

CHAPTER 144

WATER SUPPLY

SECTION 11—WATER SUPPLY BY-LAWS

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*Legal Notices Nos. 20 of 1956, 88 of 1956, 64 of 1957, 24 of 1960,
88 of 1976, 23 of 1977, 45 of 1978, 83 of 1978, 126 of 1978,
20 of 1979, 185 of 1979, 158 of 1980, 31 of 1984*

Short title

1. These By-laws may be cited as the Water Supply By-laws.

Interpretation

- 1A. In these By-Laws, unless the context otherwise requires, “appropriate form” means a form approved by the Commissioner of Water Supply.
(*Inserted by Legal Notice 23 of 1977.*)

Application

2. Any person desirous of obtaining a domestic, trade or building supply from the Commissioner shall make application therefor, under and subject to the terms

of these By-laws, on the printed form contained in Schedule A, which may be obtained from the Commissioner.

Fees

3. The application form for a new domestic, trade, industrial or commercial supply shall be accompanied by a fee of \$12, and, for a new building supply, a fee of \$55.20, which will be returned if, for any reason, the application is refused. (Amended by Legal Notice 45 of 1978, 83 of 1978; 185 of 1979; 158 of 1980; 31 of 1984.)

Control

4. If it shall appear to the Commissioner that—

(a) an applicant will be likely to use such a quantity of water as will prejudice the supply to other consumers; or

(b) for any other reason, the approval of the application will adversely affect, or is likely adversely to affect, the efficiency of the system generally,

the Commissioner may refuse the application or specify the quantity of water which such applicant may draw from the mains during any period, and the use of any quantity of water in excess of the amount specified shall be deemed to be a breach of these By-laws.

Use of water—public standpipes

5.—(1) Water shall be taken from public standpipes only in buckets or other suitable receptacles and in such a manner as to prevent waste.

(2) No hosepipe, pipe, tube, chute or other contrivance of any nature whatsoever shall be attached, either temporarily or permanently, to any public standpipe.

(3) No automatic self-closing valve or other automatic appliance attached to or forming part of any public standpipe shall be interfered with so as to prevent, either temporarily or permanently, its automatic action.

(4) Any person who acts in contravention of the provisions of this by-law shall be guilty of an offence.

Connections

6.—(1) The kind and size of connection and its position shall be determined by the Commissioner.

(2) The connection shall be taken from the main to a meter box, which shall be placed inside the boundary of the applicant's premises, or in such position as the Commissioner may determine, and shall there terminate in a stopcock and meter.

(3) This work shall be done by the Commissioner.

(4) Nothing hereinbefore contained shall be deemed to prohibit the Commissioner from installing more than one meter where water is supplied to the same premises for different purposes.

(5) The Commissioner may, as a condition of installing a new connection, require the applicant for the supply to contribute to the cost of the connection where the nearest main is at a greater distance than 15 metres from the boundary of the premises to be served or where the connection is larger than 25 mm bore. (Amended by Legal Notice 126 of 1978.)

(6) All such connections, stopcocks, metres and meter boxes shall remain the property of the Commissioner and shall not be interfered with nor the stopcock turned on or off by any person on any pretext whatsoever, except with the authority of the Commissioner.

Service to be fixed by licensed fitter

7.—(1) All pipes required for the purpose of domestic, trade or building supplies shall start from the meter above referred to, and, together with all fittings, taps or other apparatus connected therewith, so far as they are subject to internal water pressure from the street mains, shall be fixed only by a fitter licensed under by-law 14.

(2) Any person, other than a licensed fitter, who fixes any such pipe, fitting, tap or other apparatus shall be guilty of an offence. (*Inserted by Legal Notice 88 of 1956.*)

Premises supplied from tanks, etc., may be connected to service

8. In cases where private houses or other premises are already provided with a system of water supply from tanks, wells, or other sources, such system may be connected with the mains:

Provided that—

- (a) the tanks, wells and other sources of supply are disconnected; and
- (b) the pipes, so far as they will be subjected to the pressure from the mains, are, in the opinion of the Commissioner, of sufficient strength to sustain the pressure.

Separate connection to each house

9.—(1) Every house or separate premises supplied with water from the mains shall have a separate connection and, except with the permission of the Commissioner, no such house or separate premises shall have more than one connection.

(2) Blocks or rows of houses or premises belonging to the same owner may, however, at the discretion of the Commissioner, be supplied by one connection, stopcock, and meter, with branch pipes to each of the houses or premises in such block or row, or with one or more taps for use of the whole.

(3) Any such arrangement shall apply only so long as the whole of the block or row of houses or premises so supplied remains under one ownership.

(4) On the transfer of ownership of any house or premises served by a sub-connection under these By-laws, the Commissioner may disconnect the transferred premises.

Election in relation to one or more rates of payment

9A. Where one or more rates of payment have been fixed in respect of domestic, trade or building supplies, the owner of premises may elect—

- (a) by giving 14 days' notice in writing to the Commissioner in the case of the first connection of any one supply;
- (b) by giving at least 3 months' notice in writing to the Commissioner in any other case,

to pay for water at any one of such fixed rates, which may or may not include meter rents as the case may be.

(*Inserted by Legal Notice 24 of 1960.*)

Accounts

10.—(1) Except in the case of the disconnection of a supply under by-law 13, when the meter shall be read immediately prior to disconnection, all meters shall be read at such times as the Commissioner may direct.

(2) Accounts shall be rendered quarterly.

(3) Where a water supply shall have been disconnected, the charge for re-connection of the same shall be \$5.40. (*Amended by Legal Notice 45 of 1978; 83 of 1978; 185 of 1979; 158 of 1980; 31 of 1984.*)

(4) All payments due under these By-laws shall be made at the office of the Commissioner or at an authorized branch office.

Testing of meters

11.—(1) Any consumer who desires the accuracy of his meter to be tested shall deposit with the local Sub-Accountant the sum of \$6.96 before such meter shall be tested. (*Amended by Legal Notice 45 of 1978; 83 of 1978; 185 of 1979; 158 of 1980; 31 of 1984.*)

(2) The Commissioner shall give such consumer notice of the time and place for the carrying out of such test and shall allow such person to be present.

(3) If, as a result of the test, the meter is found to be registering fast by more than 5 per cent—

- (a) the deposit shall be refunded to the consumer;
- (b) the meter shall be replaced without charge; and
- (c) the consumer shall be allowed any inaccuracy deduced from the test aforesaid:

Provided that such allowance shall only be in respect of the quantity in question before payment therefor shall have been made.

(4) If, as a result of the test, the meter is found to be registering slow by more than 5 per cent—

- (a) the consumer shall forfeit the deposit; and
- (b) any inaccuracy deduced from the test aforesaid shall be charged to the consumer:

Provided that such charge shall only be in respect of the quantity in question before payment therefor shall have been made.

(5) If, as a result of the test, the meter is found to be registering 5 per cent fast or slow, or less than 5 per cent fast or slow—

- (a) it shall be deemed to be correct; and
- (b) the consumer shall—

- (i) forfeit the deposit; and
- (ii) be charged with any cost incurred in testing the meter.

(*Amended by Legal Notice 45 of 1978; 83 of 1978.*)

(6) Should any meter cease registering altogether, or be found to register so incorrectly that in the opinion of the Commissioner the true quantity for any period cannot be deduced therefrom, then the consumption for that period shall be the average deduced from the quantity supplied during the previous period of not less than one month and not more than 6 months.

(7) No question of the accuracy of the meter shall exempt the consumer from payment within the time prescribed by these By-laws of the quantity registered *prima facie* by such meter.

(8) In the case of emergency or of a temporary supply—

- (a) the Commissioner may, in his discretion—
 - (i) dispense with the use of a meter; and
 - (ii) assess the quantity of water supplied by computation, which shall be binding upon the owner; and
- (b) the cost of making the connection and removing the same shall be paid by the owner.

Special meter reading

11A. Where a special reading is made at the request of the consumer the charge therefor shall be \$5.40.

(Inserted by Legal Notice 45 of 1978; amended by Legal Notice 83 of 1978; 185 of 1979; 158 of 1980; 31 of 1984.)

Repairs and renewals

12.—(1) All repairs and renewals which may, at any time, be required to pipes, taps, fittings, or other apparatus subject to internal water pressure from the mains, shall be carried out by a fitter licensed under by-law 14.

(2) Such repairs and renewals may, however, at the discretion of the Commissioner, be carried out by the Commissioner, in which case the consumer shall pay the cost of such repairs or renewals.

(3) Any person who causes or permits any repair or renewal to be carried out in contravention of the provisions of this by-law shall be guilty of an offence.

Discontinuance of supplies

13. Any consumer who may be desirous of discontinuing a domestic, trade or building supply shall give 7 days' notice in writing to the Commissioner, who will then arrange for the service to be disconnected.

Licensing of waterworks fitter

14.—(1) Any workman desiring a licence to carry out work in connection with water supplies to which these By-laws apply shall make application in the appropriate form. *(Amended by Legal Notice 23 of 1977.)*

(2) Licences in the appropriate form shall be issued free of cost by the Commissioner on his being satisfied that the applicant is a fit and proper person to be entrusted with work as a waterworks fitter. *(Amended by Legal Notice 88 of 1976.)*

(3) Any authorized waterworks fitter who is shown, to the satisfaction of the Commissioner, to have acted in any way contrary to these By-laws or the Act shall be liable to have his licence cancelled by the Commissioner.

(4) The names of all waterworks fitters so licenced shall, from time to time, be published in the Gazette.

Conservation of water

15.—(1) No person shall use water in contravention of any prohibition or limitation imposed by the Commissioner at any time on the use of water supplied by him in any locality for the purpose of conserving the water supply in that locality on account of any existing or threatened shortage of water.

(2) Any person who uses or causes or permits to be used any water in contravention of any such limitation or prohibition shall be guilty of an offence.

Penalty

16. Any person convicted of an offence under these By-laws shall be liable to a fine not exceeding \$400 or to imprisonment for a term not exceeding 6 months, or to both such fine and imprisonment.

(Amended by Legal Notice 20 of 1979.)

SCHEDULE A
(By-law 2)
(Substituted by Legal Notice 64 of 1957.)

APPLICATION FOR CONNECTION TO WATER SUPPLY

Connection No.
(To be filled in by the Commissioner
of Water Supply)

To the Commissioner of Water Supply.

I, owner of
do hereby apply for a connection to be made, from the public water mains to my
premises at

(Give block, lot and street)

Purpose for which water is to be used.....
(Domestic, trade or building)

Estimated consumption per day
(Only required for trade or building supply)

Usual number of persons in house including servants.....
(To be filled in the case of domestic supply only)

And I hereby agree to conform with all Regulations and By-Laws now in
force or hereafter lawfully prescribed by the Commissioner of Water Supply, and to
pay all such fees for connection, rates or other charges to which I may be legally
liable.

.....
Signature of Applicant
(Applicant must be the owner of the premises
for which the connection is required)

Connection fee paid per R.R. No. of / / .

[SCHEDULE B

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(Revoked by Legal Notice 23 of 1977.)]

[SCHEDULE C

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(Revoked by Legal Notice 88 of 1976.)]