

TITLE 9

Public Utilities

- Chapter 1** Water Utility Regulations and Rates
- Chapter 2** Sewer Utility Regulations and Rates

Title 9 ► Chapter 1

Water Utility Regulations and Rates

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Article A: Rates

Sec. 9-1-1 Public Fire Protection Service—F-1.

- (a) Public fire protection service includes the use of hydrants for fire protection service only and such quantities of water as may be demanded for the purpose of extinguishing fires within the service area. This service shall also include water used for testing equipment and training personnel. For all other purposes, the metered or other rates set forth, or as may be filed with the Public Service Commission, shall apply.
- (b) The annual charge for public fire protection service to the Village of Star Prairie shall be \$38,403.00. The Utility may bill for this amount in equal quarterly installments.
- (c) Billing shall be the same as Schedule Mg-1.

Sec. 9-1-2 General Service—Metered—Mg-1.

- (a) **Quarterly Service Charge:**

5/8-inch meter -	\$ 17.10
3/4-inch meter -	\$ 17.10
1-inch meter -	\$ 23.40
1-1/4-inch meter -	\$ 28.50
1-1/2-inch meter -	\$ 33.60
2-inch meter -	\$ 46.30
3-inch meter -	\$ 72.00
4-inch meter -	\$ 105.00
6-inch meter -	\$ 186.00
8-inch meter -	\$ 279.00
10-inch meter -	\$ 402.00
12-inch meter -	\$ 525.00

- (b) **Plus Volume Charge:**

First	100,000	gallons used each quarter	-	\$ 4.75 per 1,000 gallons.
Over	100,000	gallons used each quarter	-	\$ 3.75 per 1,000 gallons.

- (c) **Billing.** Bills for water service are rendered quarterly and become due and payable upon issuance following the period for which service is rendered. A late payment charge of three percent (3%) but not less than Fifty Cents (\$.50) will be added to bills not paid within

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twenty (20) days of issuance. This one-time three percent (3%) late payment charge will be applied only to any unpaid balance for the current billing period's usage. This late payment charge is applicable to all customers. The Water Utility customer may be given a written notice that the bill is overdue no sooner than twenty (20) days after the bill is issued. Unless payment or satisfactory arrangement for payment is made within the next ten (10) days, service may be disconnected pursuant to Chapter PSC 185, Wis. Adm. Code.

- (d) **Combined Metering.** Volumetric meter readings will be combined for billing if the Water Utility *for its own convenience* places more than one (1) meter on a single water service lateral. Multiple meters placed for the purpose of identifying water not discharged into the sanitary sewer are *not* considered for Utility convenience and shall not be combined for billing. This requirement does not preclude the Utility from combining readings where metering configurations support such an approach. Meter readings from individually metered separate service laterals shall *not* be combined for billing purposes.

Sec. 9-1-3 General Service—Suburban—Mg-2.

- (a) **Rate.** Water customers residing outside the corporate limits of the Village of Star Prairie shall be billed at the regular rates for service (Schedule Mg-1) plus a twenty-five percent (25%) surcharge.
- (b) **Billing.** Billing shall be as per Schedule Mg-1.

Sec. 9-1-4 General Water Service—Unmetered—Ug-1.

- (a) **Rate.** Service may be supplied temporarily on an unmetered basis where the Utility cannot immediately install a water meter, including water used for construction. Unmetered service shall be billed the amount that would be charged to a metered residential customer using ten thousand (10,000) gallons of water per quarter under Schedule Mg-1, including the service charge for a 5/8-inch meter. If the Utility determines that actual usage exceeds ten thousand (10,000) gallons of water per quarter, an additional charge for the estimated excess usage shall be made according to the rates under Schedule Mg-1.
- (b) **Applicability.** This schedule applies only to customers with a 1-inch or smaller service connection. For customers with a larger service connection, the Utility shall install a temporary meter and charges shall be based on the rates set forth under Schedule Mg-1.
- (c) **Billing.** Same as Schedule Mg-1.

Sec. 9-1-5 Public Service—Mpa-1.

- (a) **Metered Service.** Water used by the Village of Star Prairie on an intermittent basis for flushing sewers, street washing, flooding skating rinks, drinking fountains, etc., shall be metered and billed according to the rates set forth in Schedule Mg-1.

- (b) **Unmetered Service.** Where it is impossible to meter the service, the Utility shall estimate the volume of water used based on the pressure, size of opening, and the period of time the water is used. The estimated quantity shall be billed at the volumetric rates set forth in Schedule Mg-1, excluding any service charges.
- (c) **Billing.** Same as Schedule Mg-1.

Sec. 9-1-6 Reconnection Charges—R-1.

- (a) **Rates.** The Utility shall assess a charge to reconnect a customer, which includes reinstalling a meter and turning on the valve at the curb stop, if necessary. A Utility may not assess a charge for disconnecting a customer:

During normal business hours:	\$ 40.00
After normal business hours:	\$ 80.00

- (b) **Billing:** Same as Schedule Mg-1.

Sec. 9-1-7 Other Charges—OC-1.

- (a) **Non-Sufficient Funds Charge.** The Utility shall assess a Twenty-five Dollar (\$25.00) charge when a payment rendered for utility service is returned for non-sufficient funds. This charge may not be in addition to, but may be inclusive of, other non-sufficient funds charges when the payment was for multiple services.
- (b) **Special Meter Reading Charge.** The Utility shall assess a Fifteen Dollar (\$15.00) charge to the requester whenever an existing customer or the property owner requests a special meter reading by Utility personnel on a date other than the regularly scheduled meter reading. This charge may not be assessed to a new customer.
- (c) **Real Estate Closing Account Charge.** The Utility shall assess a Fifteen Dollar (\$15.00) charge whenever a customer or the customer's agent requests written documentation from the Utility of the customer's account status in connection with a real estate closing.
- (d) **Billing.** Same as Schedule Mg-1.

Sec. 9-1-8 Seasonal Service—Sg-1.

- (a) Seasonal customers are general service customers who voluntarily request disconnection of water service and who resume service at the same location within twelve (12) months of the disconnection, unless service has been provided to another customer at that location in

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- the intervening period. The Utility shall bill seasonal customers the applicable service charges under Schedule Mg-1 year-round, including the period of temporary disconnection.
- (b) Seasonal service shall include customers taking service under Schedule Mg-1 or Schedule Ug-1.
 - (c) Upon reconnection, the Utility shall apply a charge under Schedule R-1 and require payment of any unpaid charges under this schedule.
 - (d) Billing shall be the same as Schedule Mg-1, unless the Utility and customer agree to an alternative payment schedule for the period of voluntary disconnection.

Sec. 9-1-9 Bulk Water—BW—1.

- (a) **Availability.** All bulk water supplied from the water system through hydrants or other connections shall be metered, or at the direction of the Water Utility, estimated. Water Utility personnel or a utility-approved party shall supervise the delivery of water.
- (b) **Service Defined.** Bulk water sales are:
 - (1) Water supplied by tank trucks or from hydrants for the purpose of extinguishing fires outside the Utility's immediate service area;
 - (2) Water supplied by tank trucks or from hydrants for purposes other than extinguishing fires, such as irrigation or the filling of swimming pools; or
 - (3) Water supplied from hydrants or other temporary connections for general service type applications, except that Schedule Ug-1 applies for water supplied for construction purposes.
- (c) **Rate.** A service charge of Forty Dollars (\$40.00) and a charge for the volume of water. The volumetric charge shall be calculated using the highest volumetric rate for residential customers under Schedule Mg-1. In addition, for meters that are assigned to bulk water customers for more than seven (7) days, the applicable service charge in Schedule Mg-1 will apply after the first seven (7) days.
- (d) **Deposit.** The Water Utility may require a reasonable deposit for the temporary use of its equipment under this and other rate schedules. The deposit(s) collected shall be refunded upon return of the Utility's equipment. Damaged or lost equipment will be repaired or replaced at the customer's expense.
- (e) **Billing.** Billing shall be as per Schedule Mg-1.

Sec. 9-1-10 Private Fire Protection Service—Unmetered—Upf—1.

- (a) **Availability.** This service shall consist of permanent or continuous unmetered connections to the main for the purpose of supplying water to private fire protection systems such as automatic sprinkler systems, standpipes and private hydrants. This service shall also

include reasonable quantities of water used for testing check valves and other backflow prevention devices.

- (b) **Quarterly Private Fire Protection Service Demand Charges.** Quarterly demand charges for private fire protection service:

Size of Connection	Charge
2-inch or smaller	\$ 24.00
3-inch	\$ 45.00
4-inch	\$ 75.00
6-inch	\$ 150.00
8-inch	\$ 240.00
10-inch	\$ 360.00
12-inch	\$ 480.00
14-inch	\$ 600.00
16-inch	\$ 720.00

- (c) **Billing.** Same provisions as for Mg-1 service.

Sec. 9-1-11 Water Lateral Installation Charge—Cz-1.

- (a) **Rate.** The Utility shall charge a customer for the actual cost of installing a water service lateral from the main through curb stop and box if these costs are not contributed as part of a subdivision development or otherwise recovered under Ch. 66, Wis. Stats.
- (b) **Billing.** Same as Schedule Mg-1.

Sec. 9-1-14 through Sec. 9-1-19 Reserved for Future Use.

Article B: Rules and Regulations

Sec. 9-1-20 Compliance with Rules.

All persons now receiving a water supply from the Village of Star Prairie Water Utility, or who may request service in the future, shall be considered as having agreed to be bound by the rules and regulations as filed with the Public Service Commission of Wisconsin.

Sec. 9-1-21 Establishment of Service.

- (a) Application for water service shall be made in writing on a form furnished by the Water Utility. The application will contain the legal description of the property to be served, name of the owner, the exact use to be made of the service, and the size of the service lateral and meter desired. (Note particularly any special refrigeration, fire protection, or water-consuming air conditioning appliances.)
- (b) Service will be furnished only if:
 - (1) Premises have a frontage on a properly platted street or public strip in which a cast iron or other long-life water main has been laid, or where property owner has agreed to and complied with the provisions of the Water Utility's filed main extension rule.
 - (2) Property owner has installed or agrees to install a service lateral from the curb stop to the point of use that is not less than six (6) feet below the surface of an established or proposed grade, and meets the Water Utility's specifications, and
 - (3) Premises have adequate piping beyond metering point.
- (c) The owner of a multi-unit dwelling has the option of being served by individual metered water service to each unit. The owner, by selecting this option, is required to provide interior plumbing and meter settings to enable individual metered service to each unit and individual disconnection without affecting service to the other units. Each meter and meter connection will be treated as a separate Water Utility account for the purpose of the filed rules and regulations.
- (d) No division of the water service lateral of any lot or parcel of land shall be made for the extension and independent meterage of the supply to an adjoining lot or parcel of land. No division of a water service lateral shall be made at the curb for separate supplies for two (2) or more separate premises having frontage on any street or public service strip, whether owned by the same or different parties. Duplexes shall be served from one lateral, provided that individual metered service and disconnection is provided, and it is permitted by local ordinance.
- (e) Buildings used in the same business, located on the same parcel, and served by a single lateral may have the customer's water supply piping installed to a central point so that the volume can be metered in one (1) place.

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- (f) The Water Utility may withhold approval of any application wherein full information of the purpose of such supply is not clearly indicated and set forth by the applicant property owner.

Sec. 9-1-22 Reconnection of Service.

- (a) Where the Water Utility service has been disconnected service at the customer's request, a reconnection charge shall be made when the customer requests reconnection of service. (See Schedule R-1 for the applicable rate.)
- (b) A reconnection charge shall also be required from customers whose services are disconnected (shut off at curb stop box) because of non-payment of bills when due. (See Schedule R-1 for the applicable rate.)
- (c) If reconnection is requested for the same location by any member of the same household, or if a place of business, by any partner of the same business, it shall be considered as the same customer.

Sec. 9-1-23 Temporary Metered Service, Meter and Deposits.

An applicant for temporary water service on a metered basis shall make and maintain a monetary deposit for each meter installed as security for payment for use of water and for such other charges which may arise from the use of the supply. A charge shall be made for setting the valve and furnishing and setting the meter. See Schedule BW-1 for the applicable rate.

Sec. 9-1-24 Water for Construction.

- (a) When water is requested for construction purposes or for filling tanks or other such uses, an application shall be made to the Water Utility, in writing, giving a statement of the amount of construction work to be done, or the size of the tank to be filled, etc. Payment for the water for construction may be required in advance at the scheduled rates. The service lateral must be installed into the building before water can be used. No connection with the service lateral at the curb shall be made without special permission from the Water Utility.
- (b) In no case will any employee of the Water Utility turn on water for construction work unless the contractor has obtained permission from the Water Utility.
- (c) Customers shall not allow contractors, masons or other persons to take unmetered water from their premises without permission from the Water Utility. Any customer failing to comply with this provision will have water service discontinued and will be responsible for the cost of the estimated volume of water used.

Sec. 9-1-25 Use of Hydrants.

- (a) In cases where no other supply is available, permission may be granted by the Water Utility to use a hydrant. No hydrant shall be used until the proper meter and valve are installed. In no case shall any valve be installed or moved except by an employee of the Water Utility.
- (b) Before a valve is set, payment must be made for its setting and for the water to be used at the scheduled rates. Where applicable, see Schedule BW-1 for deposits and charges. Upon completing use of the hydrant, the customer must notify the Water Utility to that effect.

Sec. 9-1-26 Operation of Valves and Hydrants; Unauthorized Use of Water; Penalty.

Any person who shall, without authority of the Water Utility, allow contractors, masons, or other unauthorized persons to take water from their premises, operate any valve connected with the street or supply mains, or open any fire hydrant connected with the distribution system, except for the purpose of extinguishing fire, or who shall wantonly damage or impair the same shall be subject to a fine as provided by municipal ordinance. Utility permission for the use of hydrants applies only to such hydrants that are designated for the specific use.

Sec. 9-1-27 Refunds of Monetary Deposits.

All money deposited as security for payment of charges arising from the use of temporary water supply on a metered basis, or for the return of a hydrant valve and fixtures if the water is used on an unmetered basis, will be refunded to the depositor on the termination of the use of water, the payment of all charges levied against the depositor, and the return of the Water Utility's equipment.

Sec. 9-1-28 Service Laterals.

- (a) No water service lateral shall be laid through any trench having cinders, rubbish, rock or gravel fill, or any other material which may cause injury to or disintegration of the service lateral, unless adequate means of protection are provided by sand filling or such other insulation as may be approved by the Water Utility. Service laterals passing through curb or retaining walls shall be adequately safeguarded by provision of a channel space or pipe casing, not less than twice the diameter of the service connection. The space between the service lateral and channel or pipe casing shall be filled and lightly caulked with an oakum, mastic cement, or other resilient material, and made impervious to moisture.

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- (b) In backfilling the pipe trench, the service lateral must be protected against injury by carefully hand tamping the ground filling around the pipe. There should be at least six (6) inches of ground filling over the pipe, and it should be free from hard lumps, rocks, stones, or other injurious material.
- (c) All water service laterals shall be of undiminished size from the street main in to the point of meter placement. Beyond the meter outlet valve, the piping shall be sized and proportioned to provide, on all floors, at all times, an equitable distribution of water supply for the greatest probable number of fixtures or appliances operating simultaneously.

Sec. 9-1-29 Service Piping for Meter Settings.

Where the original service piping is installed for a new metered customer, where existing service piping is changed for the customer's convenience, or where a new meter is installed for an existing unmetered customer, the owner of the premises at his/her expense shall provide a suitable location and the proper connections for the meter. The Water Utility should be consulted as to the type and size of meter setting. The meter setting and associated plumbing shall comply with the Water Utility's standards.

Sec. 9-1-30 Turning on Water.

The water may only be turned on for a customer except by an authorized employee of the Water Utility. Plumbers may turn the water on to test their work, but upon completion must leave the water turned off.

Sec. 9-1-31 Sprinkling Restrictions and Emergency Water Conditions.

- (a) Where the Village has a policy regarding sprinkling restrictions and/or emergency water conditions, failure to comply with such may result in disconnection of service. [Note: See PSC 185.37, Wis. Adm. Code.]

Sec. 9-1-32 Failure to Read Meters.

- (b) Where the Water Utility is unable to read a meter, the fact will be plainly indicated on the bill, and either an estimated bill will be computed or the minimum charge applied. The difference shall be adjusted when the meter is again read, that is, the bill for the succeeding billing period will be computed with the gallons or cubic feet in each block of the rate

schedule doubled, and credit will be given on that bill for the amount of the bill paid the preceding period. Only in unusual cases shall more than three (3) consecutive estimated or minimum bills be rendered.

- (c) If the meter is damaged (see Surreptitious Use of Water) or fails to operate, the bill will be based on the average use during the past year unless there is some reason why the use is not normal. If the average use cannot be properly determined, the bill will be estimated by some equitable method. (See PSC 185.33, Wis. Adm. Code.)

Sec. 9-1-33 Complaint Meter Tests.

See Ch. PSC 185.77, Wis. Adm. Code.

Sec. 9-1-34 Thawing Frozen Service Laterals.

See Ch. PSC 185.88, Wis. Adm. Code.

Sec. 9-1-35 Curb Stop Boxes.

The curb stop box is the property of the Water Utility. The Water Utility is responsible for its repair and maintenance. This includes maintaining, through adjustment, the curb stop box at an appropriate grade level where no direct action by the property owner or occupant has contributed to an elevation problem. The property owner is responsible for protecting the curb stop box from situations that could obstruct access to it or unduly expose it to harm. The Water Utility shall not be liable for failure to locate the curb stop box and shut off the water in case of a leak on the owner's premises.

Sec. 9-1-36 Installation of Meters.

Meters will be owned, furnished and installed by the Water Utility or a Water Utility-approved contractor and are not to be disconnected or tampered with by the customer. All meters shall be so located that they shall be protected from obstructions and permit ready access for reading, inspection, and servicing, such location to be designated or approved by the Water Utility. All piping within the building must be supplied by the owner. Where additional meters are desired by the owner, the owner shall pay for all piping. Where applicable, see Schedule Am-1 for applicable rates.

Sec. 9-1-37 Repairs to Meters.

- (a) Meters will be repaired by the Water Utility and the cost of such repairs caused by ordinary wear and tear will be borne by the Water Utility.
- (b) Repair of any damage to a meter resulting from the carelessness of the owner of the premises, the owner's agent, or tenant, or from the negligence of any one of them to properly secure and protect same, including any damage that may result from allowing a water meter to become frozen or to be injured from the presence of hot water or steam in the meter, shall be paid for by the customer or the owner of the premises.

Sec. 9-1-38 Replacement and Repair of Service Laterals.

- (a) The service lateral from the main to and through the curb stop will be maintained and kept in repair and, when worn out, replaced at the expense of the Water Utility. The property owner shall maintain the service lateral from the curb stop to the point of use.
- (b) If an owner fails to repair a leaking or broken service lateral from the curb to the point of metering or use within such time as may appear reasonable to the Water Utility after notification has been served on the owner by the Water Utility, the water will be shut off and will not be turned on again until the repairs have been completed.

Sec. 9-1-39 Abandonment of Service.

If a property owner changes the use of a property currently receiving water service such that water service will no longer be needed in the future, the Water Utility may require the abandonment of the water service at the water main. In such case, the property owner may be responsible for all removal and/or repair costs, including the water main and the Utility portion of the water service lateral.

Sec. 9-1-40 Charges for Water Wasted Due to Leaks.

See Ch. PSC 185.35, Wis. Adm. Code.

Sec. 9-1-41 Inspection of Premises.

During reasonable hours any officer or authorized employee of the Water Utility shall have the right of access to the premises supplied with service, for the purpose of inspection or for the enforcement of the Water Utility's rules and regulations. Whenever appropriate, the Water Utility

will make a systematic inspection of all unmetered water taps for the purpose of checking waste and unnecessary use of water.

State Law Reference: Sec. 196.171, Wis. Stats.

Sec. 9-1-42 Deposits for Residential Service.

See Ch. PSC 185.361, Wis. Adm. Code.

Sec. 9-1-43 Deposits for Nonresidential Service.

See Ch. 185.36, Wis. Adm. Code.

Sec. 9-1-44 Deferred Payment Agreement.

See Ch. 185.38, Wis. Adm. Code.

Sec. 9-1-45 Dispute Procedures.

See Wis. Adm. Code, Ch. 185.39.

Sec. 9-1-46 Disconnection and Refuse of Service.

- (a) **Disconnection.** See Ch. PSC 185.37, Wis. Adm. Code.
- (b) **Disconnection Notice.** The form of disconnection notice to be used is as follows:

DISCONNECTION NOTICE

Dear Customer:

The bill enclosed with this notice includes your current charge for Water Utility service and your previous unpaid balance.

You have 10 days to pay the Water Utility service arrears or your service is subject to disconnection.

If you fail to pay the service arrears, or fail to contact us within the 10 days allowed to make reasonable time payment arrangements, we will proceed with disconnection action.

To avoid the inconvenience of service interruption and an additional charge of (amount) reconnection, *we urge you to pay the full arrears IMMEDIATELY AT ONE OF OUR OFFICES.*

If you have entered into a Deferred Payment Agreement with us and have failed to make the time payment you agreed to, your service will be subject to disconnection unless you pay the amount due within 10 days.

If you have a reason for delaying the payment, call us and explain the situation.

PLEASE CALL THIS TELEPHONE NUMBER, (appropriate telephone number), IMMEDIATELY IF:

1. You dispute the notice of delinquent account.
2. You have a question about your Water Utility service arrears.
3. You are unable to pay the full amount of the bill and are willing to enter into a time payment agreement with us.
4. There are any circumstances you think should be taken into consideration before service is discontinued.
5. Any resident is seriously ill.

Illness Provision

If there is an existing medical emergency in your home and you furnish the Water Utility with a statement signed by either a licensed Wisconsin physician, or a public health official, we will delay disconnection of service up to 21 days. The statement must identify the medical emergency and specify the period of time during which disconnection will aggravate the existing emergency.

Deferred Payment Agreements

If you are a residential customer, and for some reason, you are unable to pay the full amount of the Water Utility service arrears on your bill, you may contact the Water Utility to discuss arrangements to pay the arrears over an extended period of time.

This time payment agreement will require:

1. Payment of a reasonable amount at the time the agreement is made.
2. Payment of the remainder of the outstanding balance in monthly installments over a reasonable length of time.
3. Payment of all future Water Utility service bills in full by the due date.

In any situation where you are unable to resolve billing disputes or disputes about the grounds for proposed disconnection through contacts with our Utility, you may make an appeal to the Wisconsin Public Service Commission, Madison, Wisconsin, by calling (800) 225-7729.

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Sec. 9-1-47 Collection of Overdue Bills.

An amount owed by the customer may be levied as a tax as provided in Sec. 66.0809, Wis. Stats.

Sec. 9-1-48 Surreptitious Use of Water.

- (a) When the Water Utility has reasonable evidence that a person is obtaining his/her supply of water, in whole or in part, by means of devices or methods used to stop or interfere with the proper metering of the Water Utility service, the Water Utility reserves the right to estimate and present immediately a bill for service unmetered as a result of such interference, and such bill shall be payable subject to a twenty-four (24) hours disconnection of service. If the Water Utility disconnects the service for any such reason, the Water Utility will reconnect the service upon the following conditions:
 - (1) The customer will be required to deposit with the Water Utility an amount sufficient to guarantee the payment of bills for Water Utility service.
 - (2) The customer will be required to pay the Water Utility for any and all damages to its Water Utility equipment resulting from such interference with the metering.
 - (3) The customer must further agree to comply with reasonable requirements to protect the Utility against further losses.
- (b) Sections 98.26 and 943.20, Wis. Stats., as relating to water service, are hereby adopted and made a part of these rules.

Sec. 9-1-49 Vacation of Premises.

When premises are to be vacated, the Utility shall be notified, in writing, at once, so that it may remove the meter and shut off the water supply at the curb stop. The owner of the premises shall be liable for prosecution for any damage to the property of the Water Utility.

Sec. 9-1-50 Repairs to Mains.

The Water Utility reserves the right to shut off the water supply in the mains temporarily to make repairs, alterations or additions to the plant or system. When the circumstances will permit, the Water Utility will give notification, by newspaper publication or otherwise, of the discontinuance

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of the water supply. No credit will be allowed to customers for such temporary suspension of the water supply.

State Law Reference: PSC 185.87, Wis. Adm. Code.

Sec. 9-1-51 Duty of Water Utility with Respect to Safety of the Public.

It shall be the duty of the Water Utility to see that all open ditches for water mains, hydrants, and service laterals are properly guarded to prevent accident to any person or vehicle, and at night there shall be displayed proper signal lighting to insure the safety of the public.

Sec. 9-1-52 Handling Water Mains and Service Laterals in Excavation Trenches.

Contractors must call Digger's Hotline and ensure a location is done to establish the existence and location of all water mains and service laterals as provided in Sec. 182.0175, Wis. Stats. Where water mains or service laterals have been removed, cut, or damaged during trench excavation, the contractors must, at their own expense, cause them to be replaced or repaired at once. Contractors must not shut off the water service laterals to any customer for a period exceeding six (6) hours.

Sec. 9-1-53 Protective Devices.

- (a) **Protective Devices in General.** The owner or occupant of every premise receiving water supply shall apply and maintain suitable means of protection of the premise supply, and all appliances, against damage arising in any manner from the use of the water supply, variation of water pressure, or any interruption of water supply. Particularly, such owner or occupant must protect water-cooled compressors for refrigeration systems by means of high and/or low pressure safety cutout devices. There shall be provided means for the prevention of the transmission of water ram or noise of operation of any valve or appliance through the piping of their own or adjacent premises.
- (b) **Relief Valves.** On all "closed systems" (i.e., systems having a check valve, pressure regulator, or reducing valve, water filter or softener) an effective pressure relief valve shall be installed at or near the top of the hot water tank, or on the hot water distribution pipe connection to the tank. No stop valve shall be placed between the hot water tank and the relief valve or on the drain pipe. (See applicable Village plumbing codes).
- (c) **Air Chambers.** An air chamber or approved shock absorber shall be installed at the terminus of each riser, fixture branch, or hydraulic elevator main for the prevention of

undue water hammer. The air chamber shall be sized in conformance with applicable local plumbing codes. Where possible, the air chamber should be provided at its base with a valve for water drainage and replenishment of air.

Sec. 9-1-54 Water Main Extension Rules.

Water mains will be extended for new customers on the following basis:

- (a) Where the cost of the extension is to immediately be collected through assessment by the municipality against the abutting property, the procedure set forth under Sec. 66.0703, Wis. Stats. will apply, and no additional customer contribution to the Utility will be required.
- (b) Where the municipality is unwilling or unable to make a special assessment, the extension will be made on a customer-financed basis as follows:
 - (1) The applicant(s) will advance as a contribution in aid of construction the total amount equivalent to that which would have been assessed for all property under Subsection (a).
 - (2) Part of the contribution required in Subsection (b)(1) will be refundable. When additional customers are connected to the extended main within ten (10) years of the date of completion, contributions in aid of construction will be collected equal to the amount which would have been assessed under Subsection (b)(1) for the abutting property being served. This amount will be refunded to the original contributor(s). In no case will the contributions received from additional customers exceed the proportionate amount which would have been required under Subsection (a) nor will it exceed the total assessable cost of the original extension.
- (c) When a customer connects to a transmission main or connecting loop installed at Utility expense within ten (10) years of the date of completion, there will be a contribution required of an amount equivalent to that which would have been assessed under Subsection (a).

Sec. 9-1-55 Water Main Installations in Platted Subdivisions.

- (a) Application for installation of water mains in regularly platted real estate development subdivisions shall be filed with the Utility.
- (b) If the developer, or a contractor employed by the developer, is to install the water mains (with approval of the Utility), the developer shall be responsible for the total cost of construction.
- (c) If the Utility or its contractor is to install the water mains, the developer shall be required to advance to the Utility, prior to the beginning of the construction, the total estimated cost of the extension. If the final costs exceed estimated costs, an additional billing will be made for the balance of the cost due. This balance is to be paid within thirty (30) days.

If final costs are less than estimated, a refund of the overpayment will be made by the Water Utility.

Sec. 9-1-56 Cross Connection Control and Backflow Protection.

- (a) **Purpose.** The purpose of this Section is:
- (1) To protect the health and welfare of users of the public potable water supply of the Village of Star Prairie from the possibility of contamination or pollution of the potable water system under the direct authority of the Village of Star Prairie;
 - (2) To promote for the control and/or elimination of existing cross connections (actual or potential) between the customer's potable water system and other environments containing substances which may contaminate or pollute the water supply; and
 - (3) To provide for the maintenance of a continuing comprehensive program of cross connection control which will systematically and effectively prevent the contamination or pollution of the potable water system under the direct authority of the Village of Star Prairie.
- (b) **Definitions.** The following definitions shall be applicable in this Section:
- (1) **Backflow.** The undesirable flow of water or mixtures of water and other liquids, solids, gases or other substances under positive or reduced pressure into the Village of Star Prairie.
 - (2) **Backflow Prevention.** A means designed to prevent backflow caused by backpressure or backsiphonage; most commonly categorized as air gap, reduced pressure principal backflow assembly, double check valve assembly, pressure vacuum breaker assembly, backsiphonage backflow vacuum breaker (spill resistant pressure vacuum breaker) assembly, pipe applied atmospheric vacuum breaker, flush tank ballcock, laboratory faucet backflow preventer, backflow preventer for carbonated beverage machine, vacuum breaker wall hydrants (freeze resistant automatic draining type), chemical dispensing machine, hose connection vacuum breaker, hose connection backflow preventer, backflow preventer with intermediate atmospheric vent and barometric loop.
 - (3) **Backpressure.** An elevation of pressure in the downstream piping system (i.e. pump, elevation of piping, or steam and/or air pressure) above the utility supply pressure, which would cause or tend a reversal of the normal direction of flow.
 - (4) **Backsiphonage.** The flow of water or other liquids, mixtures or substance into the Utility's potable water supply system from any source caused by the sudden reduction of pressure in the Utility's potable water supply system.
 - (5) **Cross Connection.** Any physical connection or arrangement between two (2) otherwise separate systems, one of which contains potable water from the Utility, and the other containing water from a private source, water of unknown or questionable safety, or steam, gases or chemicals, whereby there may be a flow from one system

to the other, the direction of flow depending on the pressure differential between the two (2) systems.

- (c) **Cross Connection Prohibited.** No person shall establish or permit to be established or maintain or permit to be maintained any cross connection. No interconnection shall be established whereby potable water from a private, auxiliary or emergency water supply, other than the public water supply of the Utility, unless such private, auxiliary or emergency water supply and the method of connection and use of such supply have been approved by the Utility and the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources.
- (d) **Responsibility.** The Star Prairie Water Utility shall be responsible for the protection of the public potable water distribution system from contamination or pollution due to backflow of contaminants or pollutants. The Water Utility shall charge fees according to the Utility's *Cross Connection Control Policies and Procedures* for maintaining a comprehensive cross connection control protection plan.
- (e) **Owner Responsibility.**
 - (1) The property owner shall be responsible for the protection of the customer's potable water system. The responsibilities include the elimination of or protection from all cross connections on their premises. The owner shall, at their own expense, install, maintain and test any and all backflow preventers on their premises in compliance with SPS 382.21, Wis. Adm. Code, requirements and the Utility's *Cross Connection Control Policies and Procedures*. The property owner shall have corrected any malfunction revealed by periodic testing of any backflow preventer on their premises. The property owner shall inform the Utility of any proposed or modified cross connections and also any existing cross connections that are not protected by an approved backflow prevention means.
 - (2) The property owner shall not install a bypass around any backflow preventer unless there is a backflow preventer of the same type in the bypass. Property owners who cannot shut down operation for testing of the backflow prevention assembly must supply additional assemblies necessary to allow testing and maintenance to take place. In the event the property owner installs potable water using fixtures, equipment or appurtenances upstream of a backflow preventer, such must have its own approved backflow prevention means.
 - (3) The property owner is required to follow the protection practices described in the American Water Works Association publication AWWA M-14 titled *Recommended Backflow Prevention and Cross Connection Control*, United States Environmental Protection Agency publication titled *Cross Connection Control Manual*, Wisconsin Department of Safety and Professional Services SPS 382-384, Wis. Adm. Code, and the Water Utility's *Cross Connection Control Manual*, unless the Utility requires or authorizes other means of protecting the potable water supply system. These requirements or authorizations will be at the discretion of the Utility.
- (f) **Inspections.** It shall be the duty of the Water Utility to cause surveys to be made of all properties serviced by the Utility where cross connections with the public water system is

deemed possible. Residential properties serviced by the Utility shall be surveyed on a two-year interval. The Utility may, but is not required to, perform the cross connection survey of the customer's property. All non-residential properties serviced by the Water Utility shall be surveyed on an interval not exceeding two (2) years, and residential properties shall be serviced on an interval not exceeding ten (10) years. If, in the opinion of the Utility, the Utility is not able to perform the survey, the property owner must, at their own expense, have the water system piping surveyed for cross connections by a person who has been properly trained in accordance with the American Society of Sanitary Engineers (ASSE) Standard #5120 as a cross connection control surveyor. The Utility shall charge fees as approved by the State of Wisconsin Public Service Commission for on-premises follow-up visits by Utility personnel for re-inspection due to customer noncompliance and for after hours inspections or re-inspections.

- (g) **Right of Entry.** Upon presentation of credentials, representatives of the Utility shall have the right to request entry at any reasonable time to examine property served by the connection to the public potable water system of the Utility for cross connections. If entry is refused, such representatives shall obtain a special inspection warrant under Sec. 66.0119, Wis. Stats. The Utility shall charge the property owner a per day fee per Section 1-3-1 for refusal to allow entry to examine any property. Upon request, the owner, lessee or occupant of any property served shall furnish to the inspector any pertinent information regarding the piping system on such property.
- (h) **Authority to Discontinue Service.** The Water Utility is authorized and directed to discontinue water service to any property wherein any connection in violation of this Section exists and to take such other precautionary measures deemed necessary to eliminate any damage or contamination of the potable water system. Water service shall be discontinued if the means of backflow prevention required by the Utility is not installed, tested, maintained and/or repaired in compliance with this Section, the Wisconsin Department of Safety and Professional Services Code SPS 382-384, Wis. Adm. Code, and the Utility's *Cross Connection Control Policies and Procedures*, or if it is found that the means of backflow prevention required by this Section has been removed or bypassed. Water service shall be discontinued only after reasonable notice and opportunity for hearing under Chapter 68, Wis. Stats. (Title 4 of the Star Prairie Code of Ordinances), except as provided in Subsection (i) below.
- (i) **Reconnection of Service.** Water service to any property disconnected under the provisions of this Section shall not be restored until the cross connection(s) has been eliminated or a backflow prevention means approved by the Utility has been installed in compliance with the provisions of this Section. The Utility shall charge fees as approved by the State of Wisconsin Public Service Commission for the reconnection of the water service.
- (j) **Emergency Discontinuance of Service.** If it is determined by the Water Utility that a cross connection or an emergency endangers public health, safety or welfare and requires immediate action, service may be immediately discontinued. The owner, lessee or occupant

shall have an opportunity for hearing under Chapter 68, Wis. Stats. (Title 4 of the Star Prairie Code of Ordinances), within ten (10) days of such emergency discontinuance. Such hearing shall be before the Village Board or committee thereof and shall conform to all existing due process requirements.

- (k) **Additional Protection.** In the case of premises having cross connections that cannot be permanently corrected or controlled, or intricate plumbing and piping arrangements, or where entry to all portions of the premises is not readily accessible for surveying purposes, making it impractical or impossible to ascertain whether or not dangerous cross connections exist, the public water supply system shall be protected in the service line. In the case of any premises where there is any material dangerous to health that is handled in such manner that, in the opinion of the Water Utility, could create an actual or potential hazard to the public water supply system, an approved air gap separation or an approved reduced pressure principal backflow assembly shall protect the public water supply system. Examples of premises where these conditions will exist include premises with auxiliary water supplies either interconnected or not interconnected with the public water supply system, premises where inspection is restricted, hospitals, mortuaries, clinics, laboratories, piers, docks, and other waterfront facilities, sewage treatment plants, sewage lift stations, food and beverage processing plants, chemical plants using a water process, metal processing plants, car washing facilities and premises with reclaimed water systems. In the case of any presence of toxic substances, the Water Utility may require an approved air gap or reduced pressure principal backflow assembly at the service connection to protect the public water supply system. This requirement will be at the discretion of the Water Utility.
- (l) **Public Water Supplies.** This Section does not supercede the State of Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources Code NR 810, Wis. Adm. Code, but is supplementary to it.
- (m) **Plumbing Code.** The Village of Star Prairie adopts by reference the Wisconsin Safety and Professional Services being SPS 382-384, Wis. Adm. Code. This Section does not supercede the Wisconsin Uniform Plumbing Code and Village Plumbing Code ordinances, but is supplementary to it.

Sec. 9-1-57 Private Well Abandonment; Well Operation Permit.

- (a) **Purpose.** The purpose of this Section is to protect public health, safety and welfare, and to prevent contamination of groundwater by assuring that unused, unsafe or noncomplying wells, or wells which may be illegally cross-connected to the municipal water system, are properly maintained or abandoned.
- (b) **Applicability.** This Section applies to all wells located on premises served by the Village of Star Prairie's municipal water system. Water Utility customers outside the jurisdiction of the municipal system may be required under contract agreement or Water Utility rule to

adopt and enforce equivalent ordinances within their jurisdictions for the purpose(s) stated in Subsection (a) above.

(c) **Definitions.** The following definitions shall be applicable in this Section:

- (1) **Municipal Water System.** A community water system owned by a city, village, county, town, town sanitary district, utility district, public inland lake and rehabilitation district, municipal water district or a federal, state, county, or municipal-owned institution for congregate care or correction, or a privately-owned water utility serving the foregoing.
- (2) **Noncomplying.** A well or pump installation which does not comply with NR 812.42, Wis. Adm. Code, "Standards for Existing Installations," and which has not been granted a variance pursuant to NR 812.43, Wis. Adm. Code.
- (3) **Pump Installation.** The pump and related equipment used for withdrawing water from a well, including the discharge piping, the underground connections, pitless adapters, and pressure tanks, pits, sampling faucets and well seals or caps.
- (4) **Unsafe.** A well or pump installation means one which produces water which is bacteriologically contaminated or contaminated with substances which exceed the drinking water standards of NR 140 or 809, Wis. Adm. Code, or for which a Health Advisory has been issued by the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources.
- (5) **Unused.** A well or pump installation that is one which is not used or does not have a functional pumping system.
- (6) **Well.** A drillhole or other excavation or opening deeper than it is wide that extends more than ten (10) feet below the ground surface constructed for the purpose of obtaining groundwater.
- (7) **Well Abandonment.** The proper filling and sealing of a well according to the provisions of NR 812.26, Wis. Adm. Code.

(d) **Well Abandonment Required.** All wells on premises served by the municipal water system shall be properly abandoned (filled in and sealed) in accordance with Subsection (f) by June 1, 1993, or not later than one (1) year from the date of connection to the municipal water system, unless a valid well operation permit has been issued to the well owner by the Village of Star Prairie under the terms of Subsection (e) below.

(e) **Well Operation Permit.** Owners of wells on premises served by the municipal water system wishing to retain their wells for any use shall make application for a well operation permit for each well no later than ninety (90) days after connection to the municipal water system. The Village of Star Prairie shall grant a permit to a well owner to operate a well for a period not to exceed five (5) years providing all conditions of this Section are met. A well operation permit may be renewed by submitting an application verifying that the conditions of this Section are met. The Village of Star Prairie, or its agent, may conduct inspections and water quality tests or require inspections and water quality tests to be conducted at the applicant's expense to obtain or verify information necessary for consideration of a permit application or renewal. Permit applications and renewals shall

be made on forms provided by the Village Clerk-Treasurer. All initial and renewal applications shall be accompanied by the required fee. The following conditions must be met for issuance or renewal of a well operation permit:

- (1) **Administrative Code Compliance.** The well and pump installation shall be evaluated by a licensed well driller or pump installer and certified to meet the Standards for Existing Installations described in NR 812.42, Wis. Adm. Code. This evaluation shall occur prior to issuing the permit and no less than every ten (10) years afterwards.
 - (2) **Testing.** The well and pump shall have a history of producing safe water evidenced by at least one (1) coliform bacteria sample. In areas where the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources has determined that groundwater aquifers are contaminated with substances other than bacteria, additional chemical tests may be required to document the safety of the water.
 - (3) **Cross Connections Prohibited.** There shall be no cross connections or interconnections between the well's pump installation or distribution piping and the municipal water system.
 - (4) **Private Well Discharges.** The water from the private well shall not discharge into a drain leading directly to a public sewer utility unless properly metered and authorized by the sewer utility.
 - (5) **Functional Pumping System Requirement.** The private well shall have a functional pumping system.
 - (6) **Necessity Test.** The proposed use of the private well shall be justified as reasonable in addition to water provided by the municipal water system.
- (f) **Abandonment Procedures; Well Filling and Sealing.**
- (1) **Consistency With Administrative Code Requirements; Debris Removal.** All wells abandoned under the jurisdiction of this Section shall be done according to the procedures and methods of NR 812.26, Wis. Adm. Code. All debris, pumps, piping, unsealed liners, and any other obstructions which may interfere with sealing operations shall be removed prior to abandonment.
 - (2) **Notification of Abandonment Procedures.** The owner of the well, or the owner's agent, shall be required to obtain a well abandonment permit prior to any well abandonment and shall notify the Village Clerk-Treasurer at least forty-eight (48) hours in advance of any well abandonment activities. The abandonment of the well may be observed or verified by personnel of the municipal system.
 - (3) **Abandonment Report.** A well filling and sealing report form, supplied by the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources, shall be submitted by the well owner to the Village Clerk-Treasurer and the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources within thirty (30) days of the completion of the well abandonment.
- (g) **Penalties.** Any well owner violating any provision of this Section shall, upon conviction, be punished by forfeiture as prescribed in Section 1-1-6 and the cost of prosecution. Each day of violation is a separate offense. If any person fails to comply with this Section for

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more than thirty (30) days after receiving written notice of the violation, the Village may impose a penalty and cause the well abandonment to be performed and the expense to be assessed as a special charge against the property.

Cross-Reference: NR 140, 809 and 812, Wis. Adm. Code; SPS 382, Wis. Adm. Code

Chapter 2

Sewer and Water Utility User Regulations

9-2-1	Management and Control
9-2-2	Consumer's Rules and Regulations
9-2-3	User Rules
9-2-4	Miscellaneous Rules and Regulations

Sec. 9-2-1 Management and Control.

- (a) **Control of Water and Sewer Works Systems.** The management, operation and control of the Water and Sewer Systems for the Village of Star Prairie is vested in the Board of Trustees of said Village; all records, minutes and all written proceedings thereof shall be kept by the Clerk-Treasurer of the Village of Star Prairie; the Clerk-Treasurer of the Village of Star Prairie shall keep all the financial records. The Water System and the Sewer System shall be separately operated but this Chapter shall establish rates, rules and regulations for each system. The revenues from the Village Water Utility and the Village Sewer Utility shall also be maintained and disbursed separately for accounting purposes in the Village of Star Prairie.
- (b) **Construction Powers.** The Water and Sewer Systems of the Village of Star Prairie shall have the power to construct power lines for public use, and fountains at such places as the said Systems, acting through the Village Board, shall determine; and also shall have the power to lay water and sewer pipes in and through the alleys, streets and public grounds of the Village; and generally, to do all such work as may be found necessary or convenient in the management of the Water and Sewer Systems. The Trustees shall have power by themselves, their officers, agents and servants, to enter upon any land for the purpose of making examination or supervise in the performance of their duties under this Chapter, without liability therefor; and the Trustees shall have power to purchase and acquire for the Village, all real and personal property which may be necessary for construction of the Water and Sewer Systems, or for any repair, remodeling or additions thereto.
- (c) **Condemnation of Real Estate.** Whenever any real estate or any easement therein, or use thereof, shall in the judgment of the Village Board, be necessary to the Water and Sewer Systems; and whenever, for any cause, an agreement for the purchase thereof, cannot be made with the owner thereof, the Village Board shall proceed with all necessary steps to take such real estate easement, or use by condemnation in accordance with the Wisconsin Statutes.
- (d) **Title to Real Estate and Personalty.** All property, real, personal and mixed, acquired for the construction of the Water and Sewer Systems, and all plans specifications, diagrams, papers, books and records connected therewith and the said Water and Sewer Systems, and

all buildings, machinery and fixtures pertaining thereto, shall be the property of said Village.

Sec. 9-2-2 Consumers' Rules and Regulations.

The rules, regulations and water and sewer rates of the Water and Sewer Systems of the Village of Star Prairie hereinafter set forth shall be considered a part of the contract with every person, company or corporation who is supplied with water through the water system, or connected with the sewer system, or for whom such service is available of the Village; and every such person, company or corporation, by taking water or connecting with the sewer system, shall be considered as expressing his, her or their assent to be bound thereby. Whenever any of said rules and regulations, or such others as the said Village or Board of Trustees may hereafter adopt are violated, the service shall be shut off from the building or place of such violation, [even though two (2) or more parties are receiving service through the same connection) and shall not be re-established except by order of the Village Board, and on payment of all arrears, the expenses and established charges of shutting off and putting on, and such other terms as the Board may determine, and a satisfactory understanding with the party that no further cause for complaint shall arise. In case of such violation the said Board, furthermore, may declare any payment made for service, by the party or parties committing such violation, to be forfeited, and the same shall thereupon be forfeited. The right is reserved to the Village Board to change the said rules, regulations, and water and sewer rates from time to time as they may deem advisable; and to make special rates and contracts in all proper cases; all subject to the authority of the Wisconsin Public Service Commission.

Sec. 9-2-3 User Rules.

The following rules and regulations for the government of licensed plumbers, water takers, sewer users and others, are hereby adopted and established:

- (a) **Plumbers.** No plumber, pipe fitter, or other person will be permitted to do any plumbing or pipe fitting work in connection with the Water and Sewer Systems without first receiving a license from the State of Wisconsin.
- (b) **Consumers.**
 - (1) **Application for Service.**
 - a. Every person desiring to connect with the Water and Sewer Systems shall file an application in writing to the Village Board, in such form as is prescribed for that purpose.
 - b. There shall be but one (1) type of application, and that application shall be for both Sewer and Water Service; not one without the other.

- c. Blanks for such applications will be furnished at the Office of the Village Clerk-Treasurer. The application must state fully and truly all the use will be allowed except upon further application, and permission regularly obtained from the Village Board.
 - d. If the applicant is not the owner of the premises, the written consent of the owner must accompany the application. Persons connected to the Sewer and Water Systems of the Village of Star Prairie are referred to herein as "consumers".
 - e. The application may be for service to more than one (1) building, or more than one (1) unit of service through one (1) service pipe or water meter; and, in such case, charges shall be made accordingly.
 - f. If it appears that the service applied for will not provide adequate service for the contemplated use, the Board may reject the application. If the Board shall approve the application, it shall issue a permit for services as shown on the application.
- (2) **Connection Fee.** The Village may charge parties connecting to the sewer system a connection charge as determined by the Village Board.
- (3) **Tap Permits.** After water and sewer connections have been introduced into any building or upon any premises, no plumber shall make any tap or connection with the pipes upon such premises, for alterations, extensions or attachments, unless the party ordering such alteration or other work shall exhibit the proper permit for the same from the Village Board.
- (4) **Consumers to Conserve Water.** All consumers shall keep the hydrants, taps, hose, water closets, urinals, baths, or other fixtures allotted to their use, closed except when obtaining water for use; and shall be responsible for any damage or injury that may result to others from the improper use of said water.
- (5) **Consumer to Keep in Repair.** All consumers shall keep their own service pipes, stopcocks and apparatus in good repair and protected from frost, at their own risk and expense; and shall prevent any unnecessary waste of water and overburdening of the sewer system. All expenses relating to the introduction of water into buildings or private premises, and connection with the sewer system, shall be paid by the applicant. No charge, however, shall be made for the services of the superintendent in directing where and in what manner the mains shall be tapped, and excavations made in the street for laying pipe.
- (6) **Consumers Use Only.** No consumer shall supply water to others; nor suffer others to take it off his/her premises; nor shall he/she allow others or other services to connect to the sewer system through his/her lateral.
- (7) **Consumer to Permit Inspection.** Every consumer shall permit the Board of Trustees, or its duly authorized agent, at all reasonable hours of the day, to enter their premises or building to examine the pipes and fixtures, and the manner in which the water is used and drains and sewer connections operate; and they must at all times, frankly and without concealment, answer all questions put to them relative to its use.

- (8) **Utility Responsibility.** It is expressly stipulated that no claim shall be made against said Village or Village Board by reason of the breaking, clogging, stoppage, or freezing of any service pipe or service cock; nor, if from any cause, the supply of water shall fail; nor from any damage arising from shutting off water to repair mains, making connections or extensions; for any other work that may be deemed necessary. The right is hereby reserved to cut off the supply of water at any time for the purpose of repairs or any other necessary purpose, any permit granted or regulation to the contrary notwithstanding. Whenever it shall become necessary to shut off the service within any district of the said Village, the Board shall, if practicable, give notice to each and every consumer within said Village of the time when such service will be so shut off.
- (9) **Meters.** It shall be the duty of the owner of any premises to provide a location for a water meter, and to maintain such location and passageway thereto, clean and sanitary and free from any obstruction or any condition of a hazardous nature. No connection for water meters shall be installed in any location not easily accessible, or which is, or may be, unclean, unsanitary or in any manner unsafe to utility employees in the discharge of their duties.
- (c) **Water Regulations.**
 - (1) Water will not be turned into any building or private service pipe except upon the order, in writing, of the Village Board or their duly authorized agent, and plumbers are strictly prohibited from turning water into any service pipe, except upon the order or permission of the said Board or their agent. This rule shall not be construed to prevent any plumber admitting water to test pipes, and for that purpose only.
 - (2) When the water has been turned off by the order of the Village Board or their authorized agent, no consumer shall turn it on, nor permit it to be turned on, without the written consent of said Board or their agent.
- (d) **Excavations.**
 - (1) In making excavations in streets or highways for laying service pipe or making repairs, the paving and earth removed must be deposited in a manner that will occasion the least inconvenience to the public, and provide for the passage of water along the gutters.
 - (2) No person shall leave any such excavation made in any street or highway open at any time without barricades; and during the night, warning lights must be maintained at such excavations.
 - (3) In refilling the opening, after the service pipes are laid, the earth must be laid in layers of not more than nine (9) inches in depth, and each layer thoroughly compacted to prevent settling. This work, together with the replacing of sidewalks, base course and paving, must be done so as to make the street as good, at least, as before it was disturbed, and satisfactory to the Village Board. No opening of the streets for servicing the mains will be permitted when the ground is frozen.

(e) **Tapping the Mains.**

- (1) No persons, except those having special permission from the Village Board, or persons in their service and approved by them, will be permitted, under any circumstances to tap the mains or collection pipes. The kind and size of the connection with the pipe shall be that specified in the permit or order from said Board.
- (2) Pipes should always be tapped on the top, and not within six inches of the joint, or within twenty-four (24) inches of another lateral connection.

(f) **Installation of House Laterals.**

- (1) All sewers (laterals) on private property will be installed in accordance with Chapter H 82 "Design, Construction, Installation, Supervision and Inspection of Plumbing"; specifically, Sec. H 82.04 "Building Sewers", Wis. Adm. Code.
- (2) Per Sec. H 82.04, Wis. Adm. Code, all laterals will be inspected. The building sewer and/or private interceptor main sewer shall be inspected upon completed of placement of pipe and before backfilling and tested before or after backfilling.

(g) **Water Service Rates and Sewer Service Rates.**

- (1) The water service rates and regulations prescribed by the Order of the Public Service Commission of Wisconsin shall be the water rates and regulations for the Village of Star Prairie.
- (2) The sewer service rates shall be as follows:
 - a. Fifty Dollars (\$50.00) per month per resident or apartment unit.
 - b. User rates for non-residential users will be Fifty Dollars (\$50.00) per month per connection.
- (3) The Village shall also make a general tax levy of Four Thousand Two Hundred Dollars (\$4,200.00) per year, which money shall be used for operation of the sewer system and payment on revenue bonds.

(h) **Mandatory Connection.**

- (1) The owner of each parcel of land adjacent to a sewer and water main on which there exists a building usable for human habitation or in a block through which one (1) or both such systems are extended, shall connect to such system within ten (10) days of notice in writing from the Village of Star Prairie. "Connect" or "connection" as used in this Subsection shall include hooking up to the system as well as installation of the meter. Upon failure to do so the Village may cause such connection to be made and bill the property owner for such costs. If such costs are not paid within thirty (30) days, such costs shall be assessed as a special tax lien against the property, all pursuant to Sec. 281.45, Wis. Stats., provided, however, that the owner may within thirty (30) days after the completion of the work file a written option with the Village Clerk-Treasurer stating that he/she can not pay such amount in one (1) sum and ask that there be levied in not to exceed five (5) equal installments and that the amount shall be so collected with interest at the rate of six percent (6%) per annum from the completion of the work, the unpaid balance being a special tax lien, all pursuant to Sec. 281.45, Wis. Stats.

- (2) In lieu of the above the Village at its option may impose a penalty for the period that the violation continues, after ten (10) days written notice to any owner failing to make a connection to the sewer and water systems of an amount equal to one hundred fifty percent (150%) of the minimum quarterly charge for water and sewer service payable quarterly for the period in which the failure to connect continues, and upon failure to make such payment said charge shall be assessed as a special tax lien against the property, all pursuant to Sec. 144.06, Wis. Stats.
 - (3) This Chapter ordains that the failure to connect to the water and sewer supply systems is contrary to the minimum health standards of said Village and fails to assure preservation of public health, comfort and safety of said Village.
- (i) **Maintenance of Services.**
 - (1) **Water Services.** All water service within the corporate limits of the Village from the street main to the location of the curb stop and including all controls between the same, will be maintained by the Village without expenses to the property owner, except when they are damaged as a result of negligence or carelessness on the part of the property owner, a tenant, or an agent of the owner, in which case they will be repaired at the expense of the property owner. All water service from the point of maintenance by the Systems to and throughout the premises must be maintained free of defective conditions, by and at the expense of the owner or occupant of the property. If the property owner does not repair an existing water leak between the curb stop and the building within twenty-four (24) hours, the water will be shut off and remain off until the repair is completed to the satisfaction of the Village.
 - (2) **Sewer Services.** All sewer service within the corporate limits of the Village from and including the "Y" into the main to and throughout the premises must be maintained free of defective conditions by and at the expense of the owner or occupant of the property. All other sewer services within the Village will be maintained by the Village without expense to the property owner, except when they are damaged as a result of negligence or carelessness on the part of the property owner, or a tenant, or an agent of the owner, in which case they will be repaired at the expense of the property owner.
- (j) **Payment of Bills.**
 - (1) **Failure to Receive Bill No Penalty Exemption.** Every reasonable care will be exercised in the proper delivery of water and sewer bills. Failure to receive a water and sewer bill, however, shall not relieve any person of the responsibility for payment of water and sewer rates within the prescribed period, nor exempt any person from any penalty imposed for delinquency in the payment thereof.
 - (2) **Billing.** The property owner is held responsible for all water and sewer bills on premises that he/she owns. All water and sewer bills and notices of any nature, relative to the water and sewer supply, will be addressed to the owner and delivered to the premises referred to on such bill or notice.

- (3) **Penalties and Discounts.** Penalties and discounts as ordered by the Public Service Commission of the State of Wisconsin shall apply.
- (k) **Penalty for Improper Use.** It shall be unlawful for any person to willfully pollute or otherwise injure any water supplied by the Systems. Cross-connections are prohibited except as provided in Sec. H 82.14 and NR 111.25, Wis. Adm. Code. All unused, unsafe, or noncomplying private wells must be abandoned as provided in NR 111.26, Wis. Adm. Code.
- (l) **Damage Recovery.**
- (1) The Systems shall have the right of recovery from all persons, any expense incurred by said Systems for the misuse or for the repair or replacement of any water and sewer pipe or sewer system facility, curb-cock, gate valve, hydrant, or valve box damages in any manner by any persons by reason of the operation of any electrical system or the performance of any work under their control, or by any negligent act.
- (2) Owners or operators of motor vehicles will be held liable for the cost of repair of any hydrant damaged by them, and the Systems will not be responsible for the damage due the motor vehicle by reason of such accident.
- (m) **Penalties.** Any person who shall violate any of the provisions of this Chapter or rules or regulations of the Village Board relating to the Sewer and Water Systems of the Village of Star Prairie, or who shall turn on the water into any premises from which the water has been shut off, or into which the water has not yet been turned on; or who shall connect any water main or service pipe without first having obtained a permit therefor; or who shall violate any provisions of the Wisconsin Statutes, Wisconsin Administrative Code or any other materials which are incorporated by reference, shall upon conviction thereof forfeit not less than Twenty-five Dollars (\$25.00) nor more than Five Hundred Dollars (\$500.00) and the costs of prosecution, and in default of payment of such forfeiture and the costs of prosecution shall be imprisoned in the County Jail until payment of such forfeiture and the costs of prosecution, but not exceeding ninety (90) days for each violation. Each day of violation shall be a separate offense. This, however, shall not bar the Village of Star Prairie from enforcing connection duties set out in Subsection (h) for mandatory connection.
- (n) **Septic Tanks Prohibited.** The maintenance and use of septic tanks and other private sewage disposal system, and also private wells, within the area of the Village of Star Prairie serviced by its Sewer and Water Systems are hereby declared to be a public nuisance and a health hazard. From and after six (6) months after the said sewer and water systems are completed, the use of septic tanks or any private sewage disposal system, and private wells, within the area of the Village serviced by the systems shall be prohibited.

Sec. 9-2-4 Miscellaneous Rules and Regulations.

- (a) **Vacation of Premises and Discontinuance of Service.** Whenever premises served by the Systems are to be vacated, or whenever any person desires to discontinue service from

the Systems; the Systems must be notified in writing so that they may remove the meter and shut off the water. The owner of the premises shall be liable for any damages to the property of the Systems by reason of failure to notify the Systems of a vacancy or any such damages which may be discovered having occurred to the property of the Systems other than through the fault of the Systems or their employees, representatives or agents.

- (b) **Charges are a Lien on Property.** On water and sewer services, charges and special assessments shall be a lien on a lot, part of a lot, or land on which sewer services were supplied. All sums that have accrued during the preceding year, and which are not paid by the first (1st) day of November in any year, shall be certified to the Village Clerk-Treasurer to be placed on the tax roll for collecting as provided by Wisconsin Statutes.
- (c) **Unit of Service Definition.**
 - (1) A unit of service shall consist of any residential, commercial, industrial or charitable aggregation of space or area occupied for a distinct purpose, such as a residence, apartment, flat, store, office, industrial plant, church or school, which is equipped with one (1) or more fixtures for rendering water service, separate and distinct from other users. Each unit of service shall be regarded as one (1) consumer and the surcharge for additional consumers on a meter assessed accordingly.
 - (2) Suites in houses, or apartments with complete housekeeping functions (such as cooking) shall be classed as rooming houses; thus houses and apartments having suites of one (1), two (2) or more rooms with toilet facilities, but without kitchens for cooking, are classed as rooming houses.
 - (3) When a consumer's premises has several buildings, each supplied with service and metered separately, the full service charge will be billed for each meter separately, and the readings will not be cumulated. If these buildings are all used in the same business and are connected by the consumer, they can be metered in one (1) place. If the utility, for its own convenience, installs more than one (1) meter, the readings will be cumulated for billing.
 - (4) The designation of units shall be a judgment of the Village Board of the Village of Star Prairie, and such judgment shall be binding upon the user, and payment for any charge prescribed by the Village Board shall be paid in advance of service. In the event of failure to pay such charge, such charges shall be billed in accordance with this Chapter.
- (d) **Adoption of Other Rules.** There is hereby adopted all the rules and regulations of the State Board of Health and Social Services, rules and regulations of the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources and the building rules of the Wisconsin Department of Safety and Professional Services insofar as the same are applicable to the Village of Star Prairie.