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Town of Fairlee

Water System Policy

Water System Policy Fairlee, Vermont

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1. Purpose. This policy, on acceptance of water service, represents a contract between the customer and the Town of Fairlee for the supply of potable water. On application for and the granting of water service, the customer will be considered to have expressed his/her consent to be bound by this policy, and to take water only for purposes as stated herein and at the established rates and fees of the Fairlee Town Water System.

2. Definitions

A. "Town Administrator" means the person who represents the Selectboard and receives and reviews applications for water service.

B. "Building Connection/Assessment Fee" means a lump sum fee as specified in Section 29 of these rules that is submitted to the Town Administrator with an application to connect a residential or non-residential building to the Water System or to extend the Water System.

C. "Business Unit" means an office, place where business is carried out or where employees are stationed, a store, beauty salon, gasoline station, church, clinic or other place that is commercial not residential.

D. "Clerk" means the Fairlee Town Clerk.

E. "Combined Sewer" means a pipe conduit that conveys both sanitary and storm water wastes.

F. "Cross Connection" means any direct or indirect pipe connection between the potable water supply and a waste pipe or other pipe supplying liquid or gas.

G. "Curb Stop" means the on/off valve in the service line, usually placed at or near the property line and is the property of the Town.

H. "Customer" means the person, firm, corporation, organization, government or governmental subdivision who owns the building served by the Water System.

I. "Emergency Shut-off" means the execution of an immediate water service shut-off due to 1) water leakage between the curb stop and the served building; 2) discovery of an unprotected cross connection; 3) excessive or wasteful use of water; 4) violation of special "restrictive use" orders issued by the Selectboard; or 5) any other situation that could contaminate or significantly deplete the Water System.

J. "Governing Body" means the Selectboard as Water Commissioners.

K. "Living Unit" means an abode for residential living.

L. "Municipality or Town" means the Town of Fairlee.

M. "Owner" means the person, firm, corporation, organization, government or governmental subdivision who owns the building served by the Water System.

N. "Residential Unit" means a livable abode which includes as a minimum a kitchen or kitchenette, a bathroom and a bedroom or a room that serves as a sleeping area.

O. "Sanitary Sewer" means a sewer pipe that conveys sewage or other waste water.

P. "Water Service Line" means the water line from the water main to the building that is served. The Town owns the service line from the water main to the curb stop shut-off valve (including the valve). The owner owns and is financially responsible for the repair of the service line from the curb stop valve to the building.

Q. "Water Department" means the Town of Fairlee Water Department.

R. "Water Main" means the water pipe owned, operated and maintained by the Town, which is used for the purpose of transmission and distribution of drinking water but is not a water service line.

S. "Water Main Extension Deposit" means a lump sum fee, as specified in Section 26 E of these rules, that is submitted to the Town Administrator with an application for extension of the water system using not less than 2 inch inside diameter pipe and appurtenances for domestic or commercial service and not less than 8 inch inside diameter for hydrant service. The Governing Body shall determine if hydrants are required.

T. "Town Agent" shall mean an employee of the Fairlee Water Department, Contractual Agent, Town Administrator, or a Selectboard member.

3. Application for Service

Application for new service must be made in writing to the Town Administrator on a form provided by the Water Department prior to connection to the Water System. It must be signed by the owner of the premises. Said owner shall be responsible for payment of the required fees and the application must be accompanied by the amount of the prescribed Building Connection/Assessment Fee in cash, by check, or money order made out to the "Town of Fairlee".

4. Jobbing, Shut-off and Restoration of Service

A. Whenever the Water Department undertakes to do work for a customer at the customer's expense, such as the repair or replacement of the owner's service line, application for such work must be made in writing by the customer on a form provided by the Water Department. A check for the Town's estimate of the cost must accompany the application form.

B. The Water Department may shut off water service for any violation of special "restriction of water use" notices; to eliminate a public health hazard; or for violations of these rules. Any

shut-off by the Water Department may necessitate a shut-off charge to the customer. After satisfactory correction of the cause for the water shut-off and on request by the customer for restoration of service, a reconnection fee will be due and payable before service is restored.

5. Building Connection/User Fee Requirement

A. A Building Connection/User Fee as established in Section 29 will be due and payable to the Town before a service connection is made. A service connection can be made only after

the Governing Body has issued written approval. A developer intending to construct water mains must apply to the Town in accordance with Sections 26, 27 and 29 of these rules.

B. The Building Connection/User Fee for each service connection is due and payable to the Town prior to the curb stop being turned on by the Town for water service and prior to the installation by the Town of any water meter. If a meter is required by the Town, water service will not be provided on a permanent basis until the meter has been installed, inspected and approved by the Town's Agent.

C. All work performed by a developer must conform to Town standards for materials and construction.

6. Ownership and Maintenance of the Service Line

A. All customer service lines from the water main to the curb stop shall be installed, owned, maintained, and operated by the Town and shall consist of Type "K" copper pipe and brass fittings or CTS plastic pipe pressure-rated at 200 psi and all fittings shall be lead-free brass. In the case of a development, however, the Selectboard may permit the developer to install that portion of the service line (water main to curb stop) located within the road Right-of-Way. When a State of Vermont highway is involved, the person to construct the service line to the curb stop shall obtain permission from the State of Vermont Agency of Transportation. Installation and maintenance of the service line from the curb stop to the served building will be the responsibility of the owner or developer. For a single family residence, the service line must be $\frac{3}{4}$ inch I.D. pipe. The Town may require a larger size service line when deemed appropriate such as for lines more than 150 feet in length.

B. All customer service lines shall consist of Type K copper or CTS plastic pipe pressure-rated at 200 psi and all fittings shall be lead-free brass. Soldered joints are not permitted outside the building or under the building in-ground. All fittings and pipe shall conform to the latest Standards of the American Water Works Association, (A.W.W.A.).

C. If a leak is detected in an owner's portion of an existing service line, water service will be shut off by the Town not later than three work days following notice by the Town to replace the line if it's of inferior material, or to repair the line leak if the line is of material that meets these rules. Prior to back-filling the work, the owner must notify the Town that the work has been completed so that the Town's agent can inspect the work. Once the work is inspected by the Town's agent and approved, water service will be restored.

7. Denial or Postponement of Service

The Town may deny or postpone the construction of new water service due to cold weather, insufficient water supply, undersized water mains or when an applicant requests service to property more than 500 feet measured horizontally or where static water pressure in the system would result in pressure of less than 40 psi (pounds per square inch) at the approximate location of the first floor kitchen sink.

8. Prohibited/Unauthorized Use of Water

A customer shall not supply water to another party except as approved by the Town in the event of an emergency. A customer shall not use water for any purpose not approved by the Town. A person shall not obtain water from any hydrant or other fixture of the Town without the prior written approval from the Town. Wasteful or excessive use of water is prohibited. Any such violation will be grounds for discontinuance of water service until the matter is resolved to the satisfaction of the Governing Body, including the payment by the customer or person violating these rules of any required disconnection fee, reconnection fee plus any other associated expense.

9. Restriction or Prohibition of Certain Water Uses

A. When necessary to conserve the water supply, the Governing Body may restrict or prohibit the use of hoses, sprinklers, washing vehicles and any other non-essential water use or water-using device by all customers. A notice announcing the Restriction or Prohibition of Water Use shall be posted in public view and in a newspaper of general circulation in the Town. On a first time basis, if a water customer is found in violation of a Restriction or Prohibition of Use Notice, said customer shall be reminded verbally of the violation and shall be given written notice to immediately cease the unauthorized water use placed at the home or place of business in violation. If the customer in violation, after said notice, continues to be in violation of the Restriction Notice, the water service shall be shut off by the Town. If, following shut off of water service, the affected customer requests a hearing in writing, a hearing will be held by a Hearing Officer of the Town to determine if the water will remain shut off or if and when water service will be restored. The hearing must be held within three days after receiving a written and signed request by the owner. If the Hearing Officer determines that the shut-off was due to a violation of the notice, the customer will be responsible for the disconnection fee, reconnection fee plus any other associated expense. Water service will be restored within 24 hours of payment of any required fees provided the customer agrees in writing to comply with the Restriction or Prohibition of Water Use Notice. If it is determined by the Hearing Officer that no violation occurred, water service will be restored as soon as it is practicable, but at least within 24 hours of the Hearing Officer's decision. There will be no fees charged to the customer. In either case, no credit will be given for loss of service.

B. If a second violation by the same customer occurs within the same restriction notice period regarding the same water service that was in violation, water service will be discontinued and the water shall remain shut off until the Restriction of Use Notice is lifted. Restoration of service will be made within 24 hours of payment by the customer for the disconnection fee, the reconnection fee and any other associated expense, once the

Restriction of Use Order is lifted. If requested by the affected customer in writing, a hearing will be held by the Hearing Officer to determine whether the customer was, in fact, in violation a second time. If the Hearing Officer determines that it was a second violation, the water will remain shut-off until the Restriction of Use Notice is lifted. Restoration of service will be made within 24 hours of payment by the customer of the disconnection fee, the reconnection fee and any other associated expense once the Restriction of Use Order is lifted.

C. It is strictly prohibited to use system water in an open-ended system for cooling or heating a building, for refrigeration purposes or generation of power. If such a system/device is found to exist in property served by the Town Water System, the Town shall send a written notification to the customer by Certified Mail to dismantle said system completely beginning immediately and taking no longer than 60 days to complete the dismantling job. Water service shall be discontinued if the customer does not comply with the notice to dismantle as prescribed in this policy. Said customer shall be billed for up to but for no more than one full year of estimated water use in addition to the regular water bill to help defray the cost of the Town having supplied water on a continuing basis for heating, cooling, refrigeration or any other prohibited use.

10. Ball and Waste Valves

It is the responsibility of the building owner to provide every service with an operable quarter turn ball valve rated at a minimum of 600 pounds per square inch bursting pressure which shall be located inside the building near the service entrance, easily accessible and protected from freezing. A ball valve shall also be installed on the outlet side of any authorized meter, pressure reducing valve or backflow device to enhance service. All shut-off valves shall be of the ball type with a brass housing. There shall not be any faucet or plumbing connection upstream of the water meter.

11. Maintenance and Plumbing

To prevent leaks and damage, all customers will maintain at their own expense, the plumbing and fixtures, including meters, within their own premises in good repair and provide protection from freezing. The cost of replacement or repair of a meter damaged by freezing or otherwise damaged by occupants or customers will be the responsibility of the customer. There shall be no cross connections between the potable water system piping and other fluids. Any leaking pipes shall be replaced or repaired within a time period established by the Governing Body, based on the severity of the leak or cross connection. Generally, two weeks will be awarded for executing the repair.

12. Cross Connections

A. Unprotected cross connections shall not be permitted. If a cross connection must exist such as to provide make-up water for a boiler or other legitimate utility, it shall be properly protected with acceptable backflow devices in accordance with policies and rules of the Vermont Department of Environmental Conservation pertaining to approved backflow devices. A cross connection shall not be created without the prior approval of the Governing Body, and shall be properly protected against backflow and/or back siphoning. It is strictly prohibited to

create any connection capable of permitting backflow into the water system from any other source of water; any plumbing fixture, device or appliance; or from any waste pipe having direct connection to waste drains.

B. If the owner of a building that has a cross connection fails or refuses to eliminate the cross connection within 30 days after receipt of written notice by the Town, water service shall be shut off. The Town may take into account the seriousness of the violation and may establish a longer time period for the owner to make the correction. If service is discontinued due to non-compliance with an order to make the correction, a hearing will be held by the Governing Body within three days of the request by the affected owner to determine if service will remain discontinued, or if service will be restored. If service is to be restored, the Governing Body may establish conditions for restoration and may require payment of the disconnection and restoration fees, as well as any other associated expense. If the cross connection poses an immediate health hazard, the Governing Body shall implement the immediate shut off of the water service for the protection of all customers.

C. Buildings to be served by a new connection will include a dual check backflow device number A.S.S.E. 1024 located at the building service entrance downstream from the shut-off valve inside the foundation wall.

D. It is the customer's responsibility to protect the water system against backflow of water from above or below ground swimming pools by installing and maintaining an approved vacuum breaker attached or built into the hose bib or faucet that serves the pool's make-up water.

E. Existing or newly built homes, or homes with an above-ground, grade-level, or below-grade pool must have an A.S.S.E. 1024 dual-check back flow device installed at the building water service entrance.

13. Fluctuation of Pressure Caused by the Customer's Apparatus

A. No customer shall install or operate a water pump or high rate water consumption device that will adversely affect the water system's pressure or operating condition, or use water so as to unduly interfere with the service of another customer. Where a customer has installed or proposes to install such an apparatus which requires water in sudden and/or large quantities that will reduce substantially the operating pressure in the main or service line or cause damage or inconvenience to other customers, the Town will require said customer to install devices or apparatus to minimize such fluctuation of demand and pressure to within reasonable limits as determined by the Governing Body. Any fluctuation in excess of 15 pounds per square inch is unacceptable.

B. If the customer, after receiving written notice from the Town, fails to offer an acceptable remedial plan within the time period set by the Governing Body, a hearing shall be held within five days from the end of the time period to determine whether water service will continue. Water service may be discontinued prior to the end of the time period or the hearing, if it is the opinion of the Governing Body that any delay would pose a public health threat to the water system customers. It will be determined at the hearing what action will be taken, including but not limited to the continued termination of service.

14. Safeguarding Boilers and Hot Water Tanks

Boilers that use potable water in the circulating system for heat distribution shall include a dual check valve with intermediate vent such as a Watts No. 9 Backflow Device Valve to prevent back siphoning of water from these vessels into the water system. If antifreeze is or will be used in the heating system piping, a Reduced Pressure Principle Backflow Prevention Device that conforms to A.S.C.E. 1047 shall be installed to protect the water system from backflow and shall be installed at the make-up line to the boiler. When an antifreeze fluid is to be used, only the non-toxic antifreeze fluid (propylene glycol) shall be permitted to be used as a heat transfer fluid. The Town shall not be held liable for damage resulting from the lack of or failure of such protective devices as required in this section.

15. Service Line Trench

A. Water service pipes will not be placed in the same trench with another pipe unless the other pipe contains water from the same water system or is a water line that has been abandoned and is not used for any other purpose. Water service pipes will be kept at least ten feet away from all combined or sanitary sewers (including house sewers). A five foot separation shall be the minimum distance maintained between storm sewers and the water line. An abandoned sewer line must have 20 lineal feet removed and both remaining ends shall be plugged with a non-shrinking concrete material and wet concrete shall be placed around each plugged end to hold the plug in place.

B. The Governing Body considers it an unacceptable construction practice to have common use of a trench for water lines, sewer pipes and electrical lines. This practice increases the risk of contamination of the water system and, therefore, represents a potential public health and safety hazard. Common trench construction shall be grounds for denial or discontinuance of water service.

C. Water service pipes shall be laid on firmly packed soil at a minimum depth of 5 ½ feet from grade to the top of the pipe. Said pipe will be laid on 4 to 6 inches of sand and then covered with 6 to 8 inches of sand over which shall be placed rigid insulation board. This insulation board shall be extruded styrofoam of the 250-rated type, at least two inches thick and two feet wide, and centered over the pipe location. If ledge or other soil conditions make obtaining a 5 ½ foot depth to the top of the service line impractical, soil cover depth may be reduced to 3 feet if 2 inch of extruded styrofoam is placed under the service pipe and 4 inches of extruded styrofoam is placed over the service pipe in a "sandwich" form. No more than 18 inches of soil may be added to obtain the required depth of soil cover by mounding the area over the pipe above the natural grade line.

16. Winter Construction

New service connections and extension of mains will not be constructed during the period between December 15th and April 15th. However, in an emergency situation and with the approval from the Governing Body, providing the customer agrees to assume all extra expense over ordinary fair weather construction costs by written consent, cold weather construction of a service line may be permitted but must be in writing given by the Governing Body.

17. Responsibility for Paying Water Charges

The owner of the premises, upon accepting service to the property, is responsible for payment of all charges for water service rendered to the property. Once connected to the water system, the owner is obligated to pay at least the minimum base fee regardless of whether the water is shut off or turned on, and regardless of whether or not the residence or business is occupied, plus any additional fees as shown by meter or based on a flat rate if no meter exists. The water bill represents a lien on the property. If not paid to the Town, water service may be discontinued as specified by State Law (24 V.S.A. Chapter 129). New owners of property transferred without payment of the previous water charges will be responsible for having said charges paid to the Town within 30 days.

18. Billing Procedures

A. Water Bills will be issued annually based on the calendar year, the amount of which will be in accordance with rates established by the Governing Body. Said bills are due as prescribed on the billing statement and will be in arrears, if unpaid after 30 days following the due dates established by the Governing Body as shown on the billing statement. Interest will be charged to all bills in arrears at the rate of one percent per month.

B. Water Shut-off Notices for non-payment of water bills shall be sent in accordance with the procedures set forth in 24 V.S.A. Chapter 129.

C. The bank, credit union or other monetary check-issuing institution's charge for a returned check due to insufficient funds shall be charged to the person or person's estate that issued the check.

19. Access to Premises

Water system employees, contractual agents and members of the Governing Body, with suitable identification, shall have access to all premises served by the water system at reasonable hours for the purpose of inspecting plumbing and fixtures; identifying cross connections; setting, removing or reading meters; ascertaining the amount of water used and the manner of use; and enforcing these regulations. If a customer or building occupant denies access to the premises, the customer or occupant must immediately arrange for an inspection that will take place within 24 hours of the original request for access. If access is not permitted, water service will be discontinued and the established disconnection and restoration fees will apply, along with any other related expense. Restoration of service will not be made until an authorized Town Agent has been permitted to inspect the premises and finds no valid reason to continue the discontinuance of service.

20. Discontinuance of Service

Water Bills for water service are due and payable to the Town Treasurer immediately upon receipt as indicated on the statement and shall be considered delinquent when unpaid after 30 days following the stated due date. Water service may be discontinued for 1) nonpayment of

water bills; 2) to eliminate a health hazard; 3) for violation of any special order restricting water use; 4) or for any other water-use violation deemed sufficiently severe or harmful to others to justify shut off of service. Discontinuance of water service for a violation of these rules shall not be made without a hearing, except when such shut off is necessary to eliminate a health hazard; to rectify an emergency; to prevent excessive loss of water; to prevent property damage; or for fraudulent use of water. If the customer requests a hearing, one shall be held within 3 days (excluding holidays and weekends) of the request to determine if service will continue to be shut off or if service is to be restored. Service, once discontinued, will not be restored until the reason for the discontinuance of service has been eliminated or negotiated for correction.

B. Before service is discontinued for delinquency of payment, the Town will follow the procedure set forth in 24 V.S.A. Chapter 129. Notice for payment request and shut off will be mailed at least 14 days in advance of the shut off date. Shut off due to delinquency of water payment will not be made on a day immediately preceding a weekend or state or federal holiday. When the Town dispatches a Town Agent to effect a shut off due to delinquency of payment, the Town Agent shall continue with the shut off task. When the Town Agent is notified by the Town that payment has been made, including all shut off and anticipated turn on fees, the Town Agent shall turn the water back on.

21. No Liability for Interrupted or Unsatisfactory Service

If, by reason of shortage of supply or for the purpose of making repairs, extensions, connections, placing or replacing meters, or for any reason beyond the control of the Town, it becomes necessary to shut water off in a main or service line, the Town will not be responsible for any damages caused by such shut off and adjustment of rates will not be made. The Town will not be responsible for damage caused by discolored water or unsatisfactory water service which may be occasioned by flushing of mains; redevelopment of wells; cleaning of reservoirs; the opening or closing of any valves or hydrants; water hardness caused by the presence of calcium carbonate or any abnormal condition. The Town will not be responsible for meeting unusually high water quality standards for specialized or industrial customers, nor will it be held responsible for interrupted service or poor water quality caused by authorized or unauthorized use of the hydrants.

22. Meters

A. General. All water will be sold on the basis of a flat rate for residential and low-water-use businesses. Accordingly, meters are not required for residential users and low-water-use businesses. However, a meter may be permitted on request but there shall be no requirement to read the meters by the Town for essentially low-water-use customers. Meters shall be required for non-residential users that use significant quantities of water, such as for laundromats, car wash facilities, farms and other high-use places. The Town may require the installation of a meter or meters, whenever deemed appropriate, and the size of the meter shall be determined by the Town. The customer shall be responsible for the cost of the meter, including its installation. The meter must be approved by the Town, as to the size, type and register, and must be manufactured in the U.S.A. or Canada. After 20 years following installation of meters for determining water use, they shall be replaced with a new meter,

approved by the Town, and paid for by the owner(s) or user(s). However, if the owner or user has the meter tested by a professional meter person who shows that it meets the criteria in Section 22 titled Meters, the meter will not have to be replaced until 5 more years later.

B. Meter Setting. All meters shall be installed as close as possible to the point of entry of the service pipe into the building in an accessible area maintained by the customer with air temperatures above freezing. The cost of the meter and installation shall be the responsibility of the customer. The piping arrangement for meter installation shall be in accordance with the requirements of the Town.

C. Meter Vaults. When the customer fails or neglects to furnish a suitable location for a meter inside the building, or when for other reasons it is necessary or expedient to locate the meter outside the building, an underground vault, acceptable to the Town and only on approval by the Town, shall be provided by the customer and maintained at the expense of the customer. The vault shall have built-in ladder rungs and be at least 5 feet in diameter, and include a remote reading device. It shall be insulated and extend at least 6 feet deep to accommodate normal trench soil cover for the service line.

D. Repairs. Meter repairs and replacements necessitated by ordinary wear will be paid for by the customer.

E. Testing. The Town will arrange for suitable means of testing the meter, if it is less than 20 years old. If it is more than 20 years old, it shall be replaced at the customer's expense with a new meter as approved by the Town, unless the Town granted 5 more years of use as specified in Section 22 A.

For determination of accuracy of positive cold water displacement meters, Table 1 below shall be used with tolerances as stated.

Table 1

Nominal Meter Size	Minimum GPM	Intermediate GPM	Maximum GPM
5/8 inch	0.25	2	15
3/4 inch	0.20	3	25
1 inch	0.75	4	40
1 1/2 inch	1.50	8	80
2 inch	2.00	15	120
3 inch	4.00	20	250
4 inch	7.00	40	350
6 inch	12.00	60	700

GPM – Gallons Per Minute

A meter shall not be placed in service if it registers over or under by more than 2% at the intermediate or maximum flows, or less than 90% of the minimum flow.

F. Metering: The Town may require a compound meter where both low and high flow conditions exist. Another option would be to have two meters: one large and one small, plumbed in parallel.

23. Consumption Adjustments

A. **Meter Malfunction or Removal:** If a meter is removed from service, the Town will make an estimate of the water consumption during the period of removal. Said estimate will be based on the average consumption for similar periods for the customer, and the charges will be computed accordingly.

B. **Adjustment:** When a meter is tested and a meter error is found to be in excess of 2%, an appropriate percentage adjustment may be made to the metered consumption record of one past billing period as well as the portion to date of the current billing period. The charges will be adjusted accordingly when the meter over or under-registers outside the 2% flow value for intermediate or maximum flows or less than 90% of the amount in the minimum flow column in Table 1.

24. Fire Hydrants

Fire hydrants shall not be used for any purpose other than the extinguishment of fires or for such purposes as may be agreed to by the Town. In no case shall the hydrants be opened by any person other than an agent of the Town Water Department or a duly authorized representative of the Fire Department in the defense against fire, special training as approved by the Town or for flushing mains.

25. Tampering with Municipal Property

Tampering with municipal property is not permitted. Any valve, pump house, hydrant, water service line, 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 municipal property or its works or its own meters, such action will be grounds for discontinuance of water service and any cost due to such tampering will be charged to said customer or owner. Proof of such rule violation(s) shall be turned over to Federal Authorities for prosecution.

26. Water Main Extension, Plan Approval and Construction

A. Any person, corporation or governmental body desirous of constructing an extension of the water distribution system must first submit an application to the Town which includes a written explanation of the intended project. Upon preliminary approval of the application by the Governing Body, the applicant shall have final plans and specifications developed by a professional engineer registered to practice engineering in Vermont, together with an engineer's water system hydraulic report. Said plans, report and a letter describing the proposed project must be submitted to the Town. Construction shall not commence until approval of the plans has been issued by 1) the Town, and in the case of proposed extensions greater than 500 feet or to serve hydrant(s) by the State Department of Environmental Conservation. The applicant shall install all service lines from the main to the curb stop as part of the approved project. Potential water users (facilities or residences not served or who are inadequately served by the existing water system) shall have access to service from the new main extension once it is installed, tested, disinfected and essentially accepted by the Town.

B. All work performed by non-municipal agents, such as developers or contractors, shall remain uncovered until an authorized municipal representative or the resident engineer has inspected the work and said person indicates satisfaction with the work. When water mains are to be constructed, the developer will engage a professional engineer to observe the construction from time to time to insure the work proceeds in accordance with the approved plans. The developer's professional engineer must certify to the Town as to the completeness, suitability and adherence to the approved plans, including bacteriological and pressure testing results and the suitability for use in delivering the Town's water to customers. The professional engineer must comment on the failure or passage of such tests and make recommendations to the Town regarding acceptance or rejection. All bacteria samples (a minimum of two shall be collected after disinfection of the lines) shall be negative for coliform bacteria, and pressure leakage standard tests must meet the latest standards offered by the American Water Works Association before the new work can be found acceptable by the Governing Body. Water service shall not be authorized by the Town until the Town has accepted the professional engineer's written certification and issued written permission to serve the customers with drinking water. Such acceptance requires the submission of record drawings to the Town within sixty days of the acceptance by the Town. If the town believes that the water main extension is not being constructed in accordance with the approved plans, the Town may engage its own professional engineer to review the work and provide a report to the Town regarding compliance with the plans. In such case the cost of the engineer will be the responsibility of the applicant if significant discrepancies are noted between the approved plans and the constructed water main extension which are deemed unacceptable to and by the Governing Body. Any discrepancies noted must be corrected by the applicant under the observation of the Town's professional engineer at the expense of the applicant for both engineering observation and construction correction.

C. The Town will accept ownership of the water main extension one year following essential completion of the water extension project, provided it is accepted by the Town, performs as expected and remains in good condition. Until acceptance by the Town, repairs to the water main extension will be the responsibility of the developer who must notify the Town prior to making any repairs and receive approval for such intended repair. However, the Town shall maintain exclusive control over all valves and water use in the project area and the developer, contractor or owner will have no right to turn the valves without Town permission. Essential project completion occurs on the date the Town receives written certification from the developer's engineer that the water main and service lines were constructed essentially in accordance with the approved plans and that the water main extension passes pressure testing, was flushed, disinfected, flushed again, and shown to pass bacteriological testing.

D. A water main extension deposit shall be submitted by anyone who receives approval to extend a water main, and is due and payable to the Town Treasurer before construction is authorized to commence. Reference Table 2 for the appropriate amount of the deposit. Said deposit shall be held by the Town for one year following essential completion to be used by the Town to repair, if necessary, the newly installed water lines in case the developer refuses to make any needed repairs. Unspent deposits will be returned to the developer, without interest accrual, one year following essential completion. Table 2 entitled Water Main Extension Deposits is below.

Table 2

<u>Water Main Tap Size</u>	<u>Deposit Fee</u>
2 & 3 inch	\$5,000.00
4 inch	\$6,000.00
6 inch	\$7,000.00
8 inch or larger	\$8,000.00

27. Materials

The following materials and minimum sizes must be used for repairs and new construction.

A. Water Mains

Class 50 cement lined ductile iron, or class 200 CTS (Copper Tubing Size) Plastic, with copper fittings if less than 4 inch I.D.

B. Service Lines

- 1) Main to Curb Stop – Type “K” copper, minimum size of ¾ inch I.D. or CTS plastic pipe pressure-rated at 200 psi and all fittings shall be lead-free brass. Newly installed curb stop valves shall not include a waste port if seasonal ground water will submerge the valve.
- 2) Curb Stop to Building – Type “K” copper, minimum ¾ inch I.D. or CTS plastic pipe pressure-rated at 200 psi and all fittings shall be lead-free brass.

C. Plumbing (indoor piping for water and waste) must meet the State’s Plumbing Code for newly constructed buildings.

28. Water Rates and Charges. See separate Town Document.

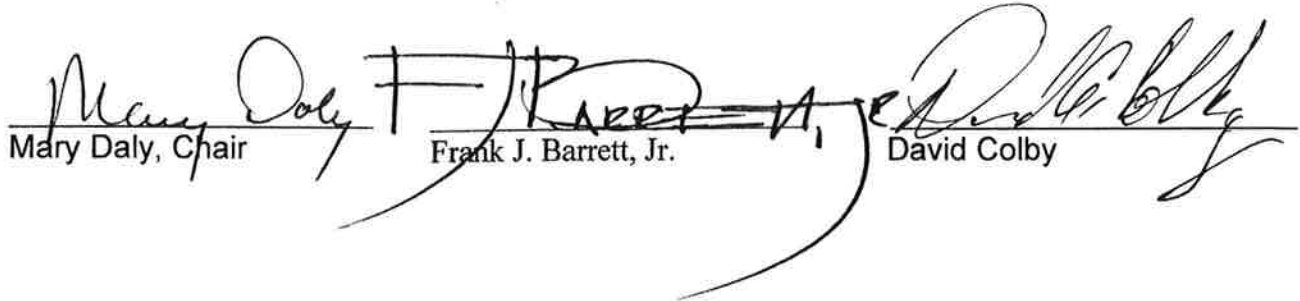
29. User Connection Fees for New Service (For New or Existing Residences). See separate Town Document.

30. Conditions of Billing and Water Service

Each residential or business unit is subject to being billed the minimum flat rate charge for drinking water as established for residences. In the case of a metered service, the minimum fee due the Town is the flat rate billed to non-metered residences and any excess fee established by the metered use shall also be due the Town. Regardless of whether or not a residential or business unit is occupied or used, at least the minimum fee shall apply and become due in accordance with the billing practices of the Town. The water bill will be sent to the building owner or in the case of a condominium or townhouse, where private individual ownership exists, to the agent or association representing said entity. Nonetheless, each building owner is ultimately responsible for payment of the water bill to the Town. A Condominium or Town House group may form an association or other legally established entity, for the purpose of collecting the due water fees and paying the billed amount to the

Town in one lump sum. If water service is no longer desired by the customer, upon written notice from the owner(s) to the Town, the Town will shut water off at the curb stop and at the corporation stop at the main line. The entity being disconnected shall pay for the cost of shutting off and disabling water service. Restoration of water service can occur after the Town receives an application for renewed service, along with payment of any unpaid water charges and the reconnection fee.

Adopted by the Fairlee Selectboard, as Water Commissioners on 10/22/12, with an effective date of 10/22/12.


Mary Daly, Chair Frank J. Barrett, Jr. David Colby

Prepared by the Water Advisory Committee (Barry Larsen, Lance Colby, Paul Sargent & H. Ernest Sargent) with input from Melissa Gahagan, Town Treasurer.

FAIRLEE TOWN WATER SYSTEM

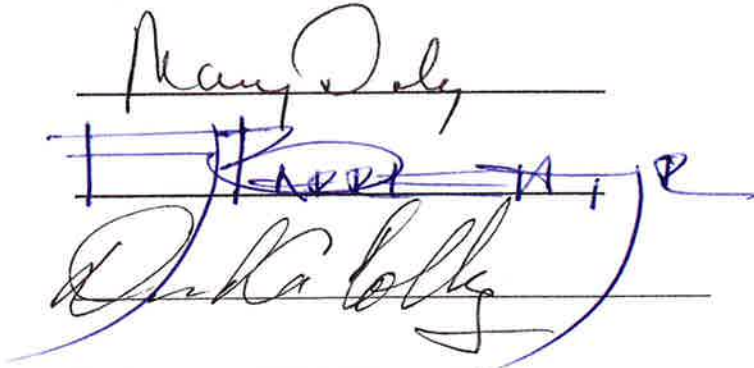
WATER RATES AND CHARGES

- A. Flat Rates: Bills for water use shall include a payment schedule. The flat rate water charge shall be established annually by the Governing Body. The flat rate shall represent the base charge for all water service charges whether metered or not. The flat rate shall be the minimum water charge.
- B. Metered Rates: Bills shall be sent quarterly and are due on receipt. The meter rate charge shall be established annually by the Governing Body and shall include a minimum base fee.
- C. Billing: Water bills will be issued annually based on the rates established and adopted by the Governing Body. The established base fee will be charged to all customers and those that are metered will be billed and required to pay at least the minimum base fee plus any amount shown by the meter that exceeds the allotted amount of the base fee.
- D. Disconnection and Restoration Charges. The following charges for Water shut off and restoration of service are established by Vermont State Statutes Chapter 24 V.S.A. Chapter 129.

Water Shut Off	\$ 25.00
Overtime Rate (time and a half)	37.50
Water Restoration	25.00
Overtime Rate (time and a half)	37.50
Collection Fee for Delinquent Bills	25.00
Overtime Rate (time and a half)	37.50

Approved by Selectboard:

Approval Date: 10/22/12



Copies to: Town Treasurer
System Operator

**FAIRLEE TOWN WATER SYSTEM
USER FEES FOR NEW SERVICE**

A. Residential

- | | |
|--|---------|
| 1) New Connection, one residential unit
With or without an apartment. | \$1,500 |
| 2) New Connection, one residential unit
plus 2 apartments built in. | \$2,000 |
| 3) New Connection, one residential unit
Plus 3 apartments built in. This set-up requires
A 1 inch connection. Or, in the case of an existing
Home, two ¾ inch connections, each service to serve two
Living units. | \$2,500 |
| 4) Duplex residential bldg. (where two different
Owners are planned to exist) each shall have a separate
service line (each to be ¾ in. I.D.)
Each service is \$1500, for a total of | \$3,000 |

**Connection Fee Schedule for Condominiums and
Townhouses and for Apartment Buildings serving more than four units.**

Each living unit of Condominiums and Townhouses shall be served separately with a ¾ inch service line and curb stop shut off from an appropriately sized water line connected to the water main. A separate shut-off is necessary in case of a water emergency or non-payment of a water bill. Apartment units may be served from within the apartment building. A one-time Connection/Assessment fee of "\$1500.00 is due the town for each Living Unit.

Note: A \$500.00 credit shall be applied to the developer/applicant for each connection of the service line (from the main to and including the curb stop) when constructed and paid for by the owner/applicant with the Town's review, approval (prior to constructing service line) and acceptance following construction.

B. Non-Residential Use

- 1) Each individual connection shall be charged a Connection/Assessment fee as follows:

<u>Connection to Water Main</u>	<u>Charge per Connection</u>
¾ inch I.D (Min. size)	\$1,500
1, 1-¼, 1-½ inch I.D.	2,000
2 & 3 inch	2,500
4 inch I.D.	3,000
6 inch I.D.	3,500
8 inch I.D.	4,000

Approved by Selectboard:

Approval Date: 10/22/12

Mary Daley
~~*[Signature]*~~
[Signature]

Copies to: Town Treasurer, System Operator