shall not be approved by the city until the owner has furnished descriptive literature and typical sample section of the plastic pipe proposed for installation, to the city for inspection and review. All joints on all pipe installed shall be tight and waterproof. Any part of the building sewer that is located within 10 feet of a water service pipe or city water main shall be constructed of approved cast iron soil pipe with approved joints. No building sewer shall be installed within three feet of existing gas lines. If installed in filled or unstable ground, the building sewer shall be constructed of cast iron soil pipe, except that non-metallic material may be accepted if laid on a suitable concrete bed or cradle as approved by the city. (Code 2013)

15-408(2) SAME. The size and slope of the building sewer to be installed shall be subject to the approval of the city inspector, but in no event shall the diameter of the pipe be less than four inches. The slope at which a six inch pipe is to be laid shall be not less than 1/8 inch per foot and for four inch pipe, not less than 1/4 inch per foot. Any grades for the pipe, which are proposed for installation at grades less than these specified, shall be approved by the city inspector prior to placement.
(Code 2013)

15-408(3) SAME. Whenever possible the building sewer shall be brought to the building at an elevation below the basement floor. No building sewer shall be laid parallel to or within three feet of any bearing wall, which might thereby be weakened. The depth shall be sufficient to afford protection from frost. The building sewer shall be laid at a uniform grade and in straight alignment insofar as possible. Changes in direction shall be made only with approved curved pipe and fittings, including cleanout fittings. (Code 2013)

15-408(4) SAME. At buildings in which the building drain is too low to permit gravity flow to the public sewer, sanitary sewage carried by such drain shall be lifted by

approved artificial means and discharged to the building sewer. The use of any pumping equipment for which cross-connections with a public water supply system are needed, is prohibited. The total costs of pumping equipment and pumping equipment operational costs shall be those of the owner. (Code 2013)

15-408(5) SAME. No building sewer shall be laid across a cesspool, septic tank or vault until the cesspool, septic tank or vault has been well cleaned and filled with an approved earth or sand fill, then thoroughly tamped and water settled. Cast iron pipe may be used across cesspools or septic tanks, if proper bedding and support for the sewer pipe is acquired. (Code 2013)

15-408(6) SAME. All excavation required for the installation of the building sewer shall be open trench work unless otherwise approved by the city. Pipe laying and backfill shall be performed in accordance with ASTM specifications C12-19, except that no backfill shall be placed until the work has been inspected and approved. (Code 2013)

15-408(7) SAME. All joints in the building sewers shall be made watertight. If recommended by the city inspector, a water pressure test shall be made on the completed sewer to insure a compliance with this requirement, requiring that the building sewer withstand an internal water pressure of 5 psi., without leakage.

Cast iron pipe with lead joints shall be firmly packed with oakum or hemp and filled with molten lead, Federal Specifications QQ-L-156, not less than one inch deep. Lead shall be run in one pour and caulked and packed tight. No paint, varnish or other coatings shall be permitted on the jointing material until after the joint has been tested and approved.

All joints in vitrified clay pipe shall be the polyurethane-compression type joints, approved by the city inspector.

Joints for all plastic pipe used in building sewers shall be the slip type joints or solvent weld type, approved by the city.

Joints between any two different type of pipes shall be made with lead, asphaltic jointing materials or concrete, as approved by the city. All joints shall be watertight and constructed to insure minimum root penetration and to the satisfaction of the city.

(Code 2013)

15-409. SEWER EXCAVATIONS: DAMAGES. All excavations for buildings sewers shall be adequately guarded with barricades and lights so as to protect the public from hazard. Streets, curb and gutters, sidewalks, parkways and other public property removed or damaged during the installation of the building sewer, shall be repaired or replaced in a manner acceptable to the city and at the total expense of the owner. It is further agreed that any parties involved in any excavating or installation work for sewer installations as above set out, will hold the city harmless from any and all damages to persons or property resulting from or growing out of any opening or excavation or any negligent act or from any operation made within the city. (Code 2013)

15-410. FAILURE TO CONNECT. (a) If any person as defined in section 1-102 shall fail to connect any dwelling or building with the sewer system after being noticed,

the city may cause such buildings to be connected with the sewer system as authorized by K.S.A. 12-631.

(b) The cost and expense, including inspection fees, shall be assessed against the property. Until such assessments shall have been collected and paid to the city, the cost of making such connection may be paid from the general fund or through the issuance of no fund warrants.
(Code 2013)

15-411. PRIVY UNLAWFUL. It shall be unlawful to construct or maintain any privy, privy vault, septic tank, cesspool, or other facility intended or used for the disposal of sewage except as provided in this article. (Code 2013)

15-412. PRIVATE SEWER SYSTEM. Where a public sanitary sewer is not available under the provisions of section 15-402 the building sewer shall be connected to a private sewage disposal system complying with the provisions of sections 15-411 to 15-416. (Code 2013)

15-413. SAME; PERMIT. Before commencing construction of a private sewage disposal system, the owner shall first obtain a written permit signed by the utility superintendent. The application shall be accompanied by any plans, specifications or other information deemed necessary by the utility superintendent. A permit and inspection fee of \$_____ shall be paid to the city at the time the application is filed.
(Code 2013)

15-414. SAME; INSPECTION. The utility superintendent or his or her authorized representative shall be allowed to inspect the work at any stage of construction and the applicant shall notify the superintendent when the work is ready for final inspection or before any underground portions are covered. The inspection shall be made within 48 hours of the receipt of notice by the superintendent.
(Code 2013)

15-415. SAME; DISCHARGE. (a) The type, capacities, location, and layout of the private sewage disposal system shall comply with all recommendations and requirements of the Water Pollution Control Section of the Kansas State Department of Health. No permit shall be issued for any private sewage disposal system employing subsurface soil absorption facilities where the area of the lot is less than one acre. No septic tank or cesspool shall be permitted to discharge to any public sewer or natural outlet.

(b) At such time as a public sewer becomes available to a property served by a private sewage disposal system, as provided in section 15-402, a direct connection shall be made to the public sewer in compliance with this article, and any septic tank, cesspool, and similar private sewage disposal facilities shall be abandoned and filled with suitable and acceptable materials.
(Code 2013)

15-416. SAME; ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS. No statement contained in this article shall be construed to interfere with any additional requirements that may be imposed by the city or county health officer. (Code 2013)

- 15-417. DISPOSAL OF SEWAGE. It shall be unlawful for any person to deposit or discharge from any source whatsoever any sewage or human excrement upon any public or private grounds within the city, or to permit the contents of any privy, vault or septic tank to be deposited or discharged upon the surface of any grounds. Any unauthorized or unapproved privy vault, septic tank or other means or places for the disposal of sewage, excrement and polluted water may be abated as a public nuisance upon the order of the city or county board of health in accordance with the laws of Kansas. (K.S.A. 12-1617e; 12-1617g; Code 2013)
- 15-418. DAMAGE TO SEWERS. It shall be unlawful for any unauthorized person to maliciously, willfully, or negligently break, damage, destroy, uncover, deface or tamper with any sewer, structure, appurtenance, or equipment which is part of the municipal sewer system. (Code 2013)
- 15-419. NATURAL OUTLET. It shall be unlawful to discharge to any natural outlet within the city or in any area under the jurisdiction of the city any sanitary sewage, industrial wastes or other polluted waters except where suitable treatment has been provided in accordance with the provisions of this article. (Code 2013)
- 15-420. STANDARDS. The size, slope, alignment, materials, excavation, placing of pipe, jointing, testing and backfilling shall all conform to the requirements of the building and plumbing codes or other applicable rules and regulations of the city. (Code 2013)
- 15-421. OLD BUILDING SEWERS. Old building sewers may be used in connection with new buildings only when they are found, on examination and test by the utility superintendent, to meet all requirements of this article. (Code 2013)
- 15-422. MUD, GREASE TRAPS. All garages, filling stations, milk plants or other commercial or industrial plants connected to the public sewer shall construct and maintain proper and sufficient interceptors or traps to prevent the discharge of any sand, mud, sediment, litter, waste or any substance harmful to the effective operation and maintenance of the city sewer system, into the building sewer. (Code 2013)
- 15-423. ROOF, FOUNDATION DRAINS. (a) It shall be unlawful to connect downspouts from any roof area, drains from any building foundation, paved areas, yards or open courts, or to discharge liquid wastes from any air conditioning unit or cooling device having a capacity in excess of one ton per hour or one horsepower into any city sanitary sewer.
 (b) All discharges prohibited in subsection (a) may be discharged into the public gutter or storm drains or open drainage ditches provided such discharge does not create a nuisance. No such liquids may be discharged into any unpaved street or alley.
(Code 2013)
- 15-424. SAME; EXCEPTION. Discharges from air conditioning units in excess of one ton per hour or one horsepower may be permitted into a building sewer upon approval of the utility superintendent where there is a finding that such cooling

water cannot be recirculated and that such waste water does not overload the capacity of the sewer or interfere with the effective operation of the sewage disposal works of the city. (Code 2013)

15-425. PROHIBITED DISCHARGES. No person shall discharge any of the following waters or wastes to any public sewer:

(a) Liquid or vapor having a temperature higher than 150 degrees Fahrenheit;

(b) Water or waste which may contain more than 100 parts per million, by weight, of fat, oil or grease;

(c) Gasoline, benzene, naphtha, fuel oil, or other flammable or explosive liquid, solid or gas;

(d) Garbage that has not been properly shredded;

(e) Ashes, cinders, sand, mud, straw, shavings, metal, glass, rags, feathers, tar, plastics, wood, paunch manure, or any other solid or viscous substance capable of causing obstruction to the flow in sewers or other interference with the proper operation of the sewage works;

(f) Waters or wastes having a ph lower than 5.5 or higher than 9.0 or having any other corrosive property capable of causing damage or hazard to structures, equipment and personnel of the sewage works;

(g) Waters or wastes containing a toxic poisonous substance in sufficient quantity to injure or interfere with any sewage treatment process, constitute a hazard to humans or animals, or create any hazard in the receiving waters of the sewage treatment plant;

(h) Water or wastes containing suspended solids of such character and quantity that unusual attention or expense is required to handle such materials at the sewage treatment plant;

(i) Noxious or malodorous gas or substance capable of creating a public nuisance. (Code 2013)

15-426. BILLS. (a) Bills shall be rendered monthly as provided in section 15-_____ and shall be collected as a combined utility bill.

(b) Any person at the time of beginning or terminating service who receives service for a period of less than 17 consecutive days shall be billed at no less than one-half of the regular minimum monthly rate. For service of 17 consecutive days or more the charge shall be not less than full regular minimum monthly rate.

(Code 2013)

15-427. DELINQUENT ACCOUNTS; LIEN AGAINST PROPERTY; OTHER REMEDIES.

(a) In the event any person, except the United States and the state of Kansas, shall fail to pay the user charges when due, water service shall be terminated as provided in sections 15:102:104.

(b) All other remedies regarding delinquent accounts, and exceptions thereto, contained in section 15-106 shall apply to sewer service fees, charges and services. (Code 2013)

15-428. SEWER SERVICE CHARGE. The monthly charge for sewer service shall be set by resolution. (Code 2013)

ARTICLE 5. SOLID WASTE

- 15-501. DEFINITIONS. Unless the context clearly indicates otherwise, the meaning of words and terms as used in this article shall be as follows:
- (a) Commercial Waste. - All refuse emanating from establishments engaged in business including, but not limited to stores, markets, office buildings, restaurants, shopping centers, theaters, hospitals, governments and nursing homes.
 - (b) Dwelling Unit. - Any enclosure, building or portion thereof occupied by one or more persons for and as living quarters;
 - (c) Garbage. - Waste resulting from the handling, processing, storage, packaging, preparation, sale, cooking and serving of meat, produce and other foods and shall include unclean containers;
 - (d) Multi-Family Unit. - Any structure containing more than four individual dwelling units;
 - (e) Refuse. - All garbage and/or rubbish or trash;
 - (f) Residential. - Any structure containing four or less individual dwelling units, rooming houses having no more than four persons in addition to the family of the owner or operator, and mobile homes;
 - (g) Rubbish or Trash. - All non-putrescible materials such as paper, tin cans, bottles, glass, crockery, rags, ashes, lawn and tree trimmings, stumps, boxes, wood, street sweepings and mineral refuse. Rubbish or trash shall not include earth and waste from building operations or wastes from industrial processes or manufacturing operations;
 - (h) Single Dwelling Unit. - An enclosure, building or portion thereof occupied by one family as living quarters.
 - (i) Solid Waste. - All non-liquid garbage, rubbish or trash.
- (Code 2013)
- 15-502. COLLECTION. All solid waste accumulated within the city shall be collected, conveyed and disposed of by the city or by contractors specifically authorized to collect and dispose of solid waste. (Ord. 234; Code 2013)
- 15-503. CONTRACTS. The city shall have the right to enter into a contract with any responsible person for collection and disposal of solid waste. (Code 2013)
- 15-504. DUTY OF OWNER, OCCUPANT. The owner or occupant of every dwelling unit or commercial enterprise shall provide at his or her own expense a suitable container for the storage of solid waste as provided in this article. No owner or occupant shall permit to accumulate quantities of refuse or other waste materials within or close to any structure within the city unless the same is stored in approved containers and in such a manner as not to create a health or fire hazard. (Ord. 234; Code 2013)
- 15-505. CONTAINERS. Each container shall have a tight fitting lid and shall be leak-proof and fly-tight. All containers shall have handles of suitable construction to permit lifting. Plastic bags manufactured for garbage and refuse disposal may be substituted for residential containers. Plastic bags, when used, shall be securely

closed. All garbage shall be drained of all liquids before being placed in bags or containers. (Code 2013)

15-506. BULK CONTAINERS. On premises where excessive amounts of refuse accumulate or where cans or bags are impractical bulk containers for the storage of refuse may be used. Containers shall have a capacity and shall be equipped with appurtenances for attaching mechanical lifting devices which are compatible with the collection equipment being used. Containers shall be constructed of durable rust and corrosion resistant material which is easy to clean. All containers shall be equipped with tight fitting lids or doors to prevent entrance of insects or rodents. Doors and lids shall be constructed and maintained so they can be easily opened. Containers shall be watertight, leakproof and weather proof construction. (Code 2013)

15-507. ENTER PRIVATE PREMISES. Solid waste collectors, employed by the city or operating under contract with the city, are hereby authorized to enter in and upon private property for the purpose of collecting solid waste therefrom as required by this article. (Code 2013)

15-508. OWNERSHIP OF SOLID WASTE. Ownership of solid waste when placed in containers by the occupants or owners of premises upon which refuse accumulates, shall be vested in the city and thereafter shall be subject to the exclusive control of the city, its employees or contractors. No person shall meddle with refuse containers or in any way pilfer or scatter contents thereof in any alley or street within the city. (Code 2013)

15-509. WRAPPING GARBAGE. All garbage shall be drained of all excess liquid, and wrapped in paper or other disposable container before being placed in solid waste containers. (Code 2013)

15-510. HEAVY, BULKY WASTE. Heavy accumulations such as brush, tree limbs, broken concrete, sand or gravel, automobile frames, dead trees, and other bulky, heavy materials shall be disposed of at the expense of the owner or person controlling same. (Code 2013)

15-511. HAZARDOUS MATERIALS. No person shall deposit in a solid waste container or otherwise offer for collection any hazardous garbage, refuse, or waste. Hazardous material shall include:

- (a) Explosive materials;
 - (b) Rags or other waste soaked in volatile and flammable materials;
 - (c) Chemicals;
 - (d) Poisons;
 - (e) Radio-active materials;
 - (f) Highly combustible materials;
 - (g) Soiled dressings, clothing, bedding and/or other wastes, contaminated by infection or contagious disease;
 - (h) Any other materials which may present a special hazard to collection or disposal personnel, equipment, or to the public.
- (Code 2013)

- 15-512. PROHIBITED PRACTICES. It shall be unlawful for any person to:
- (a) Deposit solid waste in any container other than that owned or leased by him or under his control without written consent of the owner and/or with the intent of avoiding payment of the refuse service charge;
 - (b) Interfere in any manner with employees of the city or its contractors in the collection of solid waste;
 - (c) Burn solid waste except in an approved incinerator and unless a variance has been granted and a written permit obtained from the city or the appropriate air pollution control agency;
 - (d) Bury refuse at any place within the city except that lawn and garden trimmings may be composted.
- (Code 2013)
- 15-513. OBJECTIONABLE WASTE. Manure from cow lots, stables, poultry yards, pigeon lofts and other animal or fowl pens, and waste oils from garages or filling stations shall be removed and disposed of at the expense of the person controlling the same and in a manner consistent with this article. (Code 2013)
- 15-514. UNAUTHORIZED DISPOSAL. No person shall haul or cause to be hauled any garbage, refuse or other waste material of any kind to any place, site or area within or without the limits of the city unless such site is a sanitary landfill, transfer point or disposal facility approved by the Kansas State Department of Health and Environment. (Code 2013)
- 15-515. CHARGES. The city shall establish and collect a service charge to defray the cost and maintenance of the collection and disposition of solid waste within the city.
(Code 2013)
- 15-516. SAME; FEE SCHEDULE. Rates shall be set by resolution.
- 15-517. BILLING. Solid waste charges shall be billed monthly and shall be included on water or utility bills. No payment shall be accepted on utility bills except for the full amount billed for all services. Delinquent solid waste bills shall carry the due dates, grace periods and penalties as water bills. (Code 2013)
- 15-518. SAME; DELINQUENT ACCOUNT. In the event the owner or occupant of any property shall fail to pay the solid waste bills within 60 days following the date upon which it becomes due, the city clerk shall annually certify such unpaid bills to the county clerk as a lien upon the property. The lien shall be collected subject to the same regulations and penalties as other property taxes are collected.
(K.S.A. 65-3410; Code 2013)

ARTICLE 6. WATER CONSERVATION

- 15-601. PURPOSE. The purpose of this article is to provide for the declaration of a water supply watch, warning or emergency and the implementation of voluntary and mandatory water conservation measures throughout the city in the event such an emergency is declared. (Ord. 2001-2; Code 2013)
- 15-602. DEFINITIONS. (a) Water - shall mean water available to the city of Richmond for treatment by virtue of its water rights or any treated water introduced by the city into its water distribution system, including water offered for sale at any coin-operated site.
- (b) Customer - shall mean the customer of record using water for any purpose from the city's water distribution system and for which either a regular charge is made or, in the case of coin sales, a cash charge is made at the site of delivery.
- (c) Waste of Water - includes, but is not limited to: (1) permitting water to escape down a gutter, ditch, or other surface drain, or (2) failure to repair a controllable leak of water due to defective plumbing.
- (d) The following classes of uses of water are established:
- Class 1: Water used for outdoor watering, either public or private, for gardens, lawns, trees, shrubs, plants, parks, golf courses, playing fields, swimming pools or other recreational areas; or the washing of motor vehicles, boats, trailers, or the exterior of any building or structure.
- Class 2: Water used for any commercial or industrial, including agricultural, purposes; except water actually necessary to maintain the health and personal hygiene of bona fide employees while such employees are engaged in the performance of their duties at their place of employment.
- Class 3: Domestic usage, other than that which would be included in either class 1 or 2.
- Class 4: Water necessary only to sustain human life and the lives of domestic pets and maintain standards of hygiene and sanitation.
(Ord. 2001-2; Code 2013)
- 15-603. DECLARATION OF WATER WATCH. Whenever the governing body of the City finds that conditions indicate that the probability of a drought or some other condition causing a major water supply shortage is rising, it shall be empowered to declare, by resolution, that a water watch exists and that it shall take steps to inform the public and ask for voluntary reductions in water use. Such a watch shall be deemed to continue until it is declared by resolution of the governing body to have ended. The resolutions declaring the existence and end of a water watch shall be effective upon their publication in the official city newspaper.
(Ord. 2001-2; Code 2013)
- 15-604. DECLARATION OF WATER WARNING. Whenever the governing body of the City finds that drought conditions or some other condition causing a major water supply shortage are present and supplies are starting to decline, it shall be empowered to declare by resolution that a water warning exists and that it will recommend restrictions on nonessential uses during the period of warning. Such

a warning shall be deemed to continue until it is declared by resolution of the governing body to have ended. The resolutions declaring the beginning and ending of the water warning shall be effective upon their publication in the official city newspaper. (Ord. 2001-2; Code 2013)

15-605. **DECLARATION OF WATER EMERGENCY.** Whenever the governing body of the city finds that an emergency exists by reason of a shortage of water supply needed for essential uses, it shall be empowered to declare by resolution that a water supply emergency exists and that it will impose mandatory restrictions on water use during the period of the emergency. Such an emergency shall be deemed to continue until it is declared by resolution of the governing body to have ended. The resolutions declaring the existence and end of a water supply emergency shall be effective upon their publication in the official city newspaper. (Ord. 2001-2; Code 2013)

15-606. **VOLUNTARY CONSERVATION MEASURES.** Upon the declaration of a water watch or water warning as provided in 15-603 and 15-604, the mayor (or the city manager) is authorized to call on all water consumers to employ voluntary water conservation measures to limit or eliminate nonessential water uses including, but not limited to, limitations on the following uses:

- (a) Sprinkling of water on lawns, shrubs or trees (including golf courses).
- (b) Washing of automobiles.
- (c) Use of water in swimming pools, fountains and evaporative air conditioning systems.
- (d) Waste of water.

(Ord. 2001-2; Code 2013)

15-607. **MANDATORY CONSERVATION MEASURES.** Upon the declaration of a water supply emergency as provided in section 15-605, the mayor (or the city manager) is also authorized to implement certain mandatory water conservation measures, including, but not limited to, the following:

- (a) Suspension of new connections to the city's water distribution system, except connections of fire hydrants and those made pursuant to agreements entered into by the city prior to the effective date of the declaration of the emergency;
- (b) Restrictions on the uses of water in one or more classes of water use, wholly or in part;
- (c) Restrictions on the sales of water at coin-operated facilities or sites;
- (d) The imposition of water rationing based on any reasonable formula including, but not limited to, the percentage of normal use and per capita or per consumer restrictions;
- (e) Complete or partial bans on the waste of water; and
- (f) Any combination of the foregoing measures.

(Ord. 2001-2; Code 2013)

15-608. **EMERGENCY WATER RATES.** Upon the declaration of a water supply emergency as provided in section 15-605, the governing body of the city shall have the power to adopt emergency water rates by ordinance designed to

conserve water supplies. Such emergency rates may provide for, but are not limited to:

- (a) Higher charges for increasing usage per unit of the use (increasing block rates);
 - (b) Uniform charges for water usage per unit of use (uniform unit rate); or
 - (c) Extra charges in excess of a specified level of water use (excess demand surcharge).
- (Ord. 2001-2; Code 2013)

15-609. REGULATIONS. During the effective period of any water supply emergency as provided for in section 15-605, the mayor (or city manager or water superintendent) is empowered to promulgate such regulations as may be necessary to carry out the provisions of this article, any water supply emergency resolution, or emergency water rate ordinance. Such regulations shall be subject to the approval of the governing body at its next regular or special meeting. (Ord. 2001-2; Code 2013)

15-610. VIOLATIONS, DISCONNECTIONS AND PENALTIES. (a) If the mayor, city manager, water superintendent, or other city official or officials charged with implementation and enforcement of this article or a water supply emergency resolution learn of any violation of any water use restrictions imposed pursuant to sections 15-607 or 15-609, a written notice of the violation shall be affixed to the property where the violation occurred and the customer of record and other person known to the city who is responsible for the violation or its correction shall be provided with either actual or mailed notice. Said notice shall describe the violation and order that it be corrected, cured or abated immediately or within such specified time as the city determines is reasonable under the circumstances. If the order is not complied with, the city may terminate water service to the customer subject to the following procedures:

(1) The city shall give the customer notice by mail or actual notice that water service will be discontinued within a specified time due to the violation and that the customer will have the opportunity to appeal the termination by requesting a hearing scheduled before the city governing body or a city official designated as a hearing officer by the governing body.

(2) If such a hearing is requested by the customer charged with the violation, he or she shall be given a full opportunity to be heard before termination is ordered; and

(3) The governing body or hearing official shall make findings of fact and order whether service should continue or be terminated.

(b) A fee of \$50 shall be paid for the reconnection of any water service terminated pursuant to subsection (a). In the event of subsequent violations, the reconnection fee shall be \$200 for the second violation and \$300 for any additional violations.

(c) Violation of this article shall be a municipal offense and may be prosecuted in municipal court. Any person so charged and found guilty in municipal court of violating the provisions of this article shall be guilty of a municipal offense. Each day's violation shall constitute a separate offense. The penalty for an initial violation shall be a mandatory fine of \$100.00. In addition, such customer may be required by the court to serve a definite term of

confinement in the city or county jail which shall be fixed by the court and which shall not exceed 30 days. The penalty for a second or subsequent conviction shall be a mandatory fine of \$200.00. In addition, such customer shall serve a definite term of confinement in the city or county jail which shall be fixed by the court and which shall not exceed 30 days.

(Ord. 2001-2; Code 2013)

- 15-611. EMERGENCY TERMINATION. Nothing in this article shall limit the ability of any properly authorized city official from terminating the supply of water to any or all service connections as required to protect the health and safety of the public.
(Ord. 2001-2; Code 2013)