

Richmond Village Water System Rules

I. The following definitions will be observed in all references herein:

Village Main Lines—primary distributing lines servicing entire area of the village, owned by the Village.

Village Service Lines – these few branch distributing lines, serving a small number of consumers, owned by the village.

Private Service Lines—those lines used by rate consumers not owned by the Village

II. Main Extension

No further extension of the village main lines shall be undertaken without express vote, upon proper warning of Village Taxpayers.

III. Improvement of Service—Private Repair

1. Upon request of a consumer rate payers, improvement may, in the opinion of the Water commissioner, be undertaken on Village Main Lines and Village owned Service Lines. However, if in the opinion of the Water commissioners the improvement was unnecessary and the true fault of improper service was in the line of the consumer rate payer, the Commissioners may assess the entire charge of the improvement upon the complaining consumer rate payer.
 - a) In the even fault is discovered in both lines, the Water Commissioners shall determine the percentage of fault and assess the charge accordingly
 - b) Upon such improvement, the Water Commissioners may order that a curb stop and curb box shall be installed, if not already installed, at the expense of each consumer rate payer.
2. Upon any repair of private lines undertaken by the consumer rate payer, the Water Commissioners may require a new Curb Stop and Curb Box to be installed. Five days repair notice is required.
3. ~~Charge for Curb Stop and Curb Box shall be \$35.00 for the year 1961, if installed by the Village. This charge may be increased by actual expense incurred if the consumer rate payer makes [private service line repair without notice.~~ Charge for Curb Stop and Curb Box shall be \$70.00 for the year 1970, if installed by the Village. This charge may be increased by actual expenses incurred if the consumer rate payer makes private service line repair without notice. [5/11/1970 amendment]
4. Curb Stop and Curb Box shall meet minimum standards set by the Water Commissioners.

IV. New Installation

1. The present consumer rate payer desiring an entire new Service Line or Main Line access and a potential consumer rate payer desiring a new main line or service access

may request the same from the Village Water Commissions, who then will, as they see fit, determine the proper point of service for the new installation.

2. A resolution was made by Orra Marshall and passed by legal vote of trustees: all new applications for water shall consist of a letter applying for connection and this to be accompanied by \$60.00; this to be done before any connection to be installed [9/8/1965 amendment]
3. The Water Commissioners may assess a new installation charge against the petitioning present consumer rate payer or proposed consumer rate payers; ~~said charge for the year 1961 shall be \$60.00.~~ said charge for the year 1970, and, until further amended, shall be \$120, in the place of previous charge of \$60.00. Hookup fee payable in advance. [5/1/1970 amendment] This charge includes Curb Stop and Curb Box charge, if the same is installed at the expense of the Village and if Curb Box is installed by the consumer rate payers, this charge shall not be reduced by any alleged savings to the Village
4. Where a new installation so requires, the Water Commissioners may extend at the expense of the Village the Main or Village Service Lines through Village property including rights of way and public thoroughfares such as roads and sidewalks, provided the extension of Village mains is incidental to the new installation or installations and not such a "MAIN EXTENSION" so as to be in conflict with Sec. II, hereof.

V. Property Improvement Affecting Water Lines

For the purpose of this section "Property Improvements" represents excavation, land filling, land drainage, or any change in the topographical vertical or lateral support of the Village Main Lines or Village Service Lines.

1. Written approval of the Water Commissioners shall be required of any private person or persons or any public agency or any corporation or company prior to any such property improvement
2. Upon approval of the Water Commissioners such improvement may occur but any change made shall be actually mapped and blueprinted and copies of such maps and blueprints shall be delivered to the Water Commissioners within one (1) month of the change.
3. Upon such improvements, any breaks or damage to the Village Water Lines may be repaired under the supervision of the Water Commissioners and the expense of such repairs may be assessed against the property owner and the contractor or persons who made the property improvement. Provided, however, that if the said breaks and repairs were made after submission of improvement plans and improvement techniques to Water Commissioners and approved by them. provided also, the actual property improvement conformed to the approved plans and approved techniques, then the Water Commissioners may assume the costs of such repair provided it does not amount to a "Main Extension" prohibited under Section II.

VI. Notice Requirements – Joint Savings Costs

1. Upon any "Improvement of Service," "New Installation", or "Property Improvement", affecting water lines, as referred to in SECTIONS III, IV and V thereof, commenced or about to be commenced by a consumer rate purchaser or contractor, the Water Commissioners shall be given 15 days notice prior to the commencement date for the purpose of negotiating to utilize the same ditch contractor or plumber so that both the private and public lines may be serviced at a mutual saving in cost. In the even the land owner provides excavation of private lines by labor he has available to him from members of his family or from associates otherwise providing an extra-ordinary savings to the land owner, notice shall be given to the Water Commissioners 5 days prior to the anticipated completion date of the excavation so the Village may contract for excavation of its ditches in a manner to permit prompt resumption of service at reasonable cost.
2. On the failure of consumer rate purchaser to provide the 15 days notice or the 5 days notice as set forth above and if this failure in fact prevents the Village from obtaining a savings in costs through a mutual arrangement with a contractor or plumber or requires the Village to pay emergency costs made necessary by the hazard of the open ditch completed by the consumer rate purchaser without notice, the Water Commissioners may assess the costs representing the savings not obtained and the costs above normal against the consumer rate purchaser.

VII. Rates

1. The Water Commissioners shall determine the rates payable for water service, improvement of service, new installation and other expenses assessable to the consumer rate payer.
2. The water rates are payable by the title owner of the land. However, this section is not intended to alter or weaken the liability of occupant of the premises who is equally liable. Despite the foregoing, the Water Commissioners may, in their discretion, accept payment from tenants of the property to be credited against the land owner's account. Submission of invoice for water service to the tenants shall be considered notice to the land owners of water rent due. Unpaid water rents shall be a lien on the land.
3. Water rates shall be assessed quarterly.
4. Upon the vacancy of any premises, the consumer rate payer, be the same owner or occupant, shall notify the Water Commissioners to permit immediate shut off of the water service. Failure to so notify will render liable the consumer rate payer and the owner for double shut off fee plus any costs attendant to repair or added maintenance paid out by the Water Commissioners.
5. ~~Unpaid water rents and assessments become delinquent thirty (30) days after mailing of bill and subject to a penalty of 5% of bill. Also, water service may be shut off at the expense of the consumer rate payer.~~ Unpaid water rents and assessments become delinquent thirty (30) days after mailing of bill and subject to a penalty of 5% of toal unpaid balance each quarter. Also, water service may be cut off at the expense of the consumer rate payer. [5/11/1970 amendment]
6. Shut-off and Turn on fee- Rate Adjustment

- a) ~~A shut off fee of one dollar (\$1.00) shall be charged to the consumer rate payer and the owner. The same fee shall be assessed upon resumption of service.~~ A shut-off fee of five (\$5.00) dollars shall be charged to the consumer rate payer and the owner. The same fee shall be assessed upon resumption of service. [5/11/1970 amendment]
- b) Rate adjustment shall be pro-rated as follows
 - 1. The quarterly charge shall be reduced in segments of months, not by days of absence.
 - 2. Less than 30 days vacancy shall not be sufficient to permit rate adjustment but may require vacancy notice
 - 3. Rate adjustment will be made only upon notification 5 days prior to end of the quarterly billing period.

VIII. Officers

The duly elected Village Officers shall constitute the Officers of the Village Water System and the Trustees of the Village shall constitute the Board of Water Commissioners.

IX. Other laws

Incorporated herein by reference and made of full force and effect as if recited in full are chapters 73 and 74 of Title 24 of Vermont Statutes Annotated, as the same may be amended from time to time. In the event of conflict between these rules and said Chapters of VSA, the said Chapters are to prevail

X. Authority

The rules are issued by authority of Chapter 73, Section 3313 of Title 24, VSA, and may be amended or altered from time to time, without notice.

Rules of the Water Commissioners Adopted March 11, 1961.

/s/ Orra Marshall /s/ Everett P. Barber /s/ Thomas J. Kenney, Esq.

Resolutions made by Lyman Phelps and approved by trustees present:

Perley G. Adams and Lyman Phelps.

Amendments of May 11, 1970 voted in by Trustees

/s/ Perely G. Adams /s/ Lyman Phelps

Amendment to: Richmond Water System Rules 6/10/1976

Any special hook-up for any unmetered separate service after July 1, 1976 will be assessed the minimum quarterly charge for water.

Amendment made by Lyman Phelps and approved by Trustees present; Neil Sherman, Lyman Phelps and Thomas Levesque

/s/Neil A. Sherman

/s/ Lyman N. Phelps

/s/ Thomas A. Levesque

Amendment 5/10/1979

Any fees and expenses incurred in the collection of water assessments shall be added to the amount due.

Amendment made and passed May 10, 1979 at regular scheduled meeting and recorded on page 123 of the Trustees minutes book.

Village of Richmond

Richmond, Vermont

The Village trustees, acting as the Board of Water Commissioners, 24 VSA 3311 and as the Board of Sewage Disposal Commissioner, 24 VSA 10, wish to inform residents that on January 1, 1973, new water and sewage rates for the Village of Richmond will become effective. The water and sewage bills released April 1, 1973 will reflect the new rates.

The proposed rates, set by the Village Trustees, are based upon anticipated water consumption and sewage service for the year 1973, maintenance and operating costs, and the funds needed to pay off the bonded debt. It is anticipated that the rates will eventually be reduced as the bonded debt decreases, taking into account however, the necessity of improving periodically the existing water and sewer mains in the Village.

The new rates are as follows:

Water-- \$0.65 per 1000 gallons of water used—minimum quarterly bill of \$10

Sewage-- \$1.10 per 1000 gallons of metered water – minimum quarterly bill of \$15

Beginning January 1, 1973, the Village will combine the present Water and Sewer Departments into one department in order to reduce operating costs by duplication of records and handling of funds. Also on that date, the Village will assume the responsibility for service and repair of all sewer mains located within the Village rights-of-way or on Village property

The trustees welcome your questions. Please feel free to call on us at any time. In the event of meter failure or water sewer main service, please call Mr. Willard Conant.