

CHAPTER 15.

WATER, SEWERS AND SEWAGE.

For state law as to authority of municipalities to acquire, construct, maintain, operate, regulate, etc., public enterprises, including water supply and distribution systems and sewage collection and disposal systems, see G.S., § 160A-311 et seq. As to water and sewer sanitation generally, see G.S., § 130-157 et seq.

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Sec. 15-1. Control and supervision of water and sewer systems.

The storm and sanitary sewer systems and the water system of the town shall be under the general control and supervision of the board of aldermen and shall be regulated and operated as the board of aldermen shall from time to time ordain and direct. The board of aldermen shall appoint a qualified person to supervise the operation and regulation of the storm and sanitary sewer systems and the water system of the town, who shall be known as the water and sewers superintendent; or the board of aldermen may designate another officer or employee of the town to serve ex officio as water and sewers superintendent in addition to his other duties.

Sec. 15-2. Certain properties required to be connected to town sanitary sewer and water main; connection of toilet, etc.; certain properties required to have septic tanks, etc.

Every person owning a dwelling, building or other structure which is used for human habitation or occupancy within the town which is situated on a lot or parcel of land which abuts or adjoins a street or other public way, along which is located a sanitary sewer or water main, shall connect such

dwelling, building or structure to such town sewer or water main, or to both if both be present; provided, that a connection shall not be required unless the lot or parcel of land on which the dwelling, building or structure is situated is accessible within two hundred feet of the sewer system; and provided further, that no person shall be required to cross the private property of any other person to make such connection. Where connections are required, all toilets, sinks and other plumbing fixtures shall be installed, arranged or rearranged to drain into the sanitary sewer. Properties which are not accessible to the sewer system for the reason they are more than two hundred feet therefrom shall install septic tanks or other facilities as provided for by this Code or other ordinance of the town or by ordinance or health regulation of the county, whichever may be applicable thereto.

For state law as to authority of town to require improved property to be connected to town water and sewer systems, see G.S., § 160A-317.

Sec. 15-3. General policy is to prohibit private connections to storm sewers.

It is hereby declared that it is the general policy of the board of aldermen to prohibit private connections to the storm sewer system of the town.

Sec. 15-4. Connection permit required.

No person shall make any connection to any town sanitary sewer or water main unless and until a permit therefor has been issued by the town. Permits shall be issued for connections only after the superintendent of water and sewers has determined the type of connection required, the type of waste to be placed in the sanitary sewer system and, if required by the town, an approved plumbing system within the dwelling, building or structure for which such connection is desired.

Sec. 15-5. Regulations governing the making of connections.

All connections to town sanitary sewers and water mains shall be made by authorized employees of the town in accordance with specifications for such connections that may be adopted by the board of aldermen from time to time. If authorized by the board of aldermen, connections may be made by plumbers licensed to perform plumbing work in North Carolina, and if required by the town, licensed to perform plumbing work by the town. Any such connections made by an authorized licensed plumber shall be inspected by the superintendent of water and sewers after such work has been completed and prior to the time such connection is covered.

Sec. 15-6. Connection charges.

(a) A connection charge of seventy-five dollars shall be made for each and every connection to the town sanitary sewer system and shall be paid to the town prior to the issuance of any permit for a connection.

(b) A connection charge of seventy-five dollars shall be made for each and every connection to a town water main and shall be paid to the town prior to the issuance of any permit for a connection.

Sec. 15-7. Separate connections required, with exceptions.

Each separate dwelling, building or other structure shall have a separate connection to the town sanitary sewer system and a separate connection to the town water system; provided, that apartments or other multi-use or occupancy buildings may have one combined connection to the sanitary sewer system and one combined connection to the water system.

Sec. 15-8. Certain substances prohibited to be discharged into sewers.

(a) It shall be unlawful for any person to deposit or cause to be deposited, or discharge or permit to be discharged, into any part of the storm or sanitary sewer systems the following substances:

- (1) Any corrosive, volatile, flammable or explosive liquid gas, vapor or material of any kind.
- (2) Any acid trade waste or effluent from the manufacture of chemicals or other products in which acid or chemicals are used as part of the process of treatment or manufacture.
- (3) Any trade waste containing oily and greasy substances, likely to cause accretion on the sides of the sewers.
- (4) Any used motor oils or greases, or similar substances.
- (5) Any trade waste containing large quantities of hair or fibre, or other substances which may obstruct the sewers or cause any undue cleaning of the sewer system.
- (6) Any fish, offal, garbage, dead animals, or similar types of waste.

(b) No person operating a garage or filling station who offers as service the washing of automobiles, trucks or other vehicles shall release into the storm sewer system water so used, nor shall he release any such water so used into the sanitary sewer system without first providing a settling basin

of sufficient size to permit the sedimentation of the solids from such operation. Such basin or pit shall be maintained in good working condition and shall be cleaned as often as required to remove the major portion of mud and other refuse that may be accumulated therein.

Sec. 15-9. Maintenance and repair of sanitary sewer connections.

Whenever the sanitary sewer service to any building or premises becomes clogged, broken or out of order, or in any condition detrimental to the use of the sanitary sewer service, the owner, agent or occupant having charge of such building or premises shall be held responsible for the immediate renewal or repair of such sewer service necessary to maintain an uninterrupted sanitary disposal system. Renewal or repair of sewer services from the main to the property line shall be made at the expense of the abutting property owner, agent or occupant. Whenever any repair work is performed as required by this section, such work shall be performed only by a licensed plumber authorized to perform such work by the town.

Sec. 15-10. Prohibited acts, which constitute misdemeanors.

(a) It shall be unlawful for any person to damage, tamper with or otherwise do harm to the mains, pipes, apparatus or other part of the town storm or sanitary sewer systems, or to place or cause to be placed any object of any nature whatsoever into either such system that will block or obstruct or impede the normal flow in the sewer system.

(b) No person shall tamper with, damage or in any way obstruct the functioning of water meters, pumps, wells, or any part of the water system of the town.

(c) The violation of any provision of this section shall constitute a misdemeanor punishable upon conviction as provided in section 1-6.

Sec. 15-11. Water rates; meters.

(a) The water rates of the town, for water furnished to consumers, shall be as provided by ordinance or resolution of the board of aldermen from time to time, and a copy of each such ordinance or resolution shall be placed on file in the office of the town clerk; and the water rates in effect immediately prior to the effective date of this Code shall continue in effect until altered by ordinance or resolution pursuant to this section.

(b) Water rates shall be applied to each individual meter, and where more than one building is served from one meter, the minimum charge will apply to each building; provided, that any separate dwelling or place of business shall

be connected to the water system of the town through a separate meter when so required by the board of aldermen.

For state law as to authority of town to fix and enforce rates and charges for use of sewer and water services, etc., see G.S., § 160A-314.

Sec. 15-12. Sanitary sewer service charges.

Sanitary sewer service charges of the town shall be as provided by ordinance or resolution of the board of aldermen from time to time, and a copy of each such ordinance or resolution shall be placed on file in the office of the town clerk; and the sanitary sewer service charges in effect immediately prior to the effective date of this Code shall continue in effect until altered by ordinance or resolution pursuant to this section.

For state law as to authority of town to fix and enforce rates and charges for use of sewer and water services, etc., see G.S., § 160A-314.

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