

# **FAYETTE / VARICK JOINT WATER DISTRICT**

## **FAYETTE #5 / VARICK #3**

### **RULES & REGULATIONS**

#### **1. Water Main Requirements**

The owner of any house, building or property used for human occupancy, employment, recreation or other purpose, situated within the Water District is hereby required, at his expense, to install suitable piping and valves to the water main in accordance with the provisions of these regulations.

#### **2. Rule Acceptance**

Every person who shall be supplied, or whose property shall be supplied with water by the Water District within the Town shall be deemed to have accepted and approved the rules of the Town Board governing and regulating the supplying water. Wherever the word "Consumer" shall be used in the Rules and Regulations it shall mean the owner or owners of the premises. The continuance of the consumer to take water after any amendment or change of these rules shall be deemed an acceptance of such amendment or change.

#### **3. Water District Work Supervision**

All service connections with the principal mains and service pipes from said principal mains to approximately two (2) feet from lot line, including tapping of main, corporation cock, copper or plastic pipe, curb cock and box for same shall be put in and installed only by properly authorized persons acting under the direction of the Town Board or its agent at the expense of the Consumer.

#### **4. Owner Installation**

All connections from curb cock to the meter location or from the meter pit to the residence shall be done by the Consumer at his own cost and expense, under the supervision of the Town Board or its agent, and all installations shall be subject to approval by the Town Board or its agent, before water shall be turned on.

#### **5. Agent or Owner**

The plumber or any other person designated and employed by the owner of the premises will be considered the "agent" of such owner while employed in the execution of the work or introducing water into such premises and in no sense as the agent of the Water District. The Town will not be responsible for the acts of such persons.

## **6. Service Application**

Every person desiring a supply of water through the principal water mains must make application at the Town Office for a service pipe and connection with the main. Such application shall be made in writing upon blank form furnished by said Town Board or its agent and must be signed by the owner of the property or duly authorized agent.

## **7. Water Service Material**

Water services up to 150 feet in length shall be a minimum of  $\frac{3}{4}$  inch Type K copper tubing or one (1) inch high density polyethylene pipe. Water services over 150 feet in length shall be one (1) inch Type K copper or one and one-quarter ( $1\frac{1}{4}$ ) inch high density polyethylene pipe. If using polyethylene pipe, tracer tape must be installed beside pipe prior to placing bedding material. If using polyethylene pipe, insert stiffeners must be used at all connections as recommended by manufacturer. Polyethylene pipe must have a minimum 200 PSI rating.

## **8. Service Line Installation**

Installation of these materials shall be in a trench four and one-half ( $4\frac{1}{2}$ ) feet deep, except under driveways or roadways where trench depth must be a minimum of five (5) feet. All service lines shall be laid in a separate trench at least two (2) feet distant horizontally from any other underground facility and in solid ground. In the event the natural soil in bottom of the trench is soft and will not adequately support the pipe the unstable soil shall be excavated from the trench and suitable material will be compacted in its place. All service lines shall be bedded in sand, six (6) inch around pipe. Bedding will be firmly tamped in place around the service pipe. No back fill shall be started until the installation has been inspected and accepted by the inspector. Care must be taken during back fill so as to prevent disturbing bedding material and damage to pipe. Use of back fill material with large stones or frozen earth **will not** be accepted. The water service shall be pressure treated prior to back fill around any fittings, meter pit or curb stop.

## **9. Underground Fittings**

No couplings will be permitted between curb cock or meter pit and the inside of cellar wall except where such services are longer than one hundred (100) feet in length. All joints in water services shall be flared type or compression joints. No solder connections shall be permitted between the water main and the meter.

## **10. Meter Pit**

Any service which exceeds one hundred-fifty (150) feet in distance from main, or the property serviced do not have sufficient accommodations for a meter, will be required to have a meter pit immediately after the curb cock. Such meter pit will be furnished by the Town and installed by the property owner according to manufacturer specifications at the property owner's expense. Maintenance of meter pit will also be the responsibility of the consumer (property owner).

**11. Service Lines and Septic Systems**

The water service line should be at least ten (10) feet from existing or new septic tanks, leach lines, dry wells, etc.

**12. Cross Connections with Lake/Well Water**

There will be no physical connection of existing lake or well water with the water provided by the Water District. Existing lake/well water may be utilized by the consumer for watering lawns, washing vehicles, etc., but cannot be utilized in connection with Town water. Existing lake/well water will be allowed to an outside hose bib only. All connections to inside house piping must be eliminated prior to installation/connection to Water District service. All plumbing will be inspected prior to installation of the water meter.

**13. Trench Responsibility**

Excavation for water pipe, meter pit, connections, etc., for the introduction of service to consumer will be the responsibility of the property owner. The owner will be responsible for providing protection against accident while trench is open.

**14. Curb Cocks**

The curb cocks controlling any service shall not be opened or closed by any person except those so designated by the Town Board or a duly authorized agent.

**15. Service Pipe Maintenance**

The owner of property into which water is introduced by a service pipe will be required to maintain in perfect order, at his own expense, the said service pipe and fittings from the curb cock to the meter. Exception: in the case of a meter pit the property owner will be responsible from the outlet of the meter pit to the building so serviced. In case such services are not so kept in repair, the Town Board or its Agents may turn off the service at the curb cock until such repairs have been made and inspected by the Town or its Agent.

**16. Premises Inspections**

Town office, or employees of the Water District, upon presentation of proper credentials, may enter upon any premises where water is being supplied by the Water District, or upon any premises when application is made for a permit to connect plumbing with the water pipes, for the purposes of the installing, reading, removing or repairing meters, or for inspecting the plumbing and fixtures of the water services.

**17. Shut Off**

In case of making or constructing new work, in making repairs or leakage tests, the right is reserved to shut off the water from any consumer without notice for as long a period as may be necessary. No Water District, its employees or the Town shall be liable for any damage which may result to any person, property of premises from shutting off of the water from any main, or service, for any purpose whatever, even in cases where no notice is given.

**18. Pressure Change**

The Water District shall not be liable for any damage or loss of any kind to property of persons which may arise from, or be caused by, any change, either increase or decrease, in water pressure, from any cause whatever, including negligence on the part of the Water District, its agents, servant or employees. Consumer may want to install a pressure regulator after the water meter to control pressure fluctuations.

**19. Metered Service**

All water furnished through service pipes, whether for residential, commercial, or industrial use, shall be metered. The only exception, at the Town Board's discretion, may be water provided solely for fire protection systems. No meters shall be set or removed or disturbed except by the Town's duly appointed agent. All meters shall be furnished and installed by the Water District. The agent shall approve the location of the meter.

**20. Meter Testing**

Any Town water meter shall be taken out and tested upon complaint of the consumer upon payment of a fee of forty dollars (\$40.00). If upon test of the meter, it is not within three percent (3%) of being accurate, it shall be repaired or replaced and the forty dollar (\$40.00) fee returned to the consumer. If after testing the meter is found to be within three percent (3%) tolerance, the fee will be kept by the Town.

**21. Meter Damage**

Any damage which the meter and component parts may sustain, resulting from the carelessness of the owner, his agent, or tenant, or from neglect of either of them to properly secure and protect the same including any damage that may result from allowing said meter to become frozen, or to be injured by hot water or steam getting back from a boiler or hot water tank, shall be paid to the affected Water District by the owner of the premises. It may be required that a check valve be installed in the line after the meter.

## **22. Meter Access**

Whenever a meter is set in any building, the space occupied by the meter and meter box shall at all times be kept free from rubbish or obstruction of any kind. The owner or tenant shall provide ready and convenient access to the meter so that it may be frequently read and examined by agent of the Water District.

## **23. Commercial Meter Pits**

Meter pits must be at least four (4) feet in diameter and must have four (4) feet of head room. Base must be at least five (5) feet below finish grade. The pit must have a twenty-four (24) inch diameter access hole and cover. All pits must be approved by the Town Board or its agent.

## **24. Meters for Building Purposes**

Approved by the Town Board, water meters for building purposes shall be set by the Water District at the expense of the contractor or person making such application. Therefore, in case it is impracticable to place meters for such building purposes, water may be supplied to the contractor or owner at a flat rate.

## **25. Water Rates**

Generally, all water consumed shall be recorded and paid for by meter registration and at rates to be fixed by the Town Board. Such rates may from time to time be changed as the Town Board may determine. Water rates and charges for turning on and off, selling meters and taking meters in and out shall be fixed by the Town Board and on file in the Town Clerk's office.

## **26. Meter Bills**

Bills for metered water shall be payable quarterly or at such period as may be set by the Town Board. In each instance, meter bills, if not paid in thirty (30) days, shall be increased ten percent (10%) as a penalty for failure to pay promptly. Failure to receive bill shall not act as a waiver of said penalty. In case of inability to read meter, an estimated bill will be submitted to the owner. Bills will be submitted to the owner of the property, not the tenant.

## **27. Abatements**

No abatement of the charges for water rents shall be allowed on account of the vacancy of any premises supplied with water, unless the water supply is turned off by the Water District and the meter removed. For such suspension of service there shall be a charge to be fixed by resolution of the Town Board, which is on file in the Town Clerk's office.

**28. Unpaid Charges**

All charges for water, service pipe installation, repairs, damages caused by carelessness or neglect, penalties, etc., shall be made against the premises supplies, and the owner of the premises shall be held responsible. Therefore, such charges, if not paid, shall be a lien on the property benefited. All such unpaid charges shall be placed against the general tax bill. The Town reserves the authority to discontinue water service for nonpayment as specified in Public Service Law 116 which requires a notice of fifteen (15) days prior to the discontinuance of service to multiple dwelling.

**29. Hydrant Control**

All street or road fire hydrants, including hydrants for private fire protection from unrestricted service lines, are under the control of the Water District. No person, except an authorized agent or employee of the Water District, or a person permitted by the Town Board to take water there-from, shall operate, use or disturb any hydrant, or any part thereof, or take any water there-from, under any circumstances whatever, except fire companies for use to control, prevent or extinguish fires.

**30. Hydrant Damage**

In case any damage to a street or road hydrant is done by any person or his agent, having a permit for taking water from said hydrant, the holder of the permit shall pay such damages and all costs and expenses that may be incurred by reason thereof, on demand, to the Water District, including loss of water.

**31. Hydrant Use**

No person shall use any fire hydrant for construction or other purposes without first obtaining a permit for such use from the Water District and making any advance payment demand to said District. The hydrant shall be operated only by a proper hydrant wrench, which shall be obtained from the Water District. Water must not be allowed to run except when used. All persons using hydrants shall immediately obey any instructions or orders that may be issued by the Town Board to regulate the use of these hydrants. If required by the Town Board, a meter shall be applied to the connection made with the hydrant at the expense of the party using same, and said party shall pay for all water by meter measurement at the stipulated rates.

**32. Valve Control**

No person except a duly authorized representative of the Water District shall open or close, or in any way interfere with any valve or gate in any water main or pipe. Any person who has disturbed or displace a valve box or who has covered a valve box with dirt, paving, plank or other material shall immediately replace the valve box or remove the obstruction.

### **33. Service Pipe**

Service pipe will be required to be laid not less than four feet six inches (4' 6") below the surface of the earth at any point to the inside of the foundation wall of the building into which the water service is introduced. Water services under driveway shall be at a minimum depth of five (5) feet.

### **34. Water Sales**

No consumer within any Water District shall sell water to anyone for any purpose whatever, unless a specific permit therefore is issued by the Town Board, after due consideration thereby.

### **35. Water Sales – Outside the District**

No water through any connection, pipe or main shall be sold or furnished outside any Water District, without the consent in writing of the Town Board or its designee.

### **36. Connections**

No connections of whatsoever nature shall be made by any person between the facilities of the said Water Districts and any other water system, public or private, without the consent in writing of a duly authorized agent for the Town Board, after action of the Town Board.

### **37. Cross Connections**

It shall be unlawful for the owners of property or the users of water or both to introduce or permit the introduction into the water supply system of pollution or contamination of any kind. Whenever cross connection to other water supply into the system is found or whenever any other condition is found which presents the possibility of contamination or pollution. The water supply to such premises and other premises from which cross connection is made shall be discontinued immediately until the cross connections is eliminated or the condition remedied. The Town Board may permit or require a back flow preventer of pattern and design which the NYS Department of Health approves as reasonably adequate to prevent contamination, if the Town Board determines that a complete physical separation from the water system is not practicable or necessary, of that adequate inspection for cross connection cannot readily be made, or that such back flow preventer is necessary because of existing of possible back flow resulting from special conditions, use or equipment. Any corrective measure, disconnection or change or private property shall be at the sole expense of the person in control of such property. Any changes required in the water system outside the property or between the meter and the supply line or distribution system and any charges for cut off of disconnection shall be added to the charges for water against the premises necessitating such expedition. All physical connections which may constitute potential cross connection are prohibited unless constructed, maintained and operated in accordance with the provisions of the N.Y.S. Sanitary Code. Inspections must be done in January of every year by a certified backflow device tester, and such results must be reported by February of every year to the Town Board.

**38. Rules and Regulations of Town Board**

The Town Board may adopt or amend such further Rules and Regulations as it may deem necessary or expedient in the implementation and administration of this chapter.

**39. Water Rates**

The water rates of the District shall be set annually by the Town Board. However, the Town Board reserves the authority to change water rates mid-year if circumstances require such a change.