

**CITY OF RUTLAND
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS**

WATER DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM REGULATIONS

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AUTHORITY

1.1) These Regulations are hereinafter given and duly made in accordance with the provisions of Section 24-4 of the Charter of the City of Rutland.

2. DEFINITIONS

2.1) ABANDONED WATER SERVICE LINE. A water service line shall be considered abandoned when the building served by that line demolished and no building or zoning permits for a building which would use the service line are pending; or, when a new meter service line has been installed to serve a building and use of the old service line has been discontinued.

2.2) COMMISSIONER. The Commissioner of Public Works, City of Rutland, Vermont, and/or his/her designated representative

2.3) DESIGN PROFESSIONAL. A Professional Engineer registered or licensed by the

State of Vermont.

2.4) FEE. A fee set by the Rutland City Board of Aldermen.

2.5) PERMITEE. A person applying for or holding any of the permits described in these regulations.

2.6) WATER MAIN. (a) Within the City of Rutland water mains shall be those water pipes shown as public water main on the most current Water Main Map as filed in the office of the City Clerk. (b) Outside of the City of Rutland water mains shall generally be all water pipes connected to the water system except water service lines. Where a questions arises, specific determinations will be made by the Commissioner.

2.7) WATERSHED. The entire drainage area contributing water o the Rutland City public water supply.

2.8) WATER SERVICE LINE. The water pipe from the water main to the building foundation, including the corporation stop and the water service valve. Where there is no foundation, the water service line shall run from the water main to the point where it goes into or under the building.

2.9) WATER SERVICE VALVE. The valve on a water service pipe which is nearest the water main and is designed to be accessible from the ground surface through a curb box or valve box.

2.10) WATER SUPPLY. The water supply of the City of Rutland.

2.11) WATER SYSTEM. All pipes, fittings, valves, meters, pumps, hydrants, tanks and all appurtenances thereto which are physically connected to the Rutland City Water system.

2.12) WATER WORKS. The water system and its supporting facilities, including, but not limited to the water treatment plant, reservoir, emergency pumping facilities, intake structure, and all City owned lands at the reservoir site and in the watershed.

3. APPLICATION

3.1) These regulations apply to all parts of the Rutland City water system both within and outside of the Rutland City corporate limits.

3.2) These regulations apply to all parts of the Rutland City water system whether owned by the City of Rutland, another municipality or any other person.

4. COMMISSIONER AS SUPERINTENDENT OF WATER SYSTEM

The Commissioner of Public Works shall have the exclusive general management and supervision of the city water works. The Commissioner shall have the immediate supervision of all city property pertaining thereto. He/she may prepare and keep on file in his/her office as public record, such maps, plans and records as may be necessary to fully and properly show the location of all reservoirs, mains, water service lines, valves, corporation stops and other fixtures in use by the Department of Public Works, and shall turn them over to his/her successor in office. The Commissioner of Public Works shall have any and all powers conferred by the Rutland City Charter or State or Federal Law or Regulation as such powers relate to the operation of a water system.

5. CONNECTIONS TO WATER MAINS

5.1) Performance of work

The water mains shall be tapped and the water service line installed from the main to the water service valve only by the City of Rutland or its designee as authorized by the Commissioner. The cost of said work to be borne by the permittee.

5.2) Permit required

No person shall attach any pipe or other appurtenance to a Rutland City water main, before a permit for such work has been issued by the Commissioner.

5.3) Application for Permit/Fees

(A) Each application for a permit, with the required fees, shall be filed with the office of the Commissioner on a form furnished for that purpose.

(B) The required fees are:

1. A PERMIT FEE to cover the administrative costs of processing the permit and;
2. A CONSTRUCTION FEE, said fee to be applied in the following manner:
 - (a) Where the City performs the work, the fee shall constitute an initial payment for that work. In the event the billable cost of the work exceeds the construction fee, the permittee will be billed for the additional amount. In the event that the billable cost of the work is less than the construction fee, the permittee will be refunded the balance or,
 - (b) Where designee(s) authorized by the Commissioner and paid directly by the permittee perform the work, the construction fee shall operate as a cash bond to insure proper work and restoration of city property. Upon completion of the work to the satisfaction of the Commissioner, the construction fee shall be refunded to the permittee. If the work is not completed satisfactorily to the Commissioner, s/he shall cause the work to be corrected as necessary, the cost of such correction to be paid from the construction fee with any excess refunded to the permittee and any additional costs billed to the permittee.

(c) In order to determine the correctness of the work, two inspections must be made by the Commissioner. The first upon completion of the installation, but prior to covering the work. The second, upon restoration of the disturbed area. It is the responsibility of the permittee to coordinate these inspections.

(d) The amount of the aforementioned fees shall be clearly noted on the permit application form.

(B) The application for a connection permit shall be accompanied by no fewer than two copies of design construction documents prepared by a Design Professional. These documents shall be drawn to scale with sufficient clarity and detail to demonstrate compliance with the requirements of these regulations and shall be under seal.

(C) The Commissioner may reduce or waive the requirements for filing Design Construction documents where the work involved is minor.

5.4) Permit Issuance

(A) The application, design construction documents and other data submitted shall be reviewed by the Commissioner. If the Commissioner finds that the proposed work conforms to the requirements of these regulations, and that the required fee has been paid, a permit shall be issued. The Commissioner's decision will be made within 30 days of the receipt of all required documentation.

(B) When the Commissioner issues the permit, the approved design construction documents (if required) shall be stamped "APPROVED" and one copy retained. The other copies shall be returned to the permittee.

(C) There will be no fee for the initial turn on of a new water connection.

5.5) Design Standards

Design and construction standards for a service connection to the Rutland City Water System shall comply with the State of Vermont Water Supply Rules and any special conditions as required by the Commissioner.

5.6) Work Commencing Before Permit Issuance

(A) Any person who commences any work on a connection to the water system before obtaining the necessary permit as described herein, shall be subject to a fee equal to four (4) times the usual permit fee in addition to the required permit fee.

(B) If, in the opinion of the Commissioner, such unpermitted work constitutes, or may constitute, a hazard to the water supply, additional action may be taken against that person, including but not limited to disconnection of the extension or addition and legal action.

6. EXTENSIONS OR ADDITIONS TO THE WATER SYSTEM

6.1) Permit Required

No person shall attach any pipe or other appurtenance to the Rutland City water system, or make any alterations or extensions of, or additions to, the water service line on his or her property without first applying to the Commissioner for a permit to do so. No work shall be started until the application has been approved by the Commissioner and a permit issued.

6.2) Application for Permit/Fees

(A) Each application for a permit, with the required fee, shall be filed with the office of the Commissioner on a form furnished for that purpose.

(B) The application for a permit shall be accompanied by no fewer than two copies of design construction documents prepared by a Design Professional. These documents shall be drawn to scale with sufficient clarity and detail to demonstrate compliance with the requirements of these regulations and shall be under seal.

(C) The Commissioner may reduce or waive the requirements for filing Design Construction documents where the work involved is minor.

6.3) Permit Issuance

(A) The application, design construction documents and other data submitted shall be reviewed by the Commissioner. If the Commissioner finds that the proposed work conforms to the requirements of these regulations, and that the required fee has been paid, a permit shall be issued. The Commissioner's decision will be made within 60 days of the receipt of all required documentation.

(B) In cases where a State Construction Permit is required under the Vermont Water Supply Rules, a copy of the duly issued permit together with copies of the supporting documentation presented to the State in support of that permit application shall be submitted to the Commissioner for review prior to the Commissioner for review prior to the Commissioner's issuance of the permit.

(C) When the Commissioner issues the permit, the approved design construction documents shall be stamped 'APPROVED' and one copy retained, the other copies shall be returned to the permittee.

(D) There will be no fee for the initial turn on of a new water system addition or extension.

6.4) Design Standards

Design standards for the construction of an extension or addition to the Rutland City Water System shall comply with the State of Vermont Water Supply rules and any special conditions are required by the Commissioner.

6.5) Coordination with Other Authorities

The permit issued by the Commissioner shall only indicate compliance with these regulations. It does not indicate compliance with the permitting or other approval processes of any other authority having jurisdiction over the work, such as zoning or subdivision regulations. It shall be the responsibility of the permittee to insure that all required permits and other approvals are obtained.

6.6) Inspections

A design professional of his/her designated representative shall periodically observe the construction of the water system components to determine if the construction is in conformance with the approved design construction documents. All discrepancies shall be brought to the attention of the contractor for correction. Records shall be kept of all inspections.

6.7) As-Built Construction Documents

(A) A design professional shall submit two copies of a final report in writing to the Commissioner upon completion of the work, certifying as to whether or not the installation complies with the approved design construction documents. If the installation does not fully comply, the report shall clearly indicate the areas of non-compliance. Failure to comply with the approved design construction documents may result in disapproval of the work by the Commissioner.

(B) The above mentioned report shall be accompanied by two copies of "As-Built" construction documents, drawn to scale and certified by a design professional as to their correctness. These documents shall clearly show the materials and locations of all portions of the work together with measurements from permanent object (e.g. building corners) to the major components of the installation and the depths or elevations of those components. Where depths are shown, they shall be from a permanent reference point, such as final grade. Where elevations are shown, they shall be referenced to a permanent, conveniently located benchmark which shall be clearly shown on the documents.

6.8) Approval

Upon receipt of two sets of "As-Built" construction documents satisfactory to the Commissioner and subject to any review and field inspections deemed necessary by the Commissioner, a Notice of Approval together with one set of the "As-Built" construction documents shall be provided to the permittee. No extension or addition to the water system shall be used before such approval is granted by the Commissioner.

7. SERVICE LINES

7.1) Service Lines Requirements

(A) No more than one building shall be served by each water service line.

(B) Where specific portions of a single building are owned by different persons, (e.g. a condominium building) each portion shall be served by a separate water service connection. This requirement may be waived by the Commissioner in cases where, in his/her judgment, the installation of separate services is physically unfeasible, subject to the conditions cited in section 7.1 (c).

(C) The requirements specified in section 7.1 (b) may be waived only when, in addition to meeting the physical unfeasibility requirement, a financially responsible organization exists (e.g. a Condominium Association) which will accept the responsibility for the maintenance of the water service and for the payment of all water and sewer charges which are based upon water use. In such cases, the bills will be sent directly to the responsible organization

7.2) Installation

The service line from the water main to the water service valve shall be installed as noted in section 5 (above). The work beyond the water service valve shall be done by the permittee at his or her expense.

7.3) Maintenance Responsibility

(A) Water Service Lines Connected to City Owned Mains

1. Once installed, that portion of the service line from the main to and including the service valve shall be the responsibility of the City. All repairs and required replacements of the service line from the water main to the water service valve are to be performed by the City, or its designee as authorized by the Commissioner, at the City's expense, except that replacements of a water service line with a service pipe of a larger diameter shall be at the expense of the property owner.
2. Repairs and replacements of the remainder of the water service line are the responsibility of the property owner. The City will neither perform the work nor pay for same.

(B) Water Service Lines Connected to Mains Owned by Others

1. All repairs and required replacements of the service line from the water main to the water service valve are to be performed by the City, or its designee as authorized by the Commissioner. The costs for such repairs or replacements shall be the responsibility of the owner of the property served by the service line unless other arrangements are made in writing with the City.
2. Repairs and replacements of the remainder of the water service line are the responsibility of the property owner. The City will neither perform the work nor pay for same.

(C) A permit as described in section 5 is required before any repair and/or replacement of the water service line, whether on public or private property, is started. Where all of the work is to be done by the permittee on private property, the construction fee will not be required. Except in cases of emergency, the permittee shall notify the Commissioner at least 7 days before the start of the work in order to allow ample time for the City to mark out its buried utilities, if any, in the area of the work. It shall be the responsibility of the permittee to coordinate with all other utilities or persons affected by the work and to provide the notification to "Dig Safe" www.digsafe.com (888-344-7233) and /or other utility locating services as required by law, rule or other regulation(s). The City marks out only the utilities belonging to the City, typically sewer, water and storm sewer. The City does not mark out telephone, electric, cable TV or any other pipes, cables or conduits.

7.4) Turn-ons and Turn-offs

(A) The water service valve to any building shall be operated only by the City of Rutland. A permit issued by the Commissioner is required before such operation will be performed. Application for a permit to turn on or turn off the water to a building must be made by the property owner or his or her authorized representative.

(B) Notwithstanding the above, in the event of an emergency, the City or its authorized agent may turn off or on a water service prior to the issuance of a permit. It shall be the property owner's responsibility to obtain a permit for that turn off or turn on within one business day.

(C) A permit fee shall be charged for each turn on or turn off which occurs during regular work day hours except that when a turn off and turn on occur for the same service within forty eight (48) hours and both are during regular business hours only one fee shall be charged.

(D) A turn off or turn on which occurs outside of the regular work day shall be billed to the property owner as overtime work.

(E) A person who fails to obtain the turn on/off permit as described herein shall be subject a fee equal to four (4) times the permit fee in addition to the required permit fee.

7.5) Frozen Water Lines

A. Each person served by the water system shall take reasonable precautions to prevent his or her water service from freezing.

B. If the service pipe freezes, the property owner may call the Department of Public Works (DPW) to thaw the pipe.

1. During regular business hours: If it is determined that the blockage is in the portion of the water piping that is the responsibility of the property owner, the property owner will be billed a flat fee of \$75.00. If it is discovered that the blockage is in the portion of the pipe that is the responsibility of the City, this charge will be waived

2. Outside of regular business hours: If a property owner requests that the DPW thaw a frozen water pipe after normal business hours, the property owner will be billed for this service at DPW billing rates, including any appropriate overtime labor rates. If it is discovered that the blockage is in the portion of the pipe that is the responsibility of the City, this charge shall be waived.

C. Thawing will be done on a first call-first served basis. However, the order of thawing may be changed when, in the judgment of the Commissioner, there is reason to do so.

D. While the DPW will attempt to accommodate requests as described in this section, there are circumstances under which this service may not be provided, including but not limited to situations where:

- There is no functioning shut off valve within the building.
- Modifications to the existing piping system are required before the DPW's thawing device can be used.
- The existing piping is in such a condition or of such material that, in the judgment of the Commissioner, connecting and using the thawing equipment could result in damage to that piping.
- Conditions in the area to be used for the thawing are such that, in the judgment of the Commissioner, they pose a safety or health hazard to the employee.

E. The DPW will make reasonable efforts to accommodate all requests for thawing in a timely fashion. However, the timing of the work is subject to other thawing work previously requested and water system emergencies. The City shall not be held responsible for damages suffered due to delays in thawing the water pipe. Property owners may, at their own expense, contract with other individuals to thaw their frozen water services.

F. If the Commissioner determines that the DPW cannot respond to a property owner's request for thawing in a reasonable amount of time, or determines that available DPW equipment is not suitable for a specific thawing operation, the Commissioner may authorize the property owner to contract with another party to thaw the pipe. Thawing using electric current is discouraged. The City will not be held responsible for any damages resulting from the pipe thawing attempts of the selected contractor or others. The property owner shall give notice to the DPW to allow the DPW the opportunity to have a DPW representative on site when a contractor thaws a water pipe.

1. If the pipe is thawed in such a manner as the location of the blockage can be determined, the representative and contractor shall agree upon the location. Costs of thawing shall be allocated as follows

- a. If it is determined that the blockage is in the portion of the water piping that is the responsibility of the City, the City will reimburse the property owner for reasonable costs of thawing.
 - b. If it is determined that the blockage is in the portion of the water piping that is the responsibility of the property owner, the property owner will be responsible for the thawing costs.
2. If the location of the blockage cannot be determined, the City will reimburse the property owner for 50% of reasonable thawing costs.
 3. If the DPW is not notified prior to the thawing operation, the property owner will be responsible for the thawing costs.

G. Waiver of charges, cost and reimbursements by the City as described in this section shall be limited to one per winter and shall not apply to those persons who have been advised to take the precautions described in section 7.6, nor to those properties listed as running water to prevent freezing.

(Section 7.5 approved by Board of Aldermen, November 15, 2004)

7.6) Protection From Freezing

(A) When, in the opinion of the Commissioner, extended cold weather increases the risk of water main or service line freezing, he or she may authorize or request certain water users to let water run in order to minimize such risk. The Commissioner shall keep a list of such users. When so authorized, the water and sewer bill for that usage period will be adjusted to reflect the amount of water estimated to have been used for the purpose of freeze-up prevention.

(B) Water users who have experienced service line freezing may apply to the Commissioner for authorization to let the water run as noted above.

(C) No adjustment of billing will be made for water left running to prevent freezing of any pipes other than the water service line. (e.g. interior plumbing).

(Section 7.6 revised by Commissioner January 5, 2015)

8. ABANDONED WATER SERVICE LINES

8.1) Disconnection Required

All abandoned water service connections shall be disconnected from the water main. The work shall be done only by the City of Rutland or its designee as authorized by the Commissioner. The cost of said work to be borne by the permittee.

8.2) Permit Required

The disconnection requires a permit from the Commissioner.

8.3) Application for Permit/Fees

(A) Each application for a permit, with the required fees, shall be filed with the office of the Commissioner on a form furnished for that purpose.

(B) The required fees are:

A PERMIT FEE to cover the administrative costs of processing the permit, and;

A DISCONNECT FEE, said fee shall:

(a) Constitute an initial payment for the work when the City of Rutland does the work. In the event the billable cost of the work exceeds the disconnect fee, the permittee will be billed for the additional amount. In the event that the billable cost of the work is less than the disconnect fee, the permittee will be refunded the balance. or;

(b) Where designees authorized by the Commissioner and paid directly by the permittee perform the work, the disconnect fee shall operate as a cash bond to insure proper work and restoration of public property. Upon completion of the work to the satisfaction of the Commissioner, the disconnect fee shall be refunded to the permittee. If the work is not completed satisfactorily to the Commissioner, s/he shall cause the work to be corrected as necessary, the cost of such correction to be paid from the disconnect fee with any excess refunded to the permittee and any additional costs billed to the permittee.

(c) In order to determine the correctness of the work, two inspections must be made by the Commissioner. The first upon completion of the disconnect, but prior to covering the work. The second, upon restoration of the disturbed area. It is the responsibility of the permittee to coordinate these inspections.

(d) The amount of the aforementioned fees shall be clearly noted on the permit application form.

9. INSPECTIONS

9.1) Right to Inspect

Any duly authorized employee or agent of the Rutland City Water Department may, at reasonable hours and with proper notification, enter the premises of any person supplied with water to inspect pipes, meters, fixtures, and other appurtenances which are used in connection with the water supplied and to inspect, repair or replace the water meter. It shall be the duty of every person supplied water by the system to answer inquiries made by the department or it's agents in regard to the quantity, purposes and manner in which

the water is used on the premises.

9.2) Failure to Allow Inspection

If any property owner shall refuse or fail to provide access and allow and inspection at a reasonable hour as described above, within seven days of a request to do so by the Commissioner the billing procedure for that property will be changed to a schedule account with the number of occupants to be considered as being two times the number of bedrooms, in the case of a residence; and/or the usage considered to be the estimated usage as shown in the Vermont State Environmental Protection Rules for nonresidential users, to be billed at the current metered rates for water, sewer and sewer treatment.

10. WATER METERS

10.1) Installation of Meter

(A) Subject to the exception listed below, each water service, which is not devoted exclusively to fire protection, or serves a building which is not owned by the City of Rutland shall be metered. The property owner shall provide an accessible, secure, frost-free location for the water meter. In cases where such a location cannot be provided, water for that property will be billed at the water schedule rates.

(B) Water meters and necessary appurtenances shall be supplied and maintained by the City.

(C) It shall be the responsibility of the property owner to provide and install valves necessary to isolate the water meter before the water meter is installed. Either one or two interior valves will be required, depending upon the size of pipe and the complexity of the plumbing system

(D) Each water meter shall be sealed by the Water Department.

10.2) Protection of Water Meter

A. It shall be the property owner's responsibility to protect the water meter from damage, including damage from freezing.

10.3) Tampering With or Obstructing Water Meter

(A) No person shall tamper with, bypass, remove the meter seal or any part of the meter itself or in any way injure any water meter or any of it's appurtenances.

(B) No person shall construct or place anything in any manner to obstruct or hinder free access to any water meter or water meter register.

(C) The property owner shall be responsible for the protection of the water meter and its seal from tampering, removal or injury.

10.4) Penalty for Water Meter Tampering

(A) First offense: The account holder shall be billed a penalty in the amount of four (4) times the historic usage over the period of tampering at the current water, sewer and sewer treatment rates. In no case shall the period of tampering be considered as being less than one billing quarter.

(B) Additional offense: The billing procedure will be changed from a metered account to a schedule account with the number of occupants to be considered as being two times the number of bedrooms, in the case of a residence; and/or usage considered to be the estimated usage as shown in the Vermont State Environmental Protection Rules for nonresidential users to be billed at the current metered rates for water, sewer and sewer treatment.

11. WATER MAINS AND APPURTENANCES - OPERATION, REPAIRS AND REPLACEMENT.

The operation, repair, replacement and maintenance of all water mains, valves, and other appurtenances of the water system shall be done only by the City of Rutland or its designee as authorized by the Commissioner. The costs of such work on portions of the water system owned by the City of Rutland shall be paid by the City of Rutland. The costs of such work on portions of the water system owned by any other person shall be the responsibility of that person. Nothing herein shall prohibit the City of Rutland from recovering the costs of repairs or replacement and/or other damages resulting from the actions of any other person from that person in the same manner as water billings.

12. LAWN SPRINKLERS

Lawn sprinklers shall not be converted into fountains or jets, or be allowed to run to waste, but must be kept closed except when in use for sprinkling as intended. All lawn sprinklers shall be metered and billed as set forth herein.

13. USE OF WATER FOR UNAUTHORIZED PURPOSE

No person shall give away for use any water from the city water works on any premises, for any other purpose than that for which payment has been made; nor allow the water to be wasted from fixtures out of repair or otherwise. The Commissioner may take any action as allowed by law in order to enforce the provisions of this section.

14. TURN OFFS FOR REPAIRS OR DROUGHT; NOTICE TO USERS

The water department or their authorized agents shall have the right to turn off water for the purpose of making extensions, alterations or repairs, or on account of any accident to the water system, and in case of drought or threatened scarcity of water to diminish or stop the supply without any claim for abatement or damage for loss of water. When the Commissioner shall have cause to turn off the supply of water on any line for repairs, he/she shall immediately notify the water consumers on the line of pipe to be turned off, stating as nearly as possible the length of time such supply will be turned off; provided, however, in the case of sudden breaks or other emergency, the water may be turned off without notice.

15. FIRE HYDRANTS

15.1) Inspection and Maintenance

The Commissioner shall have an examination made of the fire hydrants belonging to the City, from time to time, and keep them in working order at all times, except when turned off for repairs; and shall cause all defects therein to be repaired without delay.

15.2) Notice to Fire Department of Hydrant Turn Off

The Commissioner, whenever he/she shall turn off the supply of water from any of the fire hydrants in any part of the City, for repairs or other causes, shall immediately give notice thereof to the Rutland City Fire Department. He/she shall also notify the Fire Department when the hydrant is again in working order.

15.3) Permission to Draw Water from Hydrants

No person shall operate any fire hydrant or draw water therefrom, except under the direction of the Commissioner. This shall not apply to use of hydrants in an emergency by the Rutland City Fire Department or other duly authorized municipal fire department. The hydrant operator shall notify the Commissioner of the hydrant use and report any deficiencies of the hydrant as soon as practical but in no case later than the end of the first working day after the hydrant operation.

15.4) Privately Owned Fire Hydrants

Persons owning private fire hydrants and municipalities owning fire hydrants served by the Rutland City Water System will be governed by these regulations except as noted in subsection 15.5. Reasonable requests for testing private hydrants or pipes will be granted subject to the conditions of Section 15.6, on application to the office of the Commissioner. All such hydrants and other appurtenances shall be open to inspection by agents of the city water department at all times, and may be opened by the insurance

inspector to ascertain if the water is on and the hydrants or pipes are in working order, notice of such opening being given at the office of the Commissioner within 24 hours thereafter by any such insurance inspector.

15.5) Municipal Exemptions

The restrictions on the operation of fire hydrants as noted in Section 15.3 and 15.4 may be altered or waived through written agreement with the municipality.

15.6) Testing of Fire Hydrants

(A) Permit Required. No person shall test a fire hydrant, whether public or private, for fire flow determination or any other purpose, without first applying to the office of the Commissioner for a permit to do so. No testing shall be conducted until the application has been approved by the Commissioner and a permit issued.

(B) Application for Permit/Fees. Each application for a permit, with the required fees, shall be filed with the office of the Commissioner on a form furnished for that purpose.

The required fees are:

(a) For testing a public fire hydrant.

(i) A PERMIT FEE to cover the administrative costs and the costs of providing water department personnel to operate the hydrant.

(ii) A RESULTS FEE to be returned to the permittee upon delivery of a written report of the testing results to the office of the Commissioner.

(b) For testing a private hydrant.

(i) A PERMIT FEE to cover the administrative costs, and;

(ii) A RESULTS FEE to be returned to the permittee upon delivery of a written report of the testing results to the office of the Commissioner.

(c) Conduct of Tests/Report

1. Permittee is to coordinate time and date of flow test with the water department at least one week prior to test.

2. While every effort will be made to honor commitments, permittee is advised that any scheduled flow test may be postponed or canceled by the water department without notice in the event of an emergency affecting the water system.

3. Permittee is to perform the flow test and provide all necessary equipment.

4. Operation of public hydrants is to be by water department personnel only.

5. Hydrant flow tests shall be allowed only in the spring (April 1 through June 30) and fall (October 1 through December 1) and when the air temperature is above 40 degrees F. unless otherwise specifically approved by the Commissioner.
6. A copy of the flow test results shall be provided to the office of the Commissioner upon completion of the test.

16. TAMPERING, ETC., WITH PROPERTY BELONGING TO CITY OF RUTLAND WATER DEPARTMENT

No person shall damage, disturb, remove, or in any way injure any hydrant, valve, valve box or cover, meter, stopcock, stop box or cover, pipe, tool, apparatus, fixture, building, machinery of fence belonging to the city water department, nor place anything in such a manner as to obstruct or hinder free access to any valve, hydrant or meter.

17. WATER RATES/BILLING

17.1) Establishment of Water Rates

Under the terms of the Charter of the City of Rutland, the Board of Aldermen establish rates to be paid for the use of water supplied by the city water works.

17.2) Billing and Collection

Billing and collection procedures for water service shall be as described in the City Ordinances and as allowed by VSA Title 24, Chapter 129.

17.3) Estimated Bills

In cases where, for whatever reason, a reliable water meter reading has not been obtained and an effort has been made by the meter reader to obtain such reading, an estimated billing for the quarter will be sent to the account holder. The estimated bill will be based upon the historical usage at the property in question and shall have the effect of an actual billing insofar as collection procedures are concerned.

17.4) Responsibility of Owners for Tenants

Property owners shall be so far responsible for the water rates of tenants as that new tenants will not be entitled to a supply until all arrearages are paid. When water is supplied to more than one party through a single tap, the water may be shut off in case of non payment of either party, notwithstanding that one or more parties may have paid their proportion of the amount due.

17.5) Water Bills as Taxes and Tax Liens

Water bills shall be a tax and a lien on the real estate supplied with the water, and may be collected in the same manner as other taxes of the City, and the owners of such real estate

shall be subject to the same liabilities therefore as for other City taxes.

18. OTHER PENALTIES

In addition to any enhanced billing authorized herein, the Board of Aldermen may, by ordinance, provide additional penalties for violation of any of the provisions of these Regulations.

19. SEVERABILITY

The declaration of invalidity of any section, term or provision of these Regulations shall not affect any other section, term or provision.