

Title 9 ♦ Chapter 1

Water Utility Regulations and Rates

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Article B: Rules and Regulations

Sec. 9-1-20 Compliance with Rules.

All persons now receiving a water supply from the Village of Merrilan water utility, or who may hereafter make application therefor, shall be considered as having agreed to be bound by the rules and regulations as filed with the Public Service Commission of Wisconsin. Future amendments to such rules and regulations are automatically incorporated into this Chapter by reference; this provision shall apply to all PSC-regulated utilities in this Title.

Sec. 9-1-21 Establishment of Service.

- (a) Application for water service shall be made in writing on a form furnished by the water utility. The application will contain the legal description of the property to be served, name of the owner, the exact use to be made of the service, and the size of the supply pipe and meter desired. (Note particularly any special refrigeration and/or air-conditioning water-consuming appliances.
- (b) Service will be furnished only if:
 - (1) Premises have a frontage on a properly platted street or public strip in which a cast iron or other long-life water main has been laid, or where property owner has agreed to and complied with the provisions of the utility's filed main extension rule.
 - (2) Property owner has installed or agrees to install a service pipe from the curb line to the point of use, and laid not less than six (6) feet below the surface of an established or proposed grade, and according to utility's specification, and
 - (3) Premises have adequate piping beyond the metering point.
- (c) The owner of a multi-unit dwelling has the option of being served by individual metered water service to each unit. The owner, by selecting this option, is required to provide interior plumbing and meter settings to enable individual metered service to each unit and individual disconnection without affecting service to the other units. Each meter and meter connection will be a separate water utility customer for the purpose of the filed rules and regulations.
- (d) No division of the water service of any lot or parcel of land shall be made for the extension and independent meterage of the supply to an adjoining lot or parcel of land. Except for duplexes, no division of a water service lateral shall be made at the curb for separate supplies for two or more separate premises having frontage on any street or public strip, whether owned by the same or different parties. Duplexes may be served by one lateral provided (1) individual metered service and disconnection is provided and (2) is permitted by local ordinance. Buildings using the same business, located on the same parcel, and served by a single lateral may have the customer's water supply piping installed to a central point so that volume can be metered in one place.
- (e) The Utility may withhold approval of any application wherein full information of the purpose of such supply is not clearly indicated and set forth by the applicant property owner.

Sec. 9-1-22 Service Contract.

- (a) The minimum service contract period shall be *one (1) year* unless otherwise specified by special contract or in the applicable rate schedule. Where the Utility service has been disconnected at the customer's request prior to expiration of his minimum contract period, a reconnection charge shall be made, payable in advance, when the customer requests reconnection of service. (See Schedule R-1 for applicable rate.) The minimum contract period is renewed with each reconnection.
- (b) A reconnection charge shall also be required from consumers whose services are disconnected (shut off at curb stop) because of non-payment of bills when due (not including disconnection for failure to comply with deposit or guarantee rules). (See Schedule R-1 for applicable rate.)
- (c) A consumer shall be considered as the same consumer provided the reconnection is requested for the same location by any member of the same family, or if a place of business, by any partner or employee of the same business.

Sec. 9-1-23 Temporary Metered Supply, Meter and Deposits.

An applicant for temporary water supply on a metered basis shall make and maintain a monetary deposit for each meter installed as security for payment for use of water and for such other charges which may arise from the use of the supply. A charge shall be made for setting the valve and furnishing and setting the meter. See Schedule BW-1 for applicable rate.

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Sec. 9-1-24 Water for Construction.

- (a) When water is requested for construction purposes, or for filling tanks or other such uses, an application therefor shall be made to the Utility, in writing, upon application provided for that purpose in the Utility's office, giving a statement of the amount of construction work to be done, or the size of the tank to be filled, etc. Payment for the water for construction shall be made in advance at the scheduled rates. The service pipe must be installed inside the building from where the water must be drawn. No connection with the service pipe at the curb shall be made without special permission from the Utility.
- (b) In no case will any employee of the utility turn on water for construction work unless the contractor first presents a permit. Upon completion of the construction work, the contractor must return the original permit to the Utility, together with a statement of the actual amount of construction work performed.
- (c) Consumers shall not allow contractors, masons or other persons to take water from their premises without first showing a permit from the Department. Any consumer failing to comply with this provision will have water service discontinued.

Sec. 9-1-25 Use of Hydrants.

- (a) In cases where no other supply is available, permission may be granted by the Utility to use a hydrant. No hydrant shall be used until it is equipped with a sprinkling valve. In no case shall any valve be moved except by a member of the Utility.
- (b) Before a valve is set, payment must be made for its setting and for the water to be used at the scheduled rates. Where applicable, see Schedule BW-1 for deposits and charges. Upon completing use of the hydrant, the customer must notify the Utility to that effect.

Sec. 9-1-26 Operation of Valves and Hydrants; Unauthorized Use of Water; Penalty.

Any person who shall, without authority of the Utility, allow contractors, masons, or other unauthorized persons to take water from their premises, operate any valve connected with the street or supply mains, or open any fire hydrant connected with the distribution system, except for the purpose of extinguishing fire, or who shall wantonly damage or impair the same shall be subject to a fine as provided by municipal ordinances. Permits for the use of hydrants apply only to such hydrants as are designated for the specific use.

Sec. 9-1-27 Refunds of Monetary Deposits.

All moneys deposited as security for payment of charges arising from the use of temporary water supply on a metered basis, or for the return of a sprinkling valve wheel or reducer, if the water is used on an unmetered basis, will be refunded to the depositor on the termination of the use of water, the payment of all charges levied against the depositor, and the return of the wheel and reducer.

Sec. 9-1-28 Service Connections (or Water Laterals).

- (a) No water service shall be laid through any trench having cinders, rubbish, rock or gravel fill, or any other material which may cause injury to or disintegration of the service pipe, unless adequate means of protection are provided by sand filling or such other insulation as may be approved by the Utility. Service pipes passing through curb or retaining walls

- shall be adequately safeguarded by provision of a channel space or pipe easing, not less than twice the diameter of the service connection. The space between the service pipe and channel or pipe easing shall be filled and lightly caulked with an oakum, mastic cement, or other resilient material and made impervious to moisture.
- (b) In backfilling the pipe trench, the service pipe must be protected against injury by carefully hand tamping the ground filling, free from hard lumps, rocks, stones, or other injurious material, around and at least six (6) inches over the pipe.
 - (c) All water supplies shall be of undiminished size from the street main in to the point of meter placement. Beyond the meter outlet valve the piping shall be sized and proportioned to provide, on all floors, at all times, an equitable distribution of water supply for the greatest probable number of fixtures or appliances operating simultaneously.

Sec. 9-1-29 Service Piping for Meter Settings.

- (a) Where the original service piping is installed for a new metered customer, where existing service piping is changed for the customer's convenience, or where a new meter is installed for an existing unmetered customer, the owner of the premises at his/her expense shall provide a suitable location and the proper connections for the meter. The meter setting and associated plumbing shall comply with the water utility's standards. The water utility should be consulted as to the type and size of meter setting. Where it is possible to set meters in the basement, or other suitable place within the building, a short nipple shall be inserted after the stop and waste cock, then a union, and then another nipple and coupling of the proper length. The nipple attached to the union and coupling shall be cut to a standard length provided by the plans of the Utility (it may require a horizontal run of eighteen (18) inches in such pipe line) which may later be removed for the insertion of the meter into the supply line.

Sec. 9-1-30 Turning on Water.

The water cannot be turned on for a consumer except by a duly authorized employee of the utility. When a plumber has completed a job, he must leave the water turned off. This does not prevent the plumber from testing the work.

Sec. 9-1-31 Failure to Read Meters.

- (a) Where the utility is unable to read a meter, the fact will be plainly indicated on the bill, and either an estimated bill will be computed, or the minimum charge applied. The difference shall be adjusted when the meter is again read,

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that is, the bill for the succeeding quarter will be computed with the gallons or cubic feet in each block of the rate schedule doubled and credit will be given on that bill for the amount of the minimum bill paid the preceding month. Only in unusual cases, or when approval is obtained from the customer shall more than three (3) consecutive estimated bills be rendered where billed are rendered monthly and there shall be not more than two (2) consecutive estimated bills where the billing period is two (2) months or more.

- (b) If the meter is damaged (see Surreptitious Use of Water) or fails to operate, the bill will be based on the average use during the past year unless there is some reason why the use is not normal. If the average use cannot be properly employed, the bill will be estimated by some equitable method.

See Wis. Admin. Code, PSC 185.33

Sec. 9-1-32 Complaint Meter Tests.

See Wis. Adm. Code, Chapter PSC 185.77

Sec. 9-1-33 Thawing Frozen Services.

See Wis. Adm. Code, Chapter PSC 185.88

Sec. 9-1-34 Curb Stop Boxes.

◆- The curb stop box is the property of the water utility. The water utility is responsible for its repair and maintenance. This includes maintaining, through adjustment, the curb stop box at an appropriate grade level where no direct action by the property owner or occupant has contributed to an elevation problem. The property owner is responsible for protecting the curb stop box from situations that could obstruct access to it or unduly expose it to harm. The water utility shall not be liable for failure to locate the curb stop box and shut off the water in case of a leak on the owner's premises.

Sec. 9-1-35 Installation of Meters.

Meters will be owned, furnished and installed by the water utility or a utility-approved contractor and are not to be disconnected or tampered with by the customer. All meters shall be so located that they shall be protected from obstructions and permit ready access for reading, inspection, and servicing, such location to be designated or approved by the Utility. All piping within the building must be supplied by the owner. Where additional meters are desired by the owner, the owner shall pay for all piping. Where applicable, see Schedule Am-I for rates.

Sec. 9-1-36 Repairs to Meters.

- (a) Meters will be repaired by the water department and the cost of such repairs caused by ordinary wear and tear will be borne by the utility.
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- (b) Repair of any damage to a meter resulting from the carelessness of the owner of the premises, his agent, or tenant, or from the negligence of any one of them to properly secure and protect same, including any damage that may result from allowing a water meter to become frozen or to be injured from the presence of hot water or steam in the meter, shall be paid for by the consumer or the owner of the premises.

Sec. 9-1-37 Replacement and Repair of Service Pipe.

- (a) The service pipe from the main to and through the curb stop will be maintained and kept in repair and when worn out, replaced at the expense of the utility. The property owner shall maintain the service pipe from the curb stop to the point of use.
- (b) If a consumer fails to repair a leaking or broken service pipe from curb to point of metering or use within such time as may appear reasonable to the Utility after notification has been served on the consumer by the Utility, the water will be shut off and will not be turned on again until the repairs have been completed.

Sec. 9-1-38 Charges for Water Wasted Due to Leaks.

See Wis. Adm. Code, Chapter PSC 185.35

Sec. 9-1-39 Inspection of Premises.

During reasonable hours any officer or authorized employee of the utility shall have the right of access to the premises supplied with service, for the purpose of inspection or for the enforcement of the utility's rules and regulations. Whenever appropriate, the utility will make a systematic inspection of all unmetered water taps for the purpose of checking waste and unnecessary use of water.

Sec. 9-1-40 Customer's Deposit.

See Wis. Adm. Code, Chapter PSC 185.36

Sec. 9-1-41 Conditions of Deposit.

See Wis. Adm. Code. Chapter PSC 185.

Sec. 9-1-42 Guarantee Contracts.

See Wis. Adm. Code, Chapter 185.

Sec. 9-1-43 Deferred Payment Agreement.

See Wis. Adm. Code, Chapter 185.

Sec. 9-1-44 Disconnection and Refusal of Service.

- (a) Disconnection. See Wis. Adm. Code Chapter PSC 185.
- (b) Disconnection Notice. The form of disconnection notice to be used is as follows:

DISCONNECTION NOTICE

Dear Customer:

The bill enclosed with this notice includes your current charge for utility service and your previous unpaid balance.

You have 10 days to pay the utility service arrears, or your service is subject to disconnection.

If you fail to pay the service arrears or fail to contact us within the 10 days allowed to make **reasonable** time payment arrangements, we will proceed with a disconnection action.

To avoid the inconvenience of service interruption and an additional charge of (amount) reconnection, we urge you to pay the full arrears **IMMEDIATELY AT ONE OF OUR OFFICES.**

If you have entered into a Deferred Payment Agreement with us and have failed to make the time payment you agreed to, your service will be subject to disconnection unless you pay the amount due within 10 days.

If you have a reason for delaying the payment, call us and explain the situation.

PLEASE CALL THIS TELEPHONE NUMBER, (appropriate telephone number), IMMEDIATELY IF:

1. You dispute the notice of delinquent account.
2. You have a question about your utility service arrears.
3. You are unable to pay the full amount of the bill and are willing to enter into a time payment agreement with us.
4. There are any circumstances you think should be taken into consideration before service is discontinued.
5. Any resident is seriously ill.

Illness Provision

If there is an existing medical emergency in your home and you furnish the Utility with a statement signed by either a licensed Wisconsin physician, or a public health official, we will delay disconnection of service up to 21 days. The statement must identify the medical emergency and specify the period of time during which disconnection will aggravate the existing emergency.

Deferred Payment Agreements

If you are a residential customer, and for some reason, you are unable to pay the full amount of the utility service arrears on your bill, you may contact the Utility to discuss arrangements to pay the arrears over an extended period of time.

This time payment agreement will require:

1. Payment of a reasonable amount at the time the agreement is made.
2. Payment of the remainder of the outstanding balance in monthly installments over a reasonable length of time.
3. Payment of all future utility service bills in full by the due date.

In any situation where you are unable to resolve billing disputes or disputes about the grounds for proposed disconnection through contacts with our utility, you may make an appeal to the Wisconsin Public Service Commission, Madison, Wisconsin.

(UTILITY NAME)

Sec. 9-1-45 Collection of Overdue Bills.

An amount owed by the customer may be levied as a tax as provided in Sec. 66.069, Wis. Stats.

Sec. 9-1-46 Surreptitious Use of Waters.

- (a) When the utility has reasonable evidence that a consumer is obtaining his supply of water, in whole or in part, by means of devices or methods used to stop or interfere with

proper metering of the utility service being delivered to his equipment, the utility reserves the right to estimate and present immediately a bill for service unmetered as a result of such interference and such bill shall be payable subject to a twenty-four (24) hours disconnection of service. When the utility shall have disconnected the consumer for any such reason, the utility will reconnect the consumer upon the following conditions:

- (1) The consumer will be required to deposit with the utility an amount sufficient to guarantee the payment of the consumer's bills for utility service to the utility.
 - (2) The consumer will be required to pay the utility for any and all damages to its equipment on the consumer's premises due to such stoppage or interference with its metering.
 - (3) The consumer must further agree to comply with reasonable requirements to protect the utility against further losses.
- (b) Sections 98.26 and 943.20, Wisconsin Statutes, as relating to water service, are hereby adopted and made a part of these rules.

Sec. 9-1-47 Vacation of Premises.

When premises are to be vacated, the utility shall be notified in writing at once, so that it may remove the meter and shut off the supply at the curb stop. The owner of the premises shall be liable to prosecution for any damage to the property of the water department by reason of failure to notify the utility of vacancy. See "Abandonment of Service" in Schedule X-1 for further information.

Sec. 9-1-48 Repairs to Mains.

The utility reserves the right to shut off the water in the mains temporarily, to make repairs, alterations or additions to the plant or system. When the circumstances will permit of sufficient delay, the company will give notification, by newspaper publication or otherwise, of the discontinuance of the supply. No rebate will be allowed to consumers for such temporary suspension of supply.

See Wis. Admn. Code PSC 185.87

Sec. 9-1-49 Duty of Utility with Respect to Safety of the Public.

It shall be the duty of the Utility to see that all open ditches for water mains, hydrants, and service pipes are properly guarded to prevent accident to any person or vehicle and at night there shall be displayed proper signal lighting in such manner as will, so far as possible, insure the safety of the public.

Sec. 9-1-50 Handling Water Mains and Service Pipes in Sewer or Other Trenches.

Contractors must call Digger's Hotline to ensure a location is done to establish the existence and location of all water mains and service laterals as provided in Wis. Stat. 182.0175. Where water mains and service laterals have been removed, cut, or damaged during trench excavation, the contractors must, at their own expense, cause them to be replaced or repaired at once. Contractors must not shut off the water service laterals for a period exceeding 6 hours.

Sec. 9-1-51 Protective Devices.

- (a) **Protective Devices in General.** The owner or occupant of every premise receiving water supply shall apply and maintain suitable means of protection of the premise supply, and all appliances thereof, against damage arising in any manner from the use of the water supply, variation of water pressure, or any interruption of water supply. Particularly, such owner or occupant must protect water-cooled compressors for refrigeration systems by means of high pressure safety cutout devices. There shall likewise be provided means for the prevention of the transmission of water ram or noise of operation of any valve or appliance through the piping of their own or adjacent premises.
- (b) **Relief Valves.** On all "closed systems" (i.e., systems having a check valve, pressure regulator, or reducing valve, water filter or softener) an effective pressure relief valve shall be installed either in the top tapping or the upper side tapping of the hot water tank, or on the hot water distributing pipe connection at the tank. A one-half (1/2) inch drain pipe shall be connected to the relief valve for discharge on the floor or into a sink or open drain through an air gap. No stop valve shall be placed between the hot water tank and the relief valve or on the drain pipe. (See applicable Village plumbing codes).
- (c) **Air Chambers.** An air chamber or approved shock absorber shall be installed at the terminus of each riser, fixture branch, or hydraulic elevator main for the prevention of undue water hammer. The air chamber shall have a diameter not less than that of the pipe it serves and a length not less than fifteen (15) diameters of said supply pipe. Where possible, the air chamber should be provided at its base with a valve and rain cock for water drainage and replenishment of air.

Sec. 9-1-52 Cross Connection Control.

- (a) **Definition.** A cross connection shall be defined as any physical connection or arrangement between two otherwise separate systems, one of which contains potable water from the Village water system, and the other, water from a private source, water of unknown or questionable safety, or steam, gases, or chemicals, whereby there may be a flow from one

system to the other, the direction of flow depending on the pressure differential between the two systems.

- (b) **Cross Connections Prohibited.** No person, firm or corporation shall establish or permit to be established or maintain or permit to be maintained any cross connection. No interconnection shall be established whereby potable water from a private, auxiliary or emergency water supply other than the regular public water supply of the Village may enter the supply or distribution system of said municipality, unless such private, auxiliary or emergency water supply and the method of connection and use of such supply shall have been approved by the Water Utility and by the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources in accordance with Section NR 811.09, Wisconsin Administrative Code, as amended.
- (c) **Inspections.** It shall be the duty of the Water Utility to cause inspections to be made of all properties served by the public water system where cross connections with the public water system is deemed possible. The frequency of inspections and re-inspections based on potential health hazards involved shall be as established by the Water Utility and as approved by the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources.
- (d) **Right to Inspect.** Upon presentation of credentials, the representative of the Water Utility shall have the right to request entry at any reasonable time to examine any property served by a connection to the public water system of the Village for cross connections. If entry is refused, such representative shall obtain a special inspection warrant under Sec. 66. 0119, Wis. Stats., as amended. On request the owner, lessee or occupant of any property so served shall furnish to the inspection agency any pertinent information regarding the piping system or systems on such property.
- (e) **Discontinuation of Service.** The Water Utility is hereby authorized and directed to discontinue water service to any property wherein any connection in violation of this Section exists, and to take such other precautionary measures deemed necessary to eliminate any danger of contamination of the public water system. Water service shall be discontinued only after reasonable notice and opportunity for hearing under Chapter 68, Wis. Stats., except as provided in Subsection (f-. Water service to such property shall not be restored until the cross connection(s) has been eliminated in compliance with the provisions of this Section.
- (f) **Immediate Discontinuation.** If it is determined by the Water Utility that a cross connection or an emergency endangers public health, safety or welfare and requires immediate action, and a written finding to that effect is filed with the Village Clerk-Treasurer and delivered to the customer's premises, service may be immediately discontinued. The customer shall have an opportunity for hearing under Chapter 68, Wis. Stats., within ten (10) days of such emergency discontinuance.
- (g) **State Code Adopted.** The Village adopts by reference the State Plumbing Code of Wisconsin being Chapter H 82, Wisconsin Administrative Code.
- (h) **Section Not to Supersede Other Ordinances.** This Section does not supersede the State Plumbing Code and any Village plumbing ordinances but it supplementary to them.

Sec. 9-1-53 Private Well Abandonment,

- (a) **Purpose.** Pursuant to the requirements of the NR11.26, Wis. Adm. Code, as amended, this Section is enacted to regulate the proper sealing and filling of private wells within the boundaries of this Village to prevent unused and/or improperly constructed wells from serving as a passage for contaminated surface or near surface waters or other materials to reach the usable groundwater.
- (b) **Coverage.** All private wells located within this Village at any premises which is served by the public water system of the Village of Merrilan shall be properly filled by June 1, 1989. Only those wells for which a well operation permit has been granted by the Village of Merrilan may be exempted from this requirement, subject the conditions of maintenance and operation as provided for herein.
- (c) **Well Operation Permits.** Application for a permit to operate a well within the boundaries of this Village may be made on a form provided by the Village Clerk-Treasurer. The Village may issue a permit to a well owner to operate a well for a period determined appropriate by the Village Board if the following requirements are met:
 - (1) The well and pump installation meet the requirements of Ch. NR812.42, Wis. Adm. Code, as amended, and a well constructor's report is on file with the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources, or certification of the acceptability of the well has been granted by the Private Water Supply Section of the Department of Natural Resources.
 - (2) The well has a history of producing safe water and presently produces bacteriologically safe water as evidenced by one(!) sampling annually, but not less than ten (10) months from the previous sample.
 - (3) The proposed use of the well can be justified as being necessary in addition to water provided by the public water system.
 - (4) No physical connection shall exist between the piping of the public water system and the private well.
- (d) **Methods.** All wells abandoned within the boundaries of this Village shall be filled according to the procedures set forth in Ch. NR812.42, Wis. Adm. Code, as amended. The pump and piping must be removed and the well checked for obstructions prior to plugging. Any obstructions or liners must be removed.
- (e) **Records and Inspection.** A well abandonment report must be submitted by the well owner to the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources on forms provided by that agency and available at the office of the Village Clerk-Treasurer. The report shall be submitted immediately upon completion of the filling of the well. The filling must be observed by a representative of this Village.
- (f) **Penalties.** Any person, firm, or well owner, violating any provision of this Section shall, upon conviction, be punished by forfeiture as prescribed in Section 1-1-6, and the cost of prosecution. Each twenty-four (24) hour period during which a violation exists, shall be deemed and constitute a separate offense. If any person fails to comply with this Section for more than ten (10) days after receiving written notice of the violation, the municipality may impose a penalty and cause the well abandonment to be performed and the expense to be assessed as a special tax against the

Sec. 9-1-54 Water Main Extension Rule.

Water mains will be extended for new customers on the following basis:

- (a) Where the cost of the extension is to immediately be collected through assessment by the municipality against the abutting property, the procedure set forth under Sec. 66.60, Wis. Stats., will apply, and no additional customer contribution to the utility will be required.
- (b) Where the municipality is unwilling or unable to make a special assessment, the extension will be made on a customer-financed basis as follows:
 - (1) The applicant(s) will advance as a contribution in aid of construction, the total amount equivalent to that which would have been assessed for all property under Subsection (a).
 - (2) Part of the contribution required in Subsection (b)(1) will be refundable. When additional customers are connected to the extended main within twenty (20) years of the date of completion, contributions in aid of construction will be collected equal to the amount which would have been assessed under Subsection (a) for the abutting property being served. This amount will be refunded to the original contributor(s). In no case will the contributions received from additional customers exceed the proportionate amount which would have been required under Subsection (a) nor will it exceed the total assessable cost of the original extension.
- (c) When a customer connects to a transmission main or connecting loop installed at utility expense within twenty (20) years of the date of completion, there will be a contribution required of an amount equivalent to that which would have been assessed under Subsection (a).

Sec. 9-1-55 Water Main Installations in Platted Subdivisions.

- (a) Application for installation of water mains in regularly platted real estate development subdivisions shall be filed with the Village Clerk-Treasurer and shall set forth the following information:
 - (1) Name of subdivision.
 - (2) Legal description.
 - (3) Map showing streets, lots and sizes of proposed mains and hydrants, and street laterals.
 - (4) Date of approval of subdivision plan by state Department of Development.
 - (5) Date of approval of proposed mains by state Department of Natural Resources. (6) Number of houses presently under construction.
- (b) Upon receipt of the application, the water utility will prepare detailed estimates of the cost of extending water mains and hydrants of the size deemed necessary in the subdivision and submit same to the Village Board for approval of the extension as it pertains to public fire protection service requirements.

- (c) The applicant for water service to be supplied to a subdivision shall be required to advance to the utility, prior to the beginning of the construction, the total estimated cost of the extension. If the final costs exceed estimated costs, an additional billing will be made for the balance of the cost due. This balance is to be paid within thirty (30) days. If final costs are less than estimated, a refund of overpayment will be made by the water utility.
- (d) If the developer, or a contractor employed by the developer, is to install the water mains (with approval of the utility), the developer shall be responsible for the local cost of construction.

Sec. 9-1-56 ESTABLISHING THE MANDATORY WATER HOOKUP

- (a) The owner of each parcel of land adjacent to a water main on which there exists building usable for human habitation or in a block through which such system is extended, shall connect to such system within one year of notice in writing from the Village of Merrilan. Upon failure to do so, the Village of Merrilan may cause such connection to be made and bill the property owner for such costs. If such costs are not paid within thirty (30) days, such notice shall be assessed as a special tax lien against the property, all pursuant to §281.45 Wis. Stats., provided, however, that the owner may within thirty (30) days after the completion of the work file a written opinion with the Village-Clerk-Treasurer stating that he/she cannot pay such amount in one (1) sum and ask that there be levied in not to exceed five (5) equal installments and that the amount shall be so collected with interest at the rate of twelve percent (12%) per annum from the completion of the work, the unpaid balance being a special tax lien, all pursuant to §281.45 Wis. Stats.
- (b) In lieu of the above, the Village of Merrilan, at its option, may impose a penalty for the period that the violation continues, after ten (10) days written notice to any owner failing to make a connection to the water system of an amount equal to one hundred and fifty percent (150%) of the minimum monthly charge for water service payable monthly for the period in which the failure continues, and upon failure to make such payment said charge shall be assessed as a special tax lien against the property, all pursuant to §281.45, Wis. Stats.
- (c) This section ordains that the failure to connect to the sewer system is contrary to the minimum health standards of said Village of Merrilan and fails to assure preservation of public health, comfort and safety of said Village of Merrilan.
- (d) The provisions of this Ordinance shall be deemed severable and it is expressly declared that the Board of Trustees would have passed the other provisions of this Ordinance irrespective of whether or not one or more provisions may be declared invalid and if any provisions of this Ordinance or the application thereof to any person or circumstances is held invalid, the remainder of this Ordinance and the application of such provisions to other persons or circumstances shall not be affected thereby.
- (e) Ordinances or parts of ordinances in conflict with the above Ordinance are hereby repealed.
- (f) Upon passage and publication, this Ordinance shall take effect and be in force as provided by law.

