

**TOWN OF HARDWICK WATER  
SYSTEM ORDINANCE  
ADOPTED BY THE HARDWICK SELECT  
BOARD JUNE 19, 2014  
OVERVIEW OF CHANGES**

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The old ordinance was 7 pages, the new ordinance has 16 pages  
The old ordinance had 25 sections, the new ordinance has 35 sections

The new ordinance has 3 pages of definitions for terms and abbreviations

**Examples: "Base Fee"** shall mean the debt service, operations and maintenance cost, and included water allocation per ERU over a specified time period that is assessed to the owner of each unit regardless of whether a meter exists for each unit or for several units.

**"Industrial Facility"** shall mean any structure(s) used or intended for use as a business enterprise for manufacturing, processing, or assembling any product, commodity or article.

**NWWA** – Shall mean New England Water Works Association.

**AWWA** – Shall mean American Water Works Association.

**New Sections Examples:**

**9. Ownership and Maintenance of Service Lines**

**a.** The line from the Town's water transmission main to the curb stop shall be owned, operated and maintained by the Town of Hardwick Water System.

**b.** The service lines shall be paid for, installed, operated and maintained by the owner. The cost of repairing or replacing the service line (from the curb stop to the building) shall be the responsibility of the owner.

**10. Service Line Leaks**

In the event a leak is discovered in a service line, water service shall be shut off by a Town

representative and restored after the repair is made. The owner of the service line is responsible for the cost of locating, repairing, or replacing the service line, unless it is owned by the Town. Additionally, if a service line is discovered or known by the Town to be constructed of materials not meeting the Town Water System's materials standards, the Town may require the owner(s) to replace the entire line with approved piping and materials regardless of whether or not the line has leaked in the past.

#### **16. Maintenance of Plumbing**

To prevent leaks and damage, all customers shall maintain at their own expense the plumbing and fixtures within their own premises in good repair and provide protection from freezing. The cost of replacement or repair of a meter, backflow preventer, and/or pressure reducing valve damaged by freezing, or otherwise damaged by customers, occupants or others shall be paid by the owner on receipt of an invoice submitted by the Town. Water conserving devices meeting all applicable State and Federal standards shall be used whenever fixtures and faucets are replaced.

#### **19. Safeguarding Water-Using Devices**

a. All customers having hot water tanks or secondary systems supplied by automatic make-up valves shall install and maintain in operating condition appropriate backflow and temperature/pressure relief valves to prevent damage to the water device or secondary system or their appurtenances should it become necessary for the Town to shut off the water main or water service line and to protect against loss of pressure for any other reason. Water service supplied to any customer not providing such protective devices will be done at the customer's risk.

b. A backflow device meeting Standard A.S.S.E. 1012 is required if a dual check valve meeting Standard A.S.S.E. 1024 does not exist on the boiler. The Town shall not assume liability, and specifically disclaims any liability whatsoever, for damage resulting from backflow/pressure

where the protective devices required by this section are absent or fail.

#### **25. Meters and Related Apparatus**

a. General: Where possible, all water will be sold on the basis of a base and metered measurements. When it is impractical to install a meter (including a meter/pit vault) such as where a freeze free area is not available and on approval of the Town, flat rate fees shall be used to establish the water charges. The Town shall install meters whenever deemed expedient or appropriate. The customer can receive water through a meter upon written application to the clerk of the municipality and after payment of all required fees. The size of the meter will, in all cases, be determined by the Town and be guided by this ordinance. When the Town determines a meter is viable and necessary for installation, the property owner will have two weeks from the date of notice by the Town that a meter is to be installed. A property owner's failure to install a meter within the prescribed timeframe determined by the Town, may lead to disconnection of service after proper notice.

#### **28. Tampering with the Community Water Supply System**

Tampering with Community Water System property is not permitted. Any valve, pump, pump house, hydrant, curb stop, water main, municipal service line, meter, tank reservoir or any other appurtenant part of the water system, which is deemed the property of the Town, shall not be adjusted, operated or tampered with by any person except those authorized by the Town. If a customer or owner is known to have tampered with any Community Water System property or its works, such action shall be grounds for discontinuance of water service, and any cost due to such tampering will be charged to said customer or person. A violation of this provision may be prosecuted as a criminal violation pursuant to 13 V.S.A. §3701, §3784 or other applicable provision of Title 13, V.S.A.