CHAPTER 13.04 WATER SYSTEM

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13.04.010 Meter – Required

A water meter must be installed upon the service pipe at the service location of each water consumer in an approved outside meter pit or vault. This meter is to be selected and installed by the water/sewer department employees or designated City representatives. The meter pit or vault, where the meter is to be located, must be installed at the consumer’s expense at a location on the premises determined by employees of the water/sewer department. The meter must be protected from freezing and other damage. The cost of the meter is separate from System Development fees. The City is not liable for alterations of the premises necessary to repair, access, or change a water meter.

History: Enc Ord 385 December 21, 1995, Amended Ord 395 July 1, 1998, Amended Ord 428 December 1, 2010, Amended Ord 467 March 18, 2020

13.04.020 Meter Pit Not Required for Water Meters for a Three-Quarter Inch (3/4”) or Larger Pipes

Meters for three-quarter inch (3/4”) or larger pipes may be installed in a utility room in a place determined to be convenient by the water/sewer department employees or designated City representative.

History: Enc Ord 428 December 1, 2010

13.04.030 Meter - Type

Meters placed in service within the City must be approved by the City water/sewer department.

History: Enc Ord 385 December 21, 1995, Amended Ord 395 July 1, 1998

13.04.040 One Connection per Building

Two (2) or more buildings may not be supplied, nor permitted to be supplied, water from the mainline through one (1) connection unless specifically approved by the Water & Sewer Committee. Where such services are in existence prior to enactment of this ordinance, only one party may be responsible for payment of the water and/or sewer charges. This provision does not prohibit extension of the household water supply line to an unoccupied non-commercial garage on the premises with the home.

Buildings, such as a detached garage, that are modified for human occupancy must have a separate water meter and shut off valve installed for the water service. Both the water and sewer development fees must be paid.

History: Enc Ord 385 December 21, 1995, Amended Ord 395 July 1, 1998, Amended Ord 428 December 1, 2010, Amended Ord 467 March 18, 2020

13.04.050 Separate Control Required for Each Premise

Service pipes must be so arranged that the supply for each separate building or premise is controlled by a separate curb stop and the water meter must be placed at a point designated by the water/sewer department. Each curb stop must be in working order and placed between the City’s water main and the owner’s water meter. If the curb stop is determined by the Water Department to be not in working order, the owner(s) must repair the curb stop within two weeks of notification or the City will have the authority to repair the curb stop and bill the owner for all actual costs including materials and labor.

History: Enc Ord 385 December 21, 1995, Amended Ord 395 July 1, 1998, Amended Ord 467 March 18, 2020

13.04.060 Separate Services Restrictions

Where water is being supplied through one service to several buildings or premises prior to the adoption of Title 13 of the City ordinances, the City Council may decline to furnish water until separate services are provided or may continue the supply on the condition that one person must pay for all water on the same service.

History: Enc Ord 385 December 21, 1995, Amended Ord 395 July 1, 1998, Amended Ord 467 March 18, 2020

13.04.070 Meters in Mobile Home Parks or Courts

Mobile homes must be connected to the City water system through a meter installed in a meter pit. Mobile homes in place on or prior to the effective date of this ordinance are excluded from this provision. If a mobile home is moved from its space or tract and a new or substitution mobile home is placed in the space, a meter pit must be installed for that water service connection at the expense of the owner of the trailer space prior to the water being connected.

History: Enc Ord 428 December 1, 2010, Amended Ord 467 March 18, 2020

13.04.080 Meter - Consumer to Protect

Consumers must take reasonable precautions to protect water meters from injury or damage by frost or otherwise and are liable for injury to meters. If the meter fails to register correctly, the charge to the consumer must be at the rate used for the corresponding period of the quarter previous. If the rate for the corresponding period of the previous quarter cannot be justly applied, the rate may be equitably adjusted by the Water & Sewer Committee. If a water meter is tested at the request of the property owner, agent or lessee and is found to be defective, charges will not be assessed. If the meter is found in good order or registering in favor of the consumer, a fee may be assessed.

History: Enc Ord 385 December 21, 1995, Amended Ord 395 July 1, 1998, Amended Ord 467 March 18, 2020

13.04.090 Plumbing Regulations

The following rules are laid down for the government of plumbers for work done in connection with the waterworks.

1. City Water/Sewer Department employees or designated City representatives must perform all tapping of distributing pipes.
2. Pipes placed in connection with the City waterworks and the pattern of hydrants, curb stops, and other appurtenances that are proposed to be used must be submitted for inspection and approval of the City. Water pipes laid in trenches must be laid not less than five and one-half (5.5) feet below the surface of the ground and in such a manner as to prevent rupture by settlement. Only polyethylene pipe conforming to the requirements of AWWA (American Water Works Association) Specification C901 may be installed from the water main to the curb stop.

Pipes, curb stops and fixtures must be of sufficient strength to sustain a hydraulic pressure of three hundred (300) pounds to the square inch. PVC (polyvinyl chloride) pipe used in water mainlines must have an SDR (standard dimension ratio) eighteen (18) or less rating. All work must be done in the manner required by the City and is subject to inspection and approval of the City. Excavated water and sewer pipes must not be covered up until inspected and approved.

1. Rules of the State of Montana Department of Environmental Quality standards for water works must be complied with.
2. Permits for connection to City water mainlines must not be granted when service pipes pass over or through premises that belong to or may become the property of persons other than the owners of the premises to be supplied by such connections. If the building does not occupy the full width of the lot on which it is situated, the service pipe must either be laid under the building or in the lot clear of the building and within three (3) feet of the sidewall thereof. Service pipes are not permitted to be laid in a sewer trench or within eighteen (18) inches of such trench.
3. A valve must be attached to each supply pipe at the point where it enters the building to permit the water to be shut off in freezing temperatures or in case of emergency.
4. Plumbers must not turn water on at the curb stop or allow any person in their employ to do so without permission of the City water/sewer department or designated City representative.

History: Enc Ord 385 December 21, 1995, Amended Ord 395 July 1, 1998, Amended Ord 467 March 18, 2020

13.04.100 Service Pipe - Standards

1. The service pipe within and without the premises and through the entire length to the tap in the City water main, together with curb stop and box, must be laid, kept in repair and protected from freezing at the expense of the property owner, who is responsible for damages resulting from leaks and breaks. Claims may not be made against the City of Dillon due to breaking of any service pipe or apparatus, or for failure to supply water.
2. When there is a leak in the street and it is unknown whether the water is from a break in the City main, or from a private service pipe, employees of the water/sewer department must make necessary repairs. If it is determined that the service pipe was the cause of the leak, then the owners or agents will be responsible for the repair costs.
3. The City water/sewer department must immediately notify owners or agents of properties of service line leaks. Owners or agents must immediately take charge of the excavation, repair the leak, replace the street, and are responsible for all damages that may result. If owners or agents do not make repairs within two (2) weeks after being notified, the water/sewer department may proceed, and all bills for labor and materials become a charge against said property, and must be collected from the owner or agent. If the bill is not paid, enforcement of payment thereof may be performed in the same manner as for the non-payment of bills for water as stated in Section 13.02.060 Utility Bills.

History: Enc Ord 385 December 21, 1995, Amended Ord 395 July 1, 1998, Amended Ord 467 March 18, 2020

13.04.110 Public Policy

It is the policy of the City of Dillon to provide a healthy and safe water supply and to eliminate potential threats of contamination or health threats to the municipal water system. In recognition of the municipal systems dependence on well water, it is the policy of the City to eliminate threats to the aquifer whenever possible.

History: Enc Ord 385 December 21, 1995, Amended Ord 395 July 1, 1998

13.04.120 Cross Connections

Cross-connections between individual wells and pumps and the municipal water system are not permitted.

History: Enc Ord 385 December 21, 1995, Amended Ord 395 July 1, 1998

13.04.130 Connection Required

1. With the exception of the below paragraphs all sources of water inside residences, places of business, institutions, properties used for human occupancy or water for commercial use, must be water from the municipal water system. All connections to the municipal water system are at the owners’ expense.
2. It is the intent of this ordinance to permit existing pumps and wells to be used until such time as well failure is experienced, at which time the property must be connected to the municipal water system. Well failure means, but is not limited to, having to re-drill or re-case the well or the fact that any annual water sample fails the State DEQ requirements.
3. Wells and pumps for outside water, such as lawns, gardens, etc. may be retained.

History: Enc Ord 385 December 21, 1995, Amended Ord 387 August 22, 1996, Amended Ord 395 July 1, 1998, Amended Ord 467 March 18, 2020

13.04.140 Use of Water for Construction Purposes

Contractors, builders, or others needing water for construction purposes must make an application to the water department prior to receiving water. The amount to be paid is based on the established rates set by resolution of the Council after public hearing.

History: Enc Ord 385 December 21, 1995, Amended Ord 395 July 1, 1998, Amended Ord 467 March 18, 2020

13.04.150 Department Shut off Authority

The water/sewer department reserves the right to turn water off to City water mainlines at any time and without notice for purposes of making repairs or extensions or for any other purpose deemed necessary by the department. Claims may not be made against the City of Dillon by reason of breaking of service pipes or other damage that may result from turning off the water.

History: Enc Ord 385 December 21, 1995, Amended Ord 395 July 1, 1998, Amended Ord 467 March 18, 2020