

**CHAPTER 99**

**SEWER SERVICE CHARGES**

- 99.01 Sewer Service Charges Required
- 99.02 Rate
- 99.03 Special Rates
- 99.04 Payment of Bills
- 99.05 Lien for Nonpayment

- 99.06 Deposit
- 99.07 Special Agreements Permitted
- 99.08 Credit Standings Defined
- 99.09 Exemption from Customer Deposit
- 99.10 Policy Regarding Returned Checks

**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 RATE.** Sewer service shall be furnished at the rate of \$9.00 per month, plus \$3.00 for each 1,000 gallons of sewer used each month, except for usage equal to or exceeding 50,000 gallons per month, which usage shall be furnished at the rate of \$5.00 per 1,000 gallons of sewer used each month. Customers of the sewer facility who are not also customers of the water system shall pay a minimum charge of \$15.00 per individual in household or sewer-using unit per month. Each additional individual shall increase the service charge to the next higher rate, as follows:

1 individual .....	\$15.00 per month
2 individuals .....	\$17.00 per month
3 individuals .....	\$19.00 per month
4 individuals .....	\$21.00 per month
5 individuals .....	\$23.00 per month
6 individuals .....	\$25.00 per month
7 individuals .....	\$27.00 per month

**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 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.

**99.05 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)*

**99.06 DEPOSIT.**

1. Customer deposits are due on the date that service is placed in customer's name, otherwise known as the effective date, meaning the date that the customer takes possession of the property, as reported by the customer or customer's landlord. The Clerk will note in the deposit record and utility record the date the account became effective. If the full deposit is not received within one week (seven calendar days) of the account effective date, notice shall be given that disconnection shall occur within three calendar days. If full payment is not received, the disconnection shall occur and all pertinent fees shall apply for reconnection of service. If disconnection is not possible, the lien process shall begin as regulated in Section 99.05. If disconnection is not possible at a rental property, the account shall be turned over to the landlord immediately until full payment is received.

2. If the account was maintained with acceptable credit, as defined in Section 99.08, deposits shall be refunded to the customer after continuous service for two years (calendar years, beginning with effective date). Customer deposits shall be refunded in the original amount paid, without interest added.

3. Customer is not eligible for a refund of the trust deposit if the account has an unacceptable credit standing, as defined in Section 99.08, at the close of the first two-year cycle, and the second two-year cycle shall begin. If the customer maintains acceptable credit, as defined in Section 99.08, during the second two-year cycle, the customer shall receive the deposit in the original amount paid, without interest added.

**99.07 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.

**99.08 CREDIT STANDINGS DEFINED.** There are two credit standings: acceptable and unacceptable, defined in accordance with the following:

1. **Acceptable Credit.** Acceptable credit is defined as: Customer has had, in a 24-month cycle, as described in Section 99.06, one or fewer occasions of late payment and one or fewer returned checks with no incidents of disconnection notice.

2. **Unacceptable credit** is defined as: Customer has had two or more late payments in a 24-month cycle, as described in Section 99.06, or has been disconnected or nearly disconnected once or if the customer has presented two or more nonsufficient funds checks.

**99.09 EXEMPTION FROM CUSTOMER DEPOSIT.** Customer exemptions shall be granted in accordance with the following:

1. **Full Exemption.** Customers exempt from trust deposits must meet the following criteria: one year of acceptable credit on a Riverside City account in customer's name, as defined in Section 99.08.

2. Partial Exemption. Customers exempt from half of the trust deposit charge must meet the following criteria: prove they have lived at a residence where a Riverside utility account was maintained in acceptable credit, as defined in 99.08, and customer contributed financially to payment on this utility account.

**99.10 POLICY REGARDING RETURNED CHECKS.** The Clerk will inform the customer, by ordinary mail, of the receipt of a returned check and a \$20.00 surcharge shall be added to the customer's account. If the customer presents three checks in the period of one year that are returned, the City will not accept personal checks for that account for the period of one year from the date the surcharge was applied to the account; the City will accept only a cashier's check, money order, or cash as payment. Any other form of payment shall be returned to the customer immediately with a written letter outlining payment requirements, all delinquent charges shall apply, and account shall be eligible for disconnection until acceptable payment is received.

[The next page is 535]