Sec. 48-20. Connections to the public water system.

(a) No person shall tap any water main or distribution pipe of the water distribution system, or insert therein any corporation cock, stop cock, or any other fixture or appliance, or alter or disturb any service pipe, corporation stop, curb stop, gate valve, hydrant, water meter or any other attachment belonging to the water distribution system and attached thereto without the explicit and official permission of an authorized representative of the city. No person shall install any water service pipe or connect or disconnect any such service pipe with or from the mains or distribution pipes of said water distribution system, nor with or from any other service pipe now or hereafter connected with said system, nor make any repairs, additions to, or alterations of any such service pipe, tap, stop cock, or any other fixture of attachments connected with any such service pipe, without proper permit for same.

(b) The owner, tenant, or occupant of each lot or parcel of land which abuts upon a street or other public way containing a water main or a water system upon which lot or parcel a building shall have been, is or will be constructed for residential, commercial or industrial use in the city shall connect such building with such water main and shall cease to use any other source of water supply for any purpose. An exception shall be made for outdoor irrigation purposes.

(c) Any such owner, tenant, or occupant of a lot or parcel of land in the city along a water main constructed prior to January 1, 1997, who has an existing domestic supply or source of potable water shall be exempt from the provisions of this section. However, when the existing water source for the lot or parcel is insufficient or requires maintenance or upgrade, the owner, tenant, or occupant shall immediately connect to the city water system.

(d) Any such owner, tenant, or occupant of a lot or parcel of land in the city who has an existing domestic supply or source of potable water who is exempted from the provisions of this section as provided in this section shall be subject to all fees normally charged for non-users of the public water system for fire protection services.

(e) No well, spring, or other water supply shall be permitted for residential, commercial or industrial usage when property is adjacent to public water system.

(f) Connection to public water system when property owner ceases to use existing system. The owner, tenant, or occupant of each lot or parcel of land which abuts upon a street or other public way containing a water main or a water system upon which lot or parcel a building shall have been constructed for residential, commercial or industrial use in the city who has an existing water system shall be required to connect to the public water system in the event the owner, tenant or occupant of any such lot shall cease to use the existing domestic supply or source of potable water or it requires maintenance.

(g) Connection costs to be borne by owner. All costs and expense incident to the installation and connection of the water service line shall be borne by the owner. The owner shall indemnify the city from any loss, damage or restoration costs that may be occasioned by the installation of the water service line.

(h) Specifications for water service lines. The materials of construction of a water service line and the methods to be used in excavation, placing of the pipe, testing, disinfection and backfilling the trench shall all conform to the requirement of the building code or applicable state department of environmental quality rules, regulations and engineering standards of the city. All excavations required for the water service line shall be open trench work, unless otherwise approved by the city engineer. No backfill shall be placed until the work has been inspected in accordance with this section.

(i) Exceptions.

(1) Nothing contained in this article shall restrict the use of existing points, wells, springs or other sources of water supply for outside irrigation use, provided that there shall be no interconnection between such water supply and the city's water system.

(2) The city commission, or its duly designated representative, acting pursuant to rules, regulations and guidelines adopted by the authority, may grant exceptions to the requirements of this article based on unusual circumstances existing in a particular case.

(3) Buildings built before July 1, 2008, which are located more than 350 feet from the public water line are exempt from this article.

(Code 1999, § 56.02)