



Memo

TO: Committee of the Whole
FROM: Ed Andrews, Public Works Director
SUBJECT: Sanitary Sewer Lateral Policy & Ordinance Update Discussion
DATE: December 8, 2017

Per previous discussions regarding a draft ordinance for formally defining policy regarding sanitary laterals, additional discussion with the Committee of the Whole has been requested by the Public Works Committee. It was the consensus of Public Works Committee to consider revising the ordinance for the portion of the private lateral on right-of-way to be maintained by the City.

The previously prepared draft ordinance was sought to continue the current policy of the sanitary lateral being entirely private and a responsibility of the homeowner under Chapter 52 – Sewers, Drains and Sewage Disposal of the City Code. Obviously, the cost associated with the repair or replacement of sanitary lateral is sizeable, in the thousands of dollars, and sometimes requires digging into the street to make a new connection to the public main. This leads to additional costs to make an appropriate road repair. The City currently sees 1 to 2 lateral repair permits per year, but this number may increase given the age of certain portions of the system and with consideration of street reconstruction.

It should also be noted that with new subdivision construction, as defined under Chapter 152 - Subdivision of the City Code, specifically Section 152.021, it specifies that the developer provide sanitary mains and laterals as part of the initial construction. Laterals are stubbed to the edge of right of way for each platted lot. The individual builder then completes the lateral to the home. This requirement is similar to water services which are brought to the edge of the right of way, but also provided with a curb stop / buffalo box. For a water service this is the demarcation of private versus public ownership.

While this would seem to readily lend itself to help define the same for a sanitary lateral, many older homes pre-date the sanitary collection system established in the mid-1950s. In those cases, it appears that the individual owner was responsible for connecting to the public sewer. In fact, policy was that the homeowner could electively come on to the system at their choosing with some homes still being discovered to be on private septic as recent as last year. This is no longer that case by both Section 52.024 of the City Code and the Illinois Plumbing Code currently requires a private system be brought onto a public system if it is within 300 feet of a public sewer (Section 905.20).

ORDINANCE NO. _____

~~AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 52 ENTITLED "SEWERS, DRAINS AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL" OF THE CODE OF ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF WASHINGTON, TAZEWELL COUNTY, ILLINOIS, AS IT RELATES TO THE SANITARY SEWER SYSTEM~~

~~NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WASHINGTON, TAZEWELL COUNTY, ILLINOIS, as follows:~~

Create § 52.009 Sewer System and insert the following:

~~(A) The sanitary sewer system shall be considered as made up of two (2) parts: the public sanitary sewer system and the customer's sanitary sewer system. The public sanitary sewer system shall consist of the treatment facilities and the distribution system, including the sanitary sewer main and all those facilities of the sanitary sewer system under the control of the City up to the point where the customer's sewer system begins.~~

~~(B) The customer's sewer system shall include the sanitary sewer lateral that conveys sewage from its point of origin to the public sanitary sewer main. The connection of the sanitary sewer lateral to the main is a part of the customer's sewer system. The customer is responsible for all maintenance and related costs of the customer's sewer system.~~

~~I. There are cases within the sanitary system where the customer(s) have a permitted private sanitary sewer with the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency (IEPA). In these cases, the maintenance and related costs of the private sewer remains with the private owner(s) as permitted with the IEPA for the private sewer, essentially to its point of connection to the public sewer main owned and operated by the City.~~

~~II. There are also cases of customer shared sanitary sewer laterals and other non-permitted "wildcat" sewers that are discovered from time to time within the system. These types of customer systems are not the City's responsibility to correct and/or maintain and may need to be addressed at additional cost to the customer(s) connected thereto to be brought into current compliance with the IEPA.~~

PASSED AND APPROVED this _____ day of _____, 2017.

AYES: _____

NAYS: _____

Mayor

ATTEST:

City Clerk

(Ord. 987, passed 3-16-70)
Penalty, see § 52.999

**§ 52.024 CONNECTING PRIVATE SEWAGE DISPOSAL SYSTEM TO PUBLIC
SEWER**

At such time as a public sewer becomes available to a property served by a private sewage disposal system, as provided in § 52.023, a direct connection shall be made to the public sewer in compliance with this chapter; and any septic tank, cesspool, and similar private sewage disposal facilities shall be abandoned and filled with suitable material.

(Ord. 987, passed 3-16-70)
Penalty, see § 52.999

§ 52.025 CONNECTING BUILDING SEWER TO PUBLIC SEWER

When a public sewer becomes available, the building sewer shall be connected to such sewer within twenty (20) days and the private sewage disposal system shall be cleaned of sludge and filled with clean bank-run gravel or dirt.

(Ord. 987, passed 3-16-70)
Penalty, see § 52.999

§ 52.026 MAINTENANCE OF PRIVATE SEWAGE DISPOSAL FACILITIES

The owner shall operate and maintain the private sewage disposal facilities in a sanitary manner at all times, at no expense to the city.

(Ord. 987, passed 3-16-70)

§ 52.027 NONINTERFERENCE WITH ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS

No statement contained in this subchapter shall be construed to interfere with any additional requirements that may be imposed by the health office of the city, or the State.

(Ord. 987, passed 3-16-70)

BUILDING SEWERS AND CONNECTIONS

§ 52.040 CONNECTION PERMIT REQUIRED

No unauthorized person shall uncover, make any connections with or opening into, use, alter, or disturb any public sewer or appurtenance thereof without first obtaining a written permit from the City Administrator or his designee.

§ 152.021 SANITARY SEWERS AND APPURTENANCES

- (A) The size of sanitary sewers and appurtenances shall be determined by the City Engineer. The minimum size of sewer mains shall be eight (8) inches and the minimum size of sewer laterals shall be six (6) inches. The type of material used for sewers greater than eighteen (18) inches in diameter or laid at depths exceeding twenty-eight (28) feet or at stream crossings and in unstable ground shall be approved by the City Engineer.
- (B) Sanitary sewers and appurtenances shall be in accordance with city construction standards and state water and sewer main specifications. Connection of new sanitary sewers to the existing system shall not be made until approved by the City Engineer. The connection of the new sanitary sewer shall be sealed with a water tight plug at all times until final testing is complete.
- (C) Sanitary sewers and service lines shall be ductile iron, polyvinyl chloride (PVC) or vitrified clay. PVC pipe shall be a standard dimension ratio (SDR) of at least 26.
- (D) Ductile iron or PVC sewer joints shall be bell and spigot joints. Vitrified clay pipe joints shall be with PVC bell material.
- (E) Sanitary sewer manholes shall be precast concrete components or monolith concrete as shown on the city construction standards. Bases shall be cast in place concrete or precast concrete. Wherever possible manholes shall be provided with a corbel section to reduce the inside diameter of the manhole to twenty four (24) inches.
- (F) All sanitary sewers and service lines shall be laid with a minimum cover of four (4) feet.
- (G) All sanitary sewers shall be installed on granular cradle bedding.
- (H) All sanitary sewer main and service line trenches located below or within two (2) feet of street surfaces, sidewalks, and curbs and gutters shall be backfilled with select granular backfill and mechanically compacted to ninety-five (95) percent Standard Proctor Density (SPD) in minimum twelve (12) inch loose layers.
- (I) All other sanitary sewer trenches shall be compacted by mechanical compaction, jetting and water soaking or another means, as approved by the City Engineer.
- (J) All new sanitary sewers and appurtenances shall be tested for leakage by air exfiltration under pressure or other methods approved by the City Engineer, tested for deflection, lamped for straightness, and visually inspected. All tests shall be performed by the