



## **CITY OF WASHINGTON, ILLINOIS**

### **Public Works Committee Agenda Communication**

**Meeting Date:** September 7, 2021

**Prepared By:** Dennis Carr, P.E. – City Engineer  
Kevin Schone – Public Works Director

**Agenda Item:** Private Water Line Leaks

**Explanation:** We have recently found several leaks on private water service lines that exist between our curb shut off and the water meters in a resident's homes. This water is unaccounted for and costs the City money, as well as causes wet yards or water in curb lines. Staff would like to put something in writing that would spell out recourse for this issue so that we can approach each of these issues in the same manner.

We already have an ordinance that spells out what happens if we find a defective meter, though this ordinance does not have any type of time frame spelled out for replacement. We have added private water leaks to this section as they both deal with unaccountable water. This ordinance adjustment would establish a 7-day time frame for the resident to replace their meter or repair the water leak. The recourse for failing to repair/replace would be the City to turn off the water.

**Fiscal Impact:** Fixing these leaks and replacing broken meters will reduce unaccountable water.

**Recommendation Summary:** Staff would like discussion on the Ordinance as written, and move to place the items on the Committee of the Whole meeting of September 13th for Council discussion.

**Action Requested:** Direction to move the Ordinance to the Committee of the Whole of September 13<sup>th</sup> for discussion.

#### § 50.37 ENTRY UPON PREMISES; FAILURE OF OWNER TO COMPLY

The City Administrator, or his authorized agent, shall have free access at any reasonable hour to all parts of any premises to which city water is supplied for the purpose of making necessary examination, and, in case any connection or pipe maintained by the property owner in accordance with § 50.22 or water meter is found out of repair, may require the same to be repaired at once, or a new connection, pipe, or water meter provided, and in the event no water meter is found, may require the immediate installation of same. Except in an emergency, the City Administrator shall provide notice of any defect found in the connection, pipe, or water meter. Upon failure of the owner to repair such connection, pipe, or meter, or supply a new one within seven (7) days following written notice from the City Administrator, or upon refusal to permit the above examination, the water shall be shut off to such premises and shall not be turned on again until such connection, pipe, or meter is repaired or a new one provided, or in case of refusal to allow an examination, until satisfactory arrangements have been made concerning future examinations; and not, in any case, except upon the payment of twenty dollars (\$20.00) for the turning off and on of such water. Each day that the property owner fails or refuses to allow an inspection, or to repair the connection, pipe, or water meter within seven (7) days after receipt of notice from the City of Washington, shall be a separate violation of this chapter subject to the penalties provided in § 50.99.